

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

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16 OCTOBER 2019

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

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A Slater.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor J Theobald declared an interest in planning application DM/19/02428/FPA considered at the last meeting.

3 POLICE

The Police reported that since the last meeting there had been 2 reports of lead thefts and a mountain bike had been stolen.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

4 The MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING held on 18 September 2019 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved and signed by the Chair.

5 CORRESPONDENCE

(1) Letter of Thanks - Great North Air Ambulance

The Clerk reported the receipt of a letter of thanks from the Great North Air Ambulance.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

(2) Seaham Town Council

The Clerk reported the receipt of an invitation for the Chair to attend the Civic Carol Service on 11 December 2019.

It was suggested that as a token of appreciation for the numerous invites the Parish Council had received that a donation be made to the Mayors Charity Fund.

RESOLVED that a donation of £25 be made to the Mayor's Charity Fund from the Section 137 Budget.

6 PLANNING

Application

DM/19/03208/FPA – Single storey rear extension at 2 Pacific Hall Close, Seaham SR7 0LJ.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

7 CLERKS REPORT

(1) Grounds Maintenance

The Clerk reported that following the last meeting Shaw Trust had confirmed they would continue to supply and plant the summer and winter bedding plants but would cease all maintenance work to the beds.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(2) Corner adjacent Community Centre

The Clerk reported that the Chair had been approached by residents living opposite the bankside on the corner adjacent to the Community Centre.

The bankside was steep and residents, who had historically cut the grass at this location, were finding it increasingly difficult to manage.

The Chair and Clerk held a site meeting with Durham County Council to discuss the location and it was suggested that the bankside be added to the grass cutting contract the Parish Council had with the County Council.

It was also suggested that birdsmouth fencing, to match the opposite corner, could be installed to enhance the appearance of the corner.

Members were advised that Durham County Council had provided the following quotations;

- To include the bankside in the grass cutting contract - £127.65 plus VAT per year.
- To supply, install and stain 25 metres of birdsmouth fencing - £963.50 plus VAT.

RESOLVED that the quotations from Durham County Council be accepted.

(3) Sinkhole – B1404

The Clerk reported that Durham County Council had advised that they were continuing to monitor the location of the former sinkhole on the B1404.

The County Council were uncertain about what had caused the latest depression in the carriageway but were confident that the issue was resolved during the previous works and there was no concern regarding an imminent collapse of the highway.

Site investigation works had been undertaken and the County Council were investigating the history of the location to ascertain any geological information which may assist in their investigations. They had also met with a local geological company to discuss the potential cause of the recent depression and any repairs that were necessary.

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

(4) Haverley Drive

The Clerk reported that Members had previously been advised that County Councillors Bleasdale and Morrison had agreed to fund works at Haverley Drive from their Neighbourhood Budget.

Members were advised that boulders had been installed at various access points. One area,

that had been too wet to install boulders, had had bollards installed instead.

It was explained that the grassed areas around where the boulders had been placed would need landscaping once the land had dried out.

The field gate that was to be installed to allow access for grass cutting would be installed as soon as possible.

It was suggested that a letter of thanks be forwarded to County Councillors S Morrison and G Bleasdale.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted and a letter of thanks be forwarded to County Councillors S Morrison and G Bleasdale.

(5) Seaton Crescent

The Clerk reported that Members had previously been advised that County Councillors Morrison and Bleasdale had agreed to fund works at Seaton Crescent from their Neighbourhood Budget.

Members were advised that Durham County Councils Area Action Partnership (AAP) had made a grant offer to highways and a potential start date was awaited.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(6) Feeder Pillar – Christmas Lights

The Clerk reported that arrangements had been made for npower to re-energise the feeder pillar on 24 October 2019.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(7) Website Accessibility

The Clerk reported that new regulations which came into force on 23 September 2019 stated that all public sector websites must meet accessibility standards and the Parish Council must publish an accessibility statement.

Members were advised that the Parish Councils website must comply with the regulations by 23 September 2020.

The Clerk reported that she had attended a training course provided by Durham County Council. Work had started to ensure the Parish Council complied with the new regulations by the deadline which included checking the website for accessibility problems, publishing an accessibility statement and making sure all new features and content was accessible.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(8) Handrail – Hall Close

The Clerk reported that Durham County Council had inspected the handrail at Hall Close and confirmed it was in a bad state of repair. The handrail had come off the wall, one of the legs had rotted and it was not securely fixed to the ground. The handrail would either be repaired or replaced.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(9) Walkway

Seaton with Slingley Parish Council – 16 October 2019

The Clerk reported that following the last meeting Durham County Council had filled in the rut on the walkway and tidied the area around both entrances.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

8 PAYMENTS

CHQ NO	PAYMENT TO	DETAIL	COST	VAT	TOTAL
100499	HMRC	PAYE - October 2019	116.80		116.80
100500	Payroll	Wages - October 2019	466.69		466.69
100501	JACS Accountancy Limited	Payroll Services - October 2019	8.80	1.76	10.56
100502	Shaw Trust	Grounds Maintenance	978.57	195.71	1,174.28
100503	J Thompson	Reimbursements	14.64		14.64
100504	Seaham Town Council - Mayor's Charity Fund	Section 137 Donation	25.00		25.00
		TOTAL	1,610.50	197.47	1,807.97

RESOLVED that the payments listed be endorsed.

9 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED that the next meeting be held on Wednesday 20 November 2019 at 6.45pm.

.....Signed

.....Dated