

**THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
SEATON WITH SLINGLEY PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18 MAY 2016**

**Present:** Councillors A Foots, T Foster, S Haddick,  
H Middlemiss, D Ritchie, A Slater, A Smith,  
and D Temple

**Also Present:** County Councillor S Morrison

**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 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:-

East Durham 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 A Blacklock, G McAuliffe and A Teasdale

**7 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**8 COMMUNITY POLICING**

There was no Police present at the meeting.

**9 THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** held on 20 April 2016, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved and signed by the Chair.

**10 CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence.

**11 PLANNING**

Approval - DM/16/00775/FPA – Erection of two storey extension at side of dwelling at Greenbank, Seaton Lane, Seaton, Seaham, SR7 OLT for Mr J Lynn.

**RESOLVED** that the information given, be noted.

**12 CLERK'S REPORT**

**(1) Internal Audit Report for the Year Ending 31 March 2016**

The Clerk reported the receipt of the internal audit report for 2015/2016 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.

**RESOLVED** that the internal audit report for 2015/2016 be accepted.

**(2) Spring Bulbs**

The Clerk reported that a quotation had been received from Durham County Council to supply and plant 4,000 bulbs at various locations throughout the village, details of which were outlined to Members.

The cost to supply and plant 1,000 Daffodils, 1,000 Snowdrops and 2,000 Crocus was £717.32 inclusive of £119.55 VAT.

County Councillor S Morrison advised that she would like to provide a financial contribution towards the cost of the bulbs from the Members Initiative Fund (MIF) and suggested the Clerk contact the Area Action Partnership who was responsible for administering the MIF.

**RESOLVED** that the quotation from Durham County Council be accepted and the Clerk contact the Area Action Partnership regarding a financial contribution from the MIF towards the cost of the bulbs.

**(3) Sandwich Board – Seaton Lane Inn**

The Clerk reported that the Police had once again contacted the manager of the Seaton Lane Inn with regard to the sandwich boards located outside the property. Members were advised that the manager maintained the boards were on his land and were not causing a nuisance.

The Clerk explained that the Parish Council had previously contacted the manager but no response was received.

**RESOLVED** that the information given, be noted.

**(4) Parking – Clarks Terrace**

The Clerk reported that the Police had advised that if someone was blocked in and they were unable to get on or off their drive they should contact the Police at the time and something could be done about it.

The alternative would be for the Police to issue fines to all the cars, including residents, who parked in a way that blocked others in. It was felt this course of action was unnecessary and would not help the situation.

If residents still wanted to pursue the possibility of parking bays the number of spaces available would possibly be halved, resulting in fewer parking spaces for residents.

**RESOLVED** that the information given, be noted.

**13 PAYMENTS**

**RESOLVED** that the payments listed be endorsed.

**Seaton with Slingley Parish Council – 18 May 2016**

CHQ NO	PAYMENT TO	DETAIL	COST	VAT	TOTAL
100254	G Fletcher	Annual Internal Audit	100.00		100.00
100255	Payroll	Wages - May 2016	411.80		411.80
100256	HMRC	PAYE - May 2016	103.00		103.00
100257	JACS Accountancy Limited	Payroll Services - May 2016	8.00	1.60	9.60
100258	J Thompson	Reimbursements	14.15		14.15
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>636.95</b>	<b>1.60</b>	<b>638.55</b>

**14 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**(i) Footpath - St John's Terrace**

County Councillor S Morrison reported that the footpath at St John's Terrace was in a bad state of repair and the County's Highway Engineer had been asked to undertake an inspection.

Members were advised that the footpath would be repaired and paid for from Councillor Morrison's Members Initiative Fund (MIF).

**RESOLVED** that the information given, be noted.

**(ii) A19 Advertising Storage Container**

Councillor H Middlemiss made reference to the storage container located on the A19, southbound, just before the Seaham turn off.

Members were advised that this storage container had previously been used to advertise the paintballing business, Massive Attack but this was stopped by the Police and the container was covered up.

It was explained that the cover had been removed and the container was once again being used to advertise a local business.

**RESOLVED** that the matter be reported to the Police.

..... Signed

..... Dated