

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

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 19 APRIL 2017

**Present: Councillor A Slater (Chair)
Councillors A Blacklock, A Fooks, S Haddick,
G McAuliffe, H Middlemiss, D Ritchie and D Temple**

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors T Foster, A Smith and A Teasdale.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3 POLICING

The Clerk reported that PCSO A Guest had submitted her apologies.

Members were advised that since the last meeting 2 incidents had been reported which included 1 highway disruption and 1 civil dispute.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

4 THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING held on 15 March 2017, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved and signed by the Chair.

5 CORRESPONDENCE

(1) Requests for Financial Assistance

(i) The Children's Foundation

The Clerk reported the receipt of a request for financial assistance from The Children's Foundation.

RESOLVED that no donation be made.

(ii) Citizens Advice County Durham

The Clerk reported the receipt of a request for financial assistance from the Citizens Advice County Durham.

RESOLVED that a donation of £25.00 be made from the Section 137 Budget.

(2) Letter of Thanks

The Clerk reported the receipt of a letter of thanks from St Mary's Church.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(3) Letter of Resignation

The Clerk reported the receipt of a letter of resignation from Councillor A Smith which was read out to the meeting.

Councillor D Ritchie advised that he would not be standing for re-election at the forthcoming election in May.

The Chair took the opportunity to thank the outgoing council for the work undertaken over the last 4 years and wished the Members not standing for re-election all the very best for the future.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

6 PLANNING

(i) Applications

DM/17/00846/FPA – Erection of two and single storey extension to side at Glendale, Seaton Lane, Seaton, Seaham, SR7 OLS for Mr S Barrow

DM/17/00809/FPA – Kitchen extension and family room extension at 37 Blaykeston Close, Seaham, SR7 OPJ for Mr and Mrs Hoggarth

(ii) DM/16/03710/OUT – 25 self-build plots for residential dwellings at Seaton Garden Centre, Seaton Lane, Seaton, Seaham SR7 OLT for HCA Properties

At the last meeting Members were advised that the above application was to be considered by Durham County Council's Area Planning Committee on 11 April 2017.

Councillor Foots reported that to date the application was still to be determined by the County Council.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

7 CLERKS REPORT

(1) Pedestrian Refuge – B1404

The Clerk reported that following the last meeting Durham County Council was requested to consider the provision of a pedestrian refuge between the 2 bus stops on the B1404 Seaton Lane.

Durham County Council had advised that regretfully they received more requests for traffic management measures than they were able to fund from their limited road safety budget. Due to the need to concentrate resources on reducing casualty accidents the council were required to direct their funds towards locations with known and proven accident problems.

The County Council had checked the accident database for the last 4 years and there had been no recorded personal injury accidents on the length of road between Haverley Drive and Gregson Terrace.

The County Council acknowledged the proposal had merit but due to a lack of funds they were unable to progress it any further. They would however add the request to their future scheme list should funding become available.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(2) Grass Cutting Contract – Durham County Council

The Clerk reported that Durham County Council had provided a quotation for grass cutting for the 2017 growing season.

Members were advised that the contract was based on grass cutting at the village green at a cost of £18.26 per visit and at Seaton Burn at a cost of £17.70 per visit exclusive of VAT.

RESOLVED that the quotation from Durham County Council be accepted.

(3) Litter/Dog Bin Contract – Durham County Council

The Clerk reported that Durham County Council had provided a quotation of £647.40 for the emptying of 2 dog bins and 1 litter bin.

Members were advised that the contract was based on each bin being emptied once per week at a cost of £4.15 exclusive of VAT.

RESOLVED that the quotation from Durham County Council be accepted.

(4) Annual Audit for the Year Ending 31 March 2017

The Clerk reported that the Annual Audit date had been set for 29 May 2017.

The Clerk proceeded to take Members through Section 1, Annual Governance Statement and Section 2, Statement of Accounts.

RESOLVED that Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Return for the year ending 31 March 2017, be approved and signed by the Chair.

(5) Internal Audit for the Year Ending 31 March 2017

The Clerk reported that the internal audit would be undertaken by Mr G Fletcher at a cost of £100.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(6) Parking/Traffic Congestion – New Seaham Primary School

The Clerk reported that following the last meeting the Police and Durham County Council were contacted regarding traffic congestion at New Seaham Primary School.

Members were advised that the Police acknowledged the parking outside the school was a problem, particularly at school picking up and dropping off times. The Police worked closely with the school regarding parking and attended whenever resources allowed.

Durham County Council's Traffic Unit had previously visited the site and confirmed it wasn't possible to install any further restrictions. It was a heavy traffic flowing area and following complaints around two years ago the County Council deemed no changes were to be made.

Members concerns had been passed to the Traffic Wardens with a request to attend the area and Parking Services had been asked to add the area to their enforcement list. This would mean Civil Enforcement Officers would carry out a period of targeted

enforcement of the restrictions in place and issue a Penalty Charge Notice to any vehicle parked in contravention.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(7) Parking – Seaton Village

The Clerk reported that a complaint had been received in relation to indiscriminate parking in the vicinity of the Community Centre. Residents had experienced problems with visitors to the centre parking across or near the entrance to their drives and blocking access.

The various groups using the centre had been asked to park considerately and a sign had been erected asking visitors to consider residents and park considerately.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(8) Website

The Clerk reported that Members had previously been advised that Durham County Council were to introduce an annual charge and Service Level Agreement (SLA) to host the Parish Councils website.

Members were advised that as the Parish Council had recently paid Durham County Council to develop and host their website they had agreed to delay implementing the SLA charge. If the Parish Council decided to stay with the County Council the charge would be implemented in 2018/2019.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

8 PAYMENTS

CHQ NO	PAYMENT TO	DETAIL	COST	VAT	TOTAL
100321	DESTROYED				
100322	HMRC	PAYE - April 2017	108.80		108.80
100323	Payroll	Wages - April 2017	435.47		435.47
100324	JACS Accountancy Limited	Payroll Services - April 2017	11.00	2.20	13.20
100325	J Thompson	Reimbursements	7.28		7.28
100326	Citizens Advice County Durham	Section 137 Donation	25.00		25.00
		TOTAL	587.55	2.20	589.75

RESOLVED that the payments listed be endorsed.

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(1) Fly Tipping

The Chair reported that a number of fly-tipping incidents had recently been reported to Durham County Council and they had reacted very quickly in removing the

rubbish.

The Chair suggested that a letter of thanks be forwarded to the County Council.

RESOLVED that a letter of thanks be forwarded to Durham County Council

(2) Dog/Litter Bins – Walkway

Members made reference to the dog bin at the top of the Burn Bank on the walkway and suggested that a litter bin at either end of the walkway would alleviate the amount of rubbish left on the walkway.

RESOLVED that Durham County Council be requested to install a litter bin at either end of the Walkway.

10 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED that the next meeting be held on Wednesday 17 May 2017 at 6.45pm.

..... Signed

..... Dated