

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

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16 DECEMBER 2015

Present: Councillor A Slater (Chair)
Councillors A Blacklock, A Foots,
T Foster, G McAuliffe, H Middlemiss,
D Ritchie, A Smith and D Temple

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S Haddick and A Teasdale.

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.

Since the last meeting 1 incident had been reported. A vehicle that was stolen in Northumbria travelled into Seaham via Seaton. The Police traffic unit was dispatched but there were no subsequent sightings of the vehicle.

Members were advised that year to date criminal damage was up 150%, anti-social behaviour was down 30%, burglary was down 75% and crime overall was down 21%.

Councillor Middlemiss expressed concern in relation to the increasing amount of graffiti that had appeared around the village. Graffiti was reported on electric boxes and around the local store.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

4 THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING held on 18 November 2015 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved and signed by the Chair.

5 CORRESPONDENCE

(1) Great North Air Ambulance

The Clerk reported the receipt of a request for financial assistance towards the running of the Great North Air Ambulance.

RESOLVED that a donation of £50 be made from the Section 137 Budget.

(2) Letter of Thanks - Durham Cathedral

The Clerk reported the receipt of a letter of thanks from Durham Cathedral following a financial donation from the Parish Council.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(3) Renewal of Annual Subscription Fees

(i) The Society of Local Council Clerks - £103.00

(ii) Open Spaces Society - £45.00

RESOLVED that approval be granted to renew both memberships.

6 PLANNING

There were no planning matters.

7 CLERKS REPORT

(1) Estimates of Expenditure 2016/2017

The Clerk advised Members that since the last meeting Durham County Council had advised that the Parish Councils tax base and LCTRS grant had changed. Members had previously agreed to set a budget based on a 0.25% increase in the precept.

The revised figures now gave an overall budget of £12,028 for 2016/2017. This was made up of £11,758.00 precept and £270.00 LCTRS grant. This was a £99.00 reduction on last year's budget and a 1.1% reduction on the band D charge.

RESOLVED that a 2016/2017 budget request of £12,028, based on a 0.25% increase in the precept, be submitted to Durham County Council.

(2) Litter Bins

Following the last meeting the Clerk contacted Durham County Council and asked if the Parish Council paid for the new bins would the County Council grant permission for them to be replaced.

The Clerk reported that the County Council had once again advised that they had inspected the bins in the village and concluded there was no damage. They had therefore refused permission for their replacement.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(3) Sandwich Board – Seaton Lane Inn

The Clerk reported that following the last meeting a letter was sent to the Seaton Lane Inn requesting that the sandwich boards located outside the pub be removed. The boards were too large, obstructed the pavement and caused an obstruction for local residents.

To date no response had been received from the Seaton Lane Inn.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(4) Village Christmas Tree

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

Members were advised that the electric feeder pillar for the Christmas tree lights would be de-energised on 30 January 2016.

Councillor Foots reported that the lock on the electric feeder pillar was broken and needed replacing.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted and npower be contacted regarding the broken lock.

8 PAYMENTS

RESOLVED that the payments listed be endorsed.

	PAYMENT TO	DETAIL	COST	VAT	TOTAL
100220	HMRC	PAYE - December 2015	99.20		99.20
100221	Payroll	Wages - December 2015	397.45		397.45
100222	JACS Accountancy Limited	Payroll Services - December 2015	7.75	1.55	9.30
100223	A Foots	Reimbursement - Christmas Lights	49.99	10.00	59.99
100224	Durham County Council	Grasscutting	250.76	50.16	300.92
100225	The Society of Local Council Clerks	Annual Membership	103.00		103.00
100226	J Thompson	Reimbursements - Stamps	13.50		13.50
100227	Open Spaces Society	Annual Subscription	45.00		45.00
100228	Great North Air Ambulance	Section 137 Donation	50.00		50.00
		TOTAL	1016.65	61.71	1078.36

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) 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.

(ii) Tree Preservation Order

Councillor Ritchie reported that Mr Cooper of Green Hedges, The Village, Seaton had applied for and been granted a Tree Preservation Order for an Elm Tree at his property.

(iii) Parking

Councillor Foster reported that cars were parking on greased areas around the village and churning up the grass.

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RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

10 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED that the next meeting be held on 20 January 2016 at 7.00pm.

..... **Signed**

..... **Dated**