

**THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
SEATON WITH SLINGLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13 MAY 2015**

Present: Councillors A Blacklock, A Foots, G McAuliffe,
H Middlemiss, A Slater, A Smith and D Temple

Apologies: Councillors T Foster, S Haddick, D Ritchie and
A Teasdale

1 ELECTION OF CHAIR

RESOLVED that Councillor A Slater be elected Chair of Seaton with Slingley Parish Council for the ensuing year.

2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED that Councillor A Foots be appointed Vice-Chair of Seaton with Slingley Parish Council for the ensuing year.

3 APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

RESOLVED that Mr G Fletcher be appointed the internal auditor to Seaton with Slingley Parish Council for the ensuing year.

4 REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

RESOLVED that the following Members be appointed to serve as representatives of the Parish Council on the following external bodies for the forthcoming year:-

Easington Area Association of Parish and Town Councils
Councillors A Foots, G McAuliffe and A Smith

County Durham Association of Local Councils
Councillor A Smith

Seaton Community Association Management Committee
Councillors H Middlemiss and A Slater

Council for Protection of Rural England (Co Durham)
As required

Area Action Partnership
Councillors S Haddick and A Slater

County Durham Foundation Trust (South Sharpley Community Fund)
Councillor A Teasdale

5 DATE AND TIME OF ORDINARY MEETINGS OF SEATON WITH SLINGLEY PARISH COUNCIL

RESOLVED that meetings of Seaton with Slingley Parish Council be held on the

third Wednesday of each month commencing at 7.00pm, with the exception of August where no council meeting would be held due to recess. Meeting dates were subject to change with the consent of the Chair of the Parish Council.

6 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors T Foster, S Haddick, D Ritchie and A Teasdale.

7 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

8 COMMUNITY POLICING

The Chair welcomed PCSO's A Guest and K Hall to the meeting.

Members were advised that since the last meeting 12 incidents had been reported. The majority of the incidents related to local road closures. The figures also included 1 road traffic collision, a loose horse on the A19 and 1 report of a suspicious van collecting charity bags. It was thought the van collecting the charity bags was not registered.

Members were advised that crime overall was down 89% year to date and anti-social behaviour down 50% year to date.

The Officer reported that speeding was still a PACT priority and a further SpeedWatch would be undertaken at the top of the village.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

9 THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING held on 15 April 2015, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved and signed by the Chair.

10 CORRESPONDENCE

(1) Training Events

The Clerk reported the receipt of the following invitations:-

- (i) Chair and Councillor Training – 10 June 2015
- (ii) Council Tax Base – 24 June 2015

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(2) Potholes

The Clerk reported that Durham County Council had advised that the potholes in the pavement between Seaton Bungalow and The Crest had been completed.

The Chair reported that only one of the potholes had been filled and the

whole of the pavement needed further attention.

RESOLVED that the matter be reported to Durham County Council.

(3) County Durham Association of Local Councils

The Clerk reported the receipt of the County Durham Association of Local Councils annual subscription fee for 2015/16.

RESOLVED that the annual subscription fee of £178.93 be paid.

11 PLANNING

(i) APPLICATIONS

DM/15/01240/FPA – Erection of two and single storey pitched roof extensions to side (including demolition of existing conservatory) at 16 Seaton Grove, Seaton, Seaham SR7 OLU for Mr N Golightly

DM/15/01391/FPA – Construction of infill bay extension at front of dwelling at 3 Seaton Crescent, Seaton, Seaham SR7 OJW for Mr K Redhead

(ii) APPROVALS

DM/15/00214/RM – Reserved matters of appearance, landscaping and scale for 6 residential dwellings at Seaton Garden Centre, Seaton Lane, Seaton, Seaham SR7 OLT for Mr D Middlemiss

DM/15/00661/FPA – Erection of porch to front, decking area to rear and loft conversion with 4 no rooflights at 9 Seaton Grove, Seaton, Seaham SR7 OLU for Mr and Mrs Redgrave

DM/15/00753/FPA – Erection of first floor extension above existing single storey extension to side and single storey extension to rear at 11 The Meadows, Seaton, Seaham SR7 OQB for Mr M McNally

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

12 CLERK'S REPORT

(1) Internal Audit Report for the Year Ending 31 March 2015

The Clerk reported the receipt of the internal audit report for 2014/2015 undertaken by Mr G Fletcher.

Members were advised that local councils in England were expected to complete an annual return which summarised their annual activities at the completion of each financial year.

It was Members responsibility to ensure that financial management was adequate and effective and the Council had a sound system of internal controls.

A section within the annual return was to be completed by the Parish Council's independent internal auditor who gave an opinion of the Parish Council's internal controls, details of which were outlined to Members.

All the key controls contained within the annual return were examined and found to be working satisfactory.

The report made the following recommendations;-

- Members work with the Clerk to ensure the Council had adequate up to date policies in place and there was a timetable in place to review these
- the procedures contained in the financial regulations were followed to ensure good working practices regarding finance were followed
- the Council should consider depositing a sum of money from the current account in a high interest account or Bond to attract higher interest rate

RESOLVED that the internal audit report for 2014/2015 be accepted.

(2) Website

The Clerk reported that the development of the councils website was progressing and it was hoped the site would go "live" very soon.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

13 PAYMENTS

RESOLVED that the payments listed be endorsed.

Cheque No	Payee	Detail	Amount
100183	Shaw & Sons	Receipts & Payments Book	70.80
100184	CDALC	Annual Subscription	178.93
100185	J Thompson	Reimbursements	25.88
100186	Payroll	Wages - May 2015	397.25
100187	HMRC	PAYE - May 2015	99.40
100188	JACS Accountancy Limited	Payroll Services May 2015	9.30
100189	G Fletcher	Internal Audit	100.00

14 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(1) Damaged Tree –Seaton Grove

Councillor McAuliffe reported a lorry had hit a tree located at the entrance to Seaton Grove and a large branch which had fallen needed to be removed.

RESOLVED that the matter be reported to Durham County Council.

(2) Village Christmas Tree

The Chair suggested that the Parish Council consider the possibility of planting a permanent Christmas Tree on the village green.

RESOLVED that Durham County Council be asked to provide a quotation to supply and plant a permanent Christmas Tree on the village green.

(3) Litter Bins

The Chair reported that the wooden litter bins located at the style, adjacent the Dunn Cow public House and opposite the Community Centre were in a bad state of repair and needed replacing.

An increase in the amount of litter across the bridge on the B1404 was reported and it was suggested that additional litter bins were required. Members felt two additional bins, one either end of the bridge, would help reduce the litter problem.

It was also suggested that the dog bin located at Seaton Crescent should be replaced with a litter bin which could also be used for dog waste.

RESOLVED that Durham County Council be contacted regarding the litter bins.

(4) Village Notice Boards

It was reported that the two village notice boards were in need of a tidy up.

RESOLVED that Councillor McAuliffe be authorised to undertake the work required on the notice boards.

..... Signed

..... Dated