

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

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2017

**Present: Councillor A Slater (Chair)
Councillors A Foots, S Haddick,
S McAuliffe, H Middlemiss, D Temple,
J Theobald, S Williams and A Vila**

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A Blacklock

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 4 incidents had been reported which included the following;

- 1 road traffic collision
- 1 suspicious activity
- 1 abandoned vehicle
- 1 ANPR on the A19

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

4 THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING held on 19 July 2017 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved and signed by the Chair.

5 CORRESPONDENCE

(1) Letter of Resignation

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

The Chair took the opportunity to thank Councillor Teasdale for his work on the Parish Council and wished him the best for the future.

Members were advised that Durham County Council had been informed of the vacancy.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(2) County Durham Association of Local Councils - Annual General Meeting

The Clerk reported that the County Durham Association of Local Councils Annual General Meeting would be held on 21 October 2017.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(3) Standards Training

The Clerk reported the receipt of an invitation from Durham County Council to attend a free standards information training session on 3 October 2017.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

6 PLANNING

Approval - DM/17/01467/FPA - Erection of detached garage and garden room at Sharpley Hall, Seaton, Seaham SR7 ONP for Mr and Mrs A Gleghorn

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

7 CLERKS REPORT

(1) Annual Audit

The Clerk reported that BDO LLP had completed the Annual Audit for the year ended 31 March 2017 and there were no issues that required attention.

In accordance with the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011, the Notice of Conclusion of Audit would be displayed for a minimum of 14 days. The cost of the Audit was £120.00.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(2) Budget Setting 2018/2019

The Clerk reported the receipt of correspondence from Durham County Council advising of the indicative forecast of reductions in Local Council Tax Support Scheme Grant for the period 2017/2018 to 2019/2020.

The forecasts provided could be used for budget planning purposes but the current position was not final, as this would be based on the Tax Base forecasts undertaken in October 2017.

Using the updated Tax Base and the forecasted grant reductions the Parish Council would see an increase in its Tax Base of 4.0 and a reduction in grant of £108.00.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(3) A19 Slip Road

The Clerk reported that following the last meeting the Police and Durham County Council were contacted regarding traffic cameras that had been erected on the B1404. One located opposite the slip road leaving the A19 and the other at the Lodge.

The Clerk advised that Durham County Council had advised that the cameras were there as part of a standard traffic counting exercise and there was no proposals related to the closure of the slip road.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(4) Christmas Carol Singing - Salvation Army

The Clerk reported that the annual Christmas carol singing would be held on Wednesday 20 December 2017 at 7.00pm.

It was suggested that the start date of the December meeting be brought forward to 6.00pm.

The Parish Council traditionally made a donation to the Salvation Army and it was suggested that a donation of £100.00 be made from the Section 137 Budget.

RESOLVED that;

- (i) the start time of the December meeting of the Parish Council be brought forward to 6.00pm
- (ii) a donation of £100.00 be made to the Salvation Army from the Section 137 Budget.

(5) Village Christmas Tree

Members discussed the village Christmas tree and it was **RESOLVED** that the village Christmas tree be ordered from Mulcahy Lawns as in previous years.

(6) 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) for the Parish Councils website. The cost would be approximately £575.00 per year and would include hosting the website and full support for the year of the SLA.

As the Parish Council had recently paid for the development of the website the Clerk had negotiated with Durham County Council regarding the charge. The County Council had agreed that if the Parish Council wished to continue with the SLA they would start charging in 2018/19.

Members discussed at length the SLA and were minded to remain with Durham County Council and purchase the SLA in 2018/19.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(7) Residents Comments

The Chair reported positive feedback from a resident in relation to how nice the village looked and appreciated the efforts of the Parish Council.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

8 PAYMENTS

RESOLVED that the payments listed be endorsed.

CHQ NO	PAYMENT TO	DETAIL	COST	VAT	TOTAL
100343	CDALC	Annual Subscription Charge	198.02		198.02
100344	HMRC	PAYE - August 2017	108.80		108.80
100345	Payroll	Wages - August 2017	435.47		435.47

Seaton with Slingley Parish Council – 20 September 2017

100346	JACS Accountancy Limited	Payroll Services - August 2017	8.00	1.60	9.60
100347	S McAuliffe	Repairs to Village Seats	74.00		74.00
100348	J Thompson	Reimbursements	22.00		22.00
100349	A Slater	Reimbursement	10.00	2.00	12.00
100350	BDO LLP	Annual External Audit	100.00	20.00	120.00
100351	HMRC	PAYE - September 2017	108.80		108.80
100352	Payroll	Wages - September 2017	435.47		435.47
100353	JACS Accountancy Limited	Payroll Services - September 2017	8.00	1.60	9.60
100354	J Thompson	Reimbursements	14.44		14.44
		TOTAL	1,523.00	25.20	1,548.20

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(1) St Mary's Church

The Chair reported that St Mary's Church had successfully raised the funds they required to provide a new heating system in the Church.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(2) Ornamental Village Tree

The Chair reported that it had previously been suggested that a small ornamental tree be planted in recognition of the 4 Councillors who had recently retired from the Parish Council following many years of outstanding service to the community. It was also suggested that a small plaque be erected adjacent to the tree naming the 4 Councillors.

RESOLVED that the Clerk contact Durham County Council to obtain a quotation for the supply and planting of the tree.

(3) Illegal Burning – Seaton Garden Centre Site

Councillor Williams reported the nuisance and disturbance suffered by residents following illegal burning at the former garden centre site. Councillor Williams was advised by the Fire Brigade that the burning on the site was controlled but it appeared to residents to be out of control.

The Chair reported that the Fire Brigade was made aware of the situation at the time and they attended the scene on a number of occasions.

Both the Chair and the Clerk had spoken with the Fire Enforcement Officer and provided information to assist the Brigade in locating the owner of the land.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

10 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED that the next meeting be held on Wednesday 18 October 2017 at 6.45pm.

..... Signed

..... Dated