

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SEATON WITH SLINGLEY PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17 DECEMBER 2014

Present: Councillor A Foots (Chair)
Councillors T Foster, G McAuliffe, H Middlemiss,
A Teasdale and D Temple

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Blacklock, S Haddick, D Ritchie, A Slater and A Smith

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3 COMMUNITY POLICING

The Clerk reported that PCSO A Guest had submitted her apologies and provided the following report.

There had been 1 incident reported which involved the Police dealing with a stolen vehicle on the A19 which had activated the automatic number plate recognition system. There were no incidents related to off road bikes reported to the Police.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

4 THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING held on 19 November 2014, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved and signed by the Chair.

5 CORRESPONDENCE

(1) Financial Assistance

(i) Salvation Army

It was suggested that a donation of £100.00 be made to the Salvation Army in recognition of their attendance at the annual Christmas carol singing.

RESOLVED that a donation of £100.00 be made from the Section 137 Budget.

(ii) Bethlehem Carol Sheets

The Clerk reported that the Chair had ordered 100 copies of the Bethlehem Carol Sheets for use at the annual Christmas carol singing. As the carol sheets were free of charge and it was suggested that a donation of £50.00 be made to Embrace the Middle East who provided the sheets.

RESOLVED that a donation of £50.00 be made from the Section 137 Budget.

(2) Replacement Trees

The Clerk reported that Durham County Council had planted 6 Cherry Trees to replace the trees felled at Haverley Drive earlier in the year.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(3) Consultation Events

(i) Police and Crime Commissioner

The Clerk reported the receipt of an invitation to attend a consultation event on 30 January 2015 at County Hall, Durham.

(ii) Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy

The Clerk reported the receipt of an invitation to attend a consultation event on 6 February 2015 at the Glebe Centre, Murton.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(4) East Durham Association of Parish and Town Councils

The Clerk reported that the next meeting of the East Durham Association of Parish and Town Councils would be held on 13 January 2015.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(5) Renewal of Annual Subscription Fees

(i) Open Spaces Society - £45.00

(ii) Campaign to Protect Rural England - £36.00

RESOLVED that approval be granted to renew both memberships.

6 PLANNING

(i) Applications

DM/14/03550/FPA – Rear extension and raise the ridge height of the property to incorporate first floor living accommodation including dormer windows at 14 Middleton Close, Seaham SR7 OPG for Mr S Watson

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(iii) Seaton Garden Centre - DM/14/00042/RM

Councillor Foots reported that no further progress had been made.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

7 CLERKS REPORT

(1) Website

The Clerk reported that following discussion with Durham County Council they had confirmed they could create a website for the Parish Council for a one-off cost of £1,500. The cost was based on creating, building and development of the website. Annual support and maintenance of the site, including website hosting, would cost £700.00 per year.

Members were advised that as the Clerk had already been trained on the system used by the County Council they had agreed to waive the training fee of £200.00 which would reduce the cost of creation to £1,300.00. In addition the County Council has also agreed to waive the annual fee of £700.00 due to the size of the Parish Council and its limited budget.

Members expressed concern at the costs involved bearing in mind the small budget of the Parish Council. Councillor Teasdale advised that he could possibly host a website for a considerably lower cost.

Following discussion Councillor Teasdale agreed to investigate the options available to the Parish Council and report back to the next meeting.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted and further developments be awaited.

(2) Policies

The Clerk presented a draft copy of Financial Regulations for adoption.

RESOLVED that the Financial Regulations be adopted.

(3) Christmas Tree

The Clerk reported that new lights had been purchased for the village Christmas Tree at a cost of £59.99.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

8 PAYMENTS

RESOLVED that the payments listed be endorsed.

Cheque No	Payee	Detail	Amount
100151	Durham County Council	Grass cutting	292.05

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100152	Society of Local Council Clerks	Annual Membership	103.00
100153	Payroll	Wages - December 2014	400.70
100154	HMRC	PAYE - December 2014	100.20
100155	JACS Accountancy Limited	Payroll Services December 2014	9.30
100156	The Salvation Army	Section 137 Donation - Carol Singing	100.00
100157	A Foots	Reimbursement - Christmas Tree Lights	59.99
100158	J Thompson	Reimbursements	13.25
100159	Open Spaces Society	Annual Membership	45.00
100160	CPRE	Annual Membership	36.00
100161	Embrace the Middle East	Section 137 Donation - Carol Sheets	50.00

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Christmas Carol Singing

Councillor Foster reported that the annual carol singing had been a great success but stated that it had been a very cold night and suggested that maybe next year the event could be held in the Community Centre.

Members acknowledged that it had been very cold but felt that part of the attraction of the night was that it was held outside.

The Chair thanked everyone who was involved on behalf of the Parish Council.

(ii) Seaton Community Association - Christmas Dinner

The Chair thanked everyone involved with the annual Christmas dinner and asked that a letter of thanks be sent on behalf of the Parish Council.

(iii) Speeding Traffic

Members once again reported problems associated with speeding traffic on the B1404. It was pointed out that the problem was particularly bad early morning and late afternoon/early evening when cars travelling

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through the village were regularly speeding. Members discussed various options which they felt would help slow the traffic, these included speed humps, a roundabout and speed cameras.

The Chair advised that when work started at the Garden Centre site it was hoped that the 30mph signs would be extended.

RESOLVED that the concerns of the Parish Council be reported to the Police.

10 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED that the next meeting be held on 21 January 2015 at 7.00pm.

..... Signed

..... Dated