

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

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 21 MARCH 2018

**Present: Councillor A Slater (Chair)
Councillors A Blacklock, A Fooks,
S McAuliffe, A Taylor and S Williams**

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S Haddick, H Middlemiss, J Theobald and A Vila.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3 POLICING

There was no Police present at the meeting.

4 THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING held on 21 February 2018, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved and signed by the Chair.

5 CORRESPONDENCE

(1) Letter of Thanks

The Clerk reported the receipt of a letter of thanks from Mr and Mrs Marshall relating to the verge works adjacent their property.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(2) Request for Financial Assistance - Durham Women's Gala

The Clerk reported the receipt of a request for financial assistance from the organisers of the Durham Women's Gala to be held on 30 June 2018.

RESOLVED that no donation be made.

(3) Seaham Town Council

The Clerk reported the receipt of the following invitations from Seaham Town Council.

**A Century of Wedding Gowns – 23 March 2018
Mayor of Seaham's Civic Ball – 20 April 2018**

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

6 PLANNING

APPROVALS

Seaton with Slingley Parish Council – 21 March 2018

DM/18/00093/FPA - Erection of two-storey extension to side of dwelling, single-storey extension to rear and porch to front elevation at 9 Stotfold Close, Seaham SR7 0LQ for Mr A H Thompson

DM/18/00353/AD - 8 externally illuminated fascia signs at Seaton Lane Inn, Seaham SR7 0LP for Marshall Inns

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

7 CLERKS REPORT

(1) Village Footpaths

The Clerk reported that following the last meeting Durham County Council were contacted regarding complaints received from residents in relation to the footpath works undertaken in the village.

Durham County Council was advised that the works had been on-going on and off for over 4 weeks and residents were not being kept informed with progress. The paths now appeared to be complete but the standard and quality of the work was unacceptable. The top dressing on the paths was rough and uneven and it was felt they were in a worse condition than before the work started.

Durham County Council had advised that the surfacing process applied was called Footway Surface Treatment (FST) which was a sealant applied to the existing footpath approximately 6mm thick. It protected the footpath from the ingress of water which was a major cause of structural failure as a result of the freeze thaw process during the winter months. Whilst regulating material was used to remove some of the depressions in the footpath FST in essence followed the profile of the existing footpath. FST was a cost effective treatment which extended the life of a footpath, however the finished surface was not the same as would be achieved if the footpath was excavated and reconstructed using bitumen macadam.

The contractor had experienced problems due to the weather and the footpath was still waiting for the finishing coat. The County Council had stated that as soon as they were aware the works could not proceed residents were advised to park as normal and the contractor would let them know when they could carry out the works.

Members expressed concern at the way the situation had been handled by the contractor but acknowledged the paths were still awaiting the final top dressing.

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

(2) Mud on Public Footpath

The Clerk reported that following the last meeting Durham County Council were contacted regarding the public footpath below the bankside to the left of Branksome, on the corner of the junction at the B1404 and Hillrise Crescent.

Complaints had been received related to the bankside coming away and mud was sliding onto the footpath making it difficult and dangerous for residents to walk on.

Durham County Council had advised that they were not responsible for the bankside but had contacted the owners of Branksome who had agreed to remove the mud from the footpath and secure the bankside.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

Seaton with Slingley Parish Council – 21 March 2018

(3) Date of Annual Meeting and Annual Assembly of Electors

RESOLVED that the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and the Annual Assembly of Electors be held on 23 May 2018.

(4) New Fence - Burnbrae

The Clerk reported the receipt of correspondence from a resident expressing concern in relation to the erection of a post and steel cable fence on the grassed area adjacent to Burnbrae, Seaton Village.

The resident was concerned about pedestrian road safety on the corner as the fence left anyone walking at the side of the road with nowhere to go to avoid vehicles coming round the corner. Vehicles using the lane tended to be large horse boxes and delivery vans.

He was worried that the steel coated cable, used between the posts was a danger to anyone who may fall on it or under it. There was concern that the owners of the property would continue to fence off areas of public open space that did not belong to them.

RESOLVED that the matter be referred to Durham County Council.

8 PAYMENTS

CHQ NO	PAYMENT TO	DETAIL	COST	VAT	TOTAL
100385	HMRC	PAYE - March 2018	109.00		109.00
100386	Payroll	Wages - March 2018	435.27		435.27
100387	JACS Accountancy Limited	Payroll services - March 2018	8.00	1.60	9.60
100388	Durham County Council	Supply and Installation of Fencing	1,145.58	229.12	1,374.70
100389	J Thompson	Reimbursements	6.72		6.72
		TOTAL	1,704.57	230.72	1,935.29

RESOLVED that the payments listed be endorsed.

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(1) Surface Water on Walkway

Councillor Williams reported excessive water on the walkway and felt it may be the result of a burst drain. Following complaints Northumbrian Water had previously inspected the area and advised it was surface water and not a burst pipe.

Members expressed concern at the volume of water and felt it may be a burst field drain.

RESOLVED that the matter be referred to Durham County Council.

10 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED that the next meeting be held on Wednesday 18 April 2018 at 6.45pm.

Seaton with Slingley Parish Council – 21 March 2018

..... Signed

..... Dated