



Bishop Middleham & Mainsforth Parish Council

Reply to,
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Conserving our Past: Building Our Future

Chairman Cllr. Harvey Neve

Minutes of a meeting of Bishop Middleham and Mainsforth Parish Council held
Wednesday 14th October 2020 via Teams.

Present: - Cllrs. H. Neve (Chairman), J. Brownlee, V. Cooke, N. Dexter, M. MacCallam, G. Turner.

In attendance: - County Councillor P. Crathorne.

Parish Clerk J. Robinson

No members of the public present.

94.0/20 Apologies: - Cllr. D.Hardy, A. Shaw.

95/20 Notice of meeting: - It was moved by Cllr. H. Neve that the meeting be opened.

96.0/20 Declarations of Interest – none

97.0/20 Member Dispensation - none

98.0/20 Public Participation: -There were no members of the public present.

99.0/20 Police Report: –

Cllr. V.Cooke raised the issue of speeding on High Row and reported on recent speed watch in this area. He requested an item be added to the community website asking for volunteers to support this group. Cllr. H. Neve agreed to take this forward with this site, website manager.

100.0/20 County Councillor Report: -

- a. DCC is a level 2 regarding COVID transmission
- b. DCC website carries all local information regarding COVID
- c. The current rate for the County is 274 per 1000,000
- d. She raised issues in respect of County wide Economic recovery
- e. DCC will be asked to adopt the county Plan at its meeting on the 21st October
- f. Test and race up and running in Durham City
- g. She clarified issues around the Local Restriction Grant

h. Remembrance Day, she will hopefully be laying a wreath as normal subject to COVID recommendations. Council agreed to order the normal 3 wreaths and the Chairman, Cllr. H. Neve to lay the wreath on behalf of the Parish.

On behalf of the Council the Chairman thanked Cllr. Crathorne for her support of £9,950 Neighbourhood Budget funding towards the Councils Wildlife Area Project.

101.0/20 To confirm the minutes of 9th September 2020

Resolved: - they were agreed and endorsed on a proposal by Cllr. V.Cooke and seconded Cllr. J. Brownlee.

102.0/20 Report on Bus Stop meeting with DCC officers- Cllr. N. Dexter and H. Neve reported on the meeting, and with regret reported that DCC informed members they cannot under current rules agree to the removal or moving of the bus stop. The Officer advised members of all the actions and letters on file regarding this issue backdating to the 1990s. Members agreed to write to the resident and advise them of the outcome of the meeting.

103.0/20 Firework Display: - The Parish Clerk advised Rainbow have acknowledged cancellation due to COVID and transferred the booking to 2021.

104.0/20 Fly tipping meeting: - Cllr. H. Neve reported on a meeting held earlier in the day between the Council, Police and Neighbourhood Wardens. Various issues to address the matter had been discussed and actions agreed by partners. He was pleased to report Neighborhood Wardens have agreed to attend the Council meetings on a regular basis and Jill Greenwood agreed to present via the Clerk a monthly written report. Members considered one suggestion on installing boulders at one of the pull- in laybys to try and stop fly tipping in the area. Whilst agreeing to the recommendation from partner agencies members expressed concern on the effect this will have on residents accessing the Nature Reserve and Durham Wildlife. It was agreed the boulders be on a time limited basis and Durham Wildlife be advised accordingly. The boulders are to be provided by the DCC Neighbourhood Wardens.

105.0/20 Christmas events: - members considered the effect of COVID restrictions. It was agreed to continue to provide both the Christmas Tree and festive lighting, in December. It was agreed at this time not to proceed with the normal Christmas Carol/Light switch on event, but to revisit the issue at the November meeting. Members also agreed to discuss Community Recognition Award at the November meeting, members to consider residents for nomination for the Award.

106.0/20 Monthly Accounts: - Members considered the accounts and agreed payment. The Clerk reported on a series of letters/emails/phone calls since January to Barclays Bank to change the signing mandate and internet banking. The bank has apologized for this incident and are trying to resolve issue this month and have given the Council £200 for any upset or bank charges.

Members considered an application for funding by the Bishop Middleham Under 11 Football Club as per policy. It was moved and agreed on a proposal by Cllr. V.Cooke and seconded by Cllr. N. Dexter to donate £920 to the club via the Community Fund.

It was agreed the Clerk arrange a training session for members on the new Rialtas Finance package.

107.0/20: - Environmental Contractor report: - members noted and agreed the report. S.E. Landscape have been invited to attend the November Full Council meeting.

108.0/20 Halloween Event: - Councillor's considered how to support the young people in the Parish with this special annual event which the COVID restrictions have greatly affected. Cllr. N. Dexter advised several trails are being considered across the Parish and she is liaising with residents. Members agreed to provide a voucher for £2 to be given to all young people up to the age of 12 who participate in the trial. Clerk to liaise with both the School and Post office regarding the vouchers, a maximum total of 150 to be provided to ensure all young people who do not attend the local school.

109.0/20 Planning Application: - Cllr. M. MacCallam expressed concern regarding the development of Town End Farm and requested the Clerk obtain update information on this matter. This was agreed.

110.0/20 Welcome to Bishop Middleham pack and 2022: - due to time constraints these items were deferred to the November meeting.

111.0/20 Pit Lane: - The Clerk advised he had tried companies to repair the gate but to date no tender submitted. Members supplied additional local companies who may consider tendering for this work.

112.0/20 Member sharing: -

The following issues were raised by members: -

- a. Cllr. J. Brownlee advised that due to the current COVID situation the Village Hall Committee have reluctantly decided to close the hall till at least March 2021
- b. Cllr. H. Neve reported he has been asked to do a short video on the COVID restrictions on the Village Website, which he will do shortly. He also advised the website now has over 1000 members.
- c. Cllr. M. MacCallam' raised concerns regarding a footpath that runs through the northern part of the Parish in Thrislington Quarry land. It was agreed the Clerk write to the company raising concerns regarding the overgrown path.
- d. Cllr. Maccallam asked members to monitor all footpaths across the Parish and report any issues to the Clerk to ensure the concerns are addressed via relevant body.

The meeting closed 9.14pm

Signed: -
Cllr. H. Neve, Chairman.
11th November 2020