

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SEATON WITH SLINGLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 21 APRIL 2021**

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

The Chair asked Members to observe a minute's silence as a mark of respect following the death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh

The Chair also asked Members to observe a minute's silence as a mark of respect following the death of Mrs E Wilson

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Taylor and A Vila.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The Chair welcomed G Fuller to the meeting and advised that G Fuller had been elected to the Parish Council and would be joining as a Councillor when the new Council was formed in May.

G Fuller reported that the County Council had undertaken weedkilling in the village which, in certain areas, had killed the grass.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted and the situation be monitored.

4 POLICE

The Police reported that since the last meeting 1 incident had been reported.

Members were advised of Keep in The Know was a free neighbourhood alert messaging system that kept residents updated on crime and what was going on in their local area.

Residents could register online and create an account. Once registered they would receive regular crime updates, hear about community initiatives, witness appeals, find out about general policing activity and receive regular scam alerts.

Residents signing up would also be given the opportunity to indicate if they had CCTV or a ring doorbell (or similar system) installed at their home address. When a crime occurred, or there was a missing person in their area, they would be contacted to see if they could provide help.

Keep in The Know was a two-way communication system and residents could also reply to alerts. It could not to be used for reporting crimes or incidents.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

- 5 The MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING held on 17 March 2021 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved and signed by the Chair.

6 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported the receipt of correspondence from Councillor S Morrison advising that she was not standing for re-election to the County Council at the May elections. Members were advised that Councillor G Bleasdale was also standing down.

The Chair suggested that a bouquet of flowers be sent to both County Councillors thanking them for their help and support.

RESOLVED that a bouquet of flowers be sent to County Councillors S Morrison and G Bleasdale from the Chairs account.

7 PLANNING

(1) Applications

DM/21/00946/FPA – Creation of six shallow wildlife ponds 10M x 15M each at High Sharpley Farm, Salters Lane, Seaton

DM/21/01034/FPA – Two storey front bay windows and side porch at 13 Seaton Crescent, Seaham

DM/21/01060/FPA – First floor rear extension and internal works to add toilet to garage at 18 Blaykeston Close, Seaham

DM/21/01148/FPA – Erection of porch at side of dwelling at Holly Lodge, Seaton Lane, Seaton

DM/21/01195/FPA – Demolition of existing garage and erection of new enlarged detached garage at Green Acres, Seaton Lane, Seaton

(2) Approvals

DM/20/03396/RM - Approval of reserved matters (appearance and scale) relating DM/16/03710/OUT at Plot 12 site of former Garden Centre, Seaton Lane, Seaton

DM/20/03553/RM - Approval of reserved matters (appearance and scale) relating to DM/16/03710/OUT at Plot 16 site of Former Garden Centre, Seaton Lane, Seaton

DM/20/03630/RM - Erection of dwelling on Plot 11 (resubmission of DM/19/03831/RM) at Plot 11 site of former Garden Centre, Seaton Lane, Seaton

DM/20/03633/RM – Approval of reserved matters (appearance and scale) pursuant to DM/16/03710/OUT at Plot 8 site of former Garden Centre, Seaton Lane, Seaton

DM/20/03662/RM - Reserved matters application (appearance and scale) pursuant to DM/16/03719/OUT at Plot 3 site of former Garden Centre, Seaton Lane, Seaton

DM/20/03405/FPA - Erection of first floor extension at side of dwelling at 30 Sharpley Drive, Seaham

DM/20/03676/FPA – Window alterations to rear and side elevations at Burnbrae, The

Village, Seaton

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

8 CLERKS REPORT

(1) Grass Verge – Haverley Drive

The Clerk reported the receipt of a request, from a resident, for the grassed area at the entrance to Haverley Drive to be resown with meadow turf and wildflowers. The resident had reported that the area was well walked and covered in mole hills.

Members were advised that Durham County Council were contacted as they owned and managed the area referred to. The County Council had advised that they would not plant wildflowers as they had a short flowering life which led to complaints that they looked like weeds. They had suggested that bulbs could be planted and had provided the following quotation. All prices were exclusive of VAT and labour was an additional £264.90.

Brighton mix bulbs – 20 metres @ £22 = £440
Volendam mix bulbs – 20 metres @ £23.10 = £462

Members confirmed that the area was used regularly by dog walkers. It was felt that the planting of additional bulbs at this location was unnecessary. It was suggested that the area continue to be monitored.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(2) Hillrise Crescent

The Clerk reported the receipt of correspondence from a resident regarding the condition of the track that crossed the Village Green to the rear of Hillrise Crescent.

The Clerk reported that the road to the rear of Hillrise Crescent was managed by Durham County Council and had been referred to them for further investigation.

The track crossing the Village Green was the responsibility of the Parish Council and Durham County Council had been asked to provide a quotation for repairs.

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

(3) Housing Development - Former Garden Centre Site

The Clerk reported that following the last meeting Durham County Council were advised that work was still taking place at the former Garden Centre site on a Sunday which was a breach of the planning approval conditions.

The Planning Officer had advised that she had met with the developer on site and had identified the plot where work had taken place on a Sunday. A formal written warning was issued to the builder regarding the works and each developer was issued with a reminder letter advising of the working hours restrictions.

Whilst on site it was noted that the main road was in an acceptable condition and there were no mud related issues. The builder had however, acknowledged the necessity to clean the road as and when required. The area would continue to be monitored.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

9 PAYMENTS

The following schedule of payments was circulated.

| CHQ NO | PAYMENT TO | DETAIL | COST | VAT | TOTAL |
|--------|--------------------------|--|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 100611 | HMRC | PAYE - April 2021 | 119.80 | | 119.80 |
| 100612 | Payroll | Wages - April 2021 | 479.76 | | 479.76 |
| 100613 | JACS Accountancy Limited | Payroll Services - April 2021 | 8.80 | 1.76 | 10.56 |
| 100614 | Durham County Council | Staining - Racecourse Fencing | 526.72 | 105.34 | 632.06 |
| 100615 | Durham County Council | Flagstones - Manor Hall Close | 1,660.34 | 332.07 | 1,992.41 |
| 100616 | J Thompson | Reimbursements - Ink and Wreaths | 58.90 | 4.99 | 63.89 |
| 100617 | Open Spaces Society | Annual Subscription | 45.00 | | 45.00 |
| 100618 | J Thompson | Reimbursement - Flowers for County Councillors | 50.00 | | 50.00 |
| | | TOTAL | 2,949.32 | 444.16 | 3,393.48 |

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted and the payments be approved.

10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(1) Bank Top

Members reported that the horse step at the Bank Top had been damaged. It was suggested that a more robust step was required, possibly metal, to prevent further damage.

The Chair suggested that the Parish Council could contribute towards the cost of the repairs if necessary.

RESOLVED that the matter be referred to Durham County Council with an offer to assist with the cost of repairs.

11 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED that the next meeting be held 19 May 2021 at 6.45pm.

.....Signed

.....Dated