

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

**HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2019**

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

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor J Theobald.

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3 POLICE**

There was no Police report.

**4 The MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING held on 16 October 2019 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) North East Prison After Care Society**

The Clerk reported the receipt of a request for financial assistance from the North East Prison After Care Society (nepacs).

**RESOLVED** that no donation be made.

**(ii) County of Durham School Benevolent Fund**

The Clerk reported the receipt of a request for financial assistance from the County of Durham School Benevolent Fund.

**RESOLVED** that no donation be made.

**(2) Letter of Thanks**

The Clerk reported the receipt of a letter of thanks from Seaham Town Council.

**RESOLVED** that the information given be noted.

**(3) Seaham Town Council**

The Clerk reported the receipt of an invitation for the Chair to attend the Mayor's Christmas Dinner on 3 December 2019.

**RESOLVED** that the information given, be noted.

(4) Royal Garden Party 2020

The Clerk reported the receipt of correspondence from the County Durham Association of Local Councils which gave details of the Royal Garden Party 2020.

RESOLVED that Councillor A Foots be nominated to attend the Royal Garden Party.

6 PLANNING

Applications

DM/19/03400/RM – Dwelling on plot 19 at site of former Seaton Garden Centre, Seaton Lane, Seaton SR7 0LT

DM/19/03400/RM – Extension to side at 19 Haverley Drive, Seaham SR7 0JP

Approvals

DM/19/01701/RM dwelling on plot 23 at site of former Seaton Garden Centre, Seaton Lane, Seaton SR7 0LT

DM/19/02428/FPA - Retention of stables, equestrian arena and associated car park and the installation of proposed lighting, storage building and toilet facilities at Southridge Equestrian, Stotfold Farm, Seaton, Seaham SR7 0NE

DM/19/02912/RM – Dwelling on plot 24 at Site of Former Seaton Garden Centre, Seaton Lane, Seaton SR7 0LT

DM/19/02617/FPA - Porch with balcony above to front, single storey extension to rear, application of render to all elevations and removal of chimney at Corrib, Seaton Lane, Seaton, Seaham SR7 0LP

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

7 CLERKS REPORT

(1) Budget 2020/2021

The Clerk provided details of the figures related to the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme (LCTRS) grant and tax base for the forthcoming financial year 2020/2021.

Members were advised that the LCTRS grant for 2020/2021 was £118 which was an increase of £47 from the previous year and the tax base had decreased from 420.8 to 419.7.

The Clerk provided Members with various options and a range of figures for consideration.

Members discussed the options and suggested that as the Parish Council was in a financially stable position a 0.50% increase be applied to the precept and the Clerk prepare a budget based on this for consideration at the next meeting.

RESOLVED that the Clerk prepare a budget based on a 0.5% increase to the precept.

(2) Seaton Community Association – Section 133 Donation

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had given a commitment to Seaton Community Association to provide a grant of £1,000 per annum since the 2015/16 financial year.

The purpose of the grant was to provide the Community Association with financial stability.

**RESOLVED** that the Parish Council agree to provide a £1,000 grant to Seaton Community Association in 2020/21.

**(3) Grounds Maintenance**

The Clerk reported that Shaw Trust had supplied and planted the winter bedding at a cost of £499.92 plus VAT.

**RESOLVED** that the information given, be noted.

**(4) Corner adjacent Community Centre**

The Clerk reported that Durham County Council had supplied and installed 25 metres of birdsmouth fencing on the corner adjacent the Community Centre at a cost of £963.50 plus VAT.

**RESOLVED** that the information given, be noted.

**(5) Sinkhole – B1404**

The Clerk reported that Durham County Council had advised that the cause of the recent settlement on the B1404 was unknown.

Members were advised that a cable percussion borehole rig had been used to ascertain if there were any geological faults in the sub-strata which could be causing the subsidence. The findings were now being analysed to determine a permanent solution to the problem.

Durham County Council were also carrying out a desktop survey of historical maps to determine the geological formation of the area.

There was no imminent risk of additional significant subsidence, but the traffic lights would remain in place until the permanent works were complete. There was no risk to neighbouring houses as the closest property was approximately 16m from the point of the subsidence.

Unfortunately, Durham County Council could not give a definitive timescale for conclusion of the works as it was dependent on the findings from the boreholes.

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

**(6) Seaton Crescent**

The Clerk reported that works at Seaton Crescent, funded by County Councillors Morrison and Bleasdale from their Neighbourhood Budget were complete and feedback from residents had been positive.

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

**RESOLVED** that a letter of thanks be forwarded to County Councillors S Morrison and G Bleasdale.

**(7) Christmas Tree**

The Clerk reported that Shaw Trust had provided a quotation of £240 to supply and deliver the village Christmas tree on 28 November 2019.

## Seaton with Slingley Parish Council – 20 November 2019

**RESOLVED** that the quotation from Shaw Trust be accepted.

### (8) Christmas Carol Singing - Salvation Army

The Clerk reported that the annual Christmas carol singing would be held on 18 December 2019 at 7pm.

The Parish Council traditionally donated to the Salvation Army and it was suggested that a donation of £150 be made from the Section 137 Budget.

**RESOLVED** that a donation of £150 be made to the Salvation Army.

### (9) Campaign to Protect Rural England - Renewal of Annual Subscription

The Clerk reported that the annual subscription fee for the Campaign to Protect Rural England was £36.

**RESOLVED** that approval be granted to renew the subscription at a cost of £36.

## 8 PAYMENTS

CHQ NO	PAYMENT TO	DETAIL	COST	VAT	TOTAL
100505	HMRC	PAYE - November 2019	116.60		116.60
100506	Payroll	Wages - November 2019	466.89		466.89
100507	JACS Accountancy Limited	Payroll Services - November 2019	8.80	1.76	10.56
100508	Durham County Council	Supply and installation of fencing	963.5	192.7	1,156.20
100509	Shaw Trust	Winter Bedding and Christmas Tree	739.92	147.98	887.90
100510	Campaign to Protect Rural England	Annual Subscription	36.00		36.00
100511	A Slater	Reimbursements	40.65	8.13	48.78
100512	J Thompson	Reimbursements	49.68	7.00	56.68
100513	Salvation Army	Section 137 Donation	150.00		150.00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,572.04</b>	<b>357.57</b>	<b>2,929.61</b>

**RESOLVED** that the payments listed be endorsed.

## 9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

### (1) Handrail – Hall Close

Members reported that the handrail adjacent the steps leading to the rear of Hall Close had not been repaired.

The Clerk advised that Durham County Council had inspected the handrail and confirmed it needed repairing or replacing. The handrail had come off the wall, one of the legs had rotted and it was not securely fixed to the ground.

**RESOLVED** that the handrail be reported to Durham County Council.

### (2) Walkway

**Seaton with Slingley Parish Council – 20 November 2019**

Members reported that the entrance to the walkway heading south was overgrown with brambles and trees were growing over the walkway heading north.

**RESOLVED** that the issues on the walkway be reported to Durham County Council.

**(3) Quad Vehicles - Walkway**

Members reported that small off-road quad vehicles were gaining access the walkway by cutting through the trees and causing considerable damage.

**RESOLVED** that the matter be reported to Durham County Council.

**(4) A19 Slip Road**

Members referred to an accident involving a vehicle leaving the A19 slip road to join the B1404 and expressed concern that this was not the first time an accident had occurred at this location.

**RESOLVED** that the concerns of the Parish Council be forwarded to Durham County Council.

**(5) Streetlights**

Members reported that 2 streetlights on the B1404, on the opposite side of the road to the sink hole appeared to be leaning over.

**RESOLVED** that the matter be reported to Durham County Council.

**10 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED** that the next meeting be held on Wednesday 18 December 2019 at 6.00pm.

.....Signed

.....Dated