

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

**HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18 DECEMBER 2019**

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

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A Fooks.

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3 POLICE**

There was no Police report.

Members reported several incidents and expressed concern at the lack of a report from the Police.

It was suggested that the Police be invited to attend a future meeting of the Parish Council to discuss Members concerns.

**RESOLVED** that the Police be invited to attend a future meeting of the Parish Council.

**4 The MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING held on 20 November 2019 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved and signed by the Chair.**

**5 CORRESPONDENCE**

Seaham Town Council - The Clerk reported the receipt of a Christmas card from Seaham Town Council.

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

**6 PLANNING**

Application

DM/19/03831/RM - Proposed new dwelling on plot 11 at site of former Seaton Garden Centre, Seaton Lane, Seaton SR7 OLT

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

**7 CLERKS REPORT**

(1) Budget 2020/2021

The Clerk reported that Members had previously been provided with figures related to the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme (LCTRS) grant and tax base for the financial year 2020/2021.

## Seaton with Slingley Parish Council – 18 December 2019

Members had agreed a 0.50% increase to the precept and the Clerk had prepared a detailed budget based on this, a copy of which was circulated to each Member.

The Clerk took Members through the budget and advised that the Parish Council required £13,636 for the 2020/2021 financial year. It was suggested that the Parish Council use £1,493 of reserves to provide a precept of £12,025 which together with the grant of £118 gave a total of £12,143.

**RESOLVED** that; -

- (i) the Parish Council set a budget of £13,636 for the 2020/2021 financial year
  - (ii) approval be granted to use £1,493 of reserves to give a precept request of £12,025
  - (iii) Durham County Council be advised that the Parish Councils precept request for 2020/2021 was £12,025 in addition to a grant of £118 giving a total of £12,143.
- (2) Sinkhole – B1404

The Clerk reported that Durham County Council were working on a design and estimate for works required to the sinkhole on the B1404.

Members were advised that a road closure would be required but a date of when this would take place and the length of closure was not yet known. It was anticipated that the road closure would not exceed 2 weeks.

Further information would be provided by Durham County Council once the design and costs were complete.

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

(3) Bin Store – Community Centre

The Clerk reported the receipt of a quotation for £200 from Mr P Reay for the supply and construction of a bin store at the Community Centre to accommodate 3 bins.

**RESOLVED** that the quotation be accepted.

(4) Grounds Maintenance

The Clerk had previously reported that Shaw Trust would supply, plant and remove the summer and winter bedding but they would no longer maintain the beds.

Members were advised that Mr P Reay had provided a quotation of £15 an hour to maintain the flower beds. The hours required to maintain the beds would be discussed and agreed at a later date.

**RESOLVED** that the quotation from Mr Reay to maintain the flower beds be accepted.

(5) Street Lights – B1404

The Clerk reported that at the last meeting Members reported 2 street lights, on the opposite side of the road to the sink hole, which appeared to be leaning over.

Members were advised that the matter was reported to Durham County Council who inspected the lights and reported no issues of concern.

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

(6) Walkway

The Clerk reported that following the last meeting the paths leading north and south had been cut back. The brambles in the car park would be cut back when the Countryside Rangers could arrange to get a hedge trimmer on site.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(7) Grit Bins

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had investigated the possibility of replacing the existing grit bins in the village with something more aesthetically pleasing.

Durham County Council had supplied details of their suppliers but unfortunately there was nothing suitable. Therefore, Durham County Council had been asked to replace the damaged grit bin at Hall Close and replenish the existing grit bins.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(8) Handrail

The Clerk reported that following the last meeting the handrail at Hall Close was reported again to Durham County Council.

Members were advised that the County Council had apologised and stated that the job had been misplaced but the works would be carried out as soon as possible. Members reported that to date the handrail had not been repaired.

RESOLVED that Durham County Council be asked to undertake the work to the handrail as a matter of urgency.

(9) Book Exchange Box

Councillor Blacklock reported the receipt of a request from a resident to establish and erect a book exchange box in the village.

Whilst Members welcomed the idea it was thought that planning permission may be required and there was nowhere suitable in the village. It was suggested that the resident could erect an exchange box within the curtilage of their own property.

RESOLVED that the resident be advised that the Parish Council had no objection to the resident erecting a book exchange box within the curtilage of their own property.

## 8 PAYMENTS

CHQ NO	PAYMENT TO	DETAIL	COST	VAT	TOTAL
100514	HMRC	PAYE - December 2019	116.80		116.80
100515	Payroll	Wages - December 2019	466.69		466.69
100516	JACS Accountancy Limited	Payroll Services - December 2019	8.80	1.76	10.56
100517	A Slater	Reimbursements	10.25	2.05	12.30
100518	J Thompson	Reimbursements	14.64		14.64
100519	Society Of Local Council Clerks	Annual Subscription	126.00		126.00

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100520	Mr P Reay		Supply and erection of bin store		200.00		200.00
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>943.18</b>	<b>3.81</b>	<b>946.99</b>

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

**9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**(1) Quad Bikes**

Members referred to the continuing problems associated with quad bikes and small off-road vehicles in the village and the nuisance they were causing to residents.

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

It was suggested that the Police be invited to attend a future meeting to discuss the problems associated with off-road vehicles; G Morris MP be advised of the problem and Sergeant I Boshier, Cleveland and Durham Motorcycle Unit be advised that the situation with off-road bikes and quads was getting worse.

**RESOLVED** that;

- (i) the Police be invited to attend a future meeting to discuss Members concerns
- (ii) a letter be forwarded to G Morris MP advising of the situation
- (iii) Sergeant I Boshier, Cleveland and Durham Motorcycle Unit be advised that the situation with off-road bikes and quads was getting worse.

**10 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED** that the next meeting be held on Wednesday 15 January 2020 at 6.45pm.

.....Signed

.....Dated