

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SEATON WITH SLINGLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14 DECEMBER 2022**

**Present: Councillor A Slater (Chair)
Councillors G Fuller, S McAuliffe, A Taylor,
J Theobald, A Vila, S Williams**

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Blacklock, S Faulkner, H Middlemiss, D Temple and County Councillors K Batey and D McKenna.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There was no public present at the meeting.

4 POLICE

There was no Police report.

5 The Minutes of the last meeting held on 16 November 2022 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved and signed by the Chair.

6 CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

7 PLANNING MATTERS

There were no planning issues.

8 CLERKS REPORT

(1) Precept and Budget Setting 2023/2024

The Clerk reported that at the last meeting Members were provided with details of the figures related to the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme (LCTRS) grant and tax base for the forthcoming 2023/2024 financial year. Members were advised that the Parish Council would not receive a LCTRS grant for 2023/2024 which was a reduction of £228 from the previous year and the tax base had increased from 416.7 to 433.5.

The Clerk provided various budget options and a range of figures for consideration. It was pointed out that in previous years the Parish Council had used reserves to keep the precept as low as possible. Members discussed the options and suggested a budget based on a 1% increase to the precept.

The Clerk took Members through the detailed budget and advised that the Parish Council required £14,005 for the 2023/2024 financial year. It was suggested that the Parish Council use £1,739 of reserves to provide a precept of £12.266.

RESOLVED that: -

Seaton with Slingley Parish Council – 14 December 2022

- (i) the Parish Council set a budget of £14,005 for the 2023/2024 financial year.
 - (ii) approval be granted to use £1,739 of reserves to give a precept request of £12,266.
 - (iii) Durham County Council be advised that the Parish Councils precept request for 2023/2024 was £12,266.
- (2) Hillrise Crescent

At the last meeting Members were advised that a funding application for £4,000, from the County Councillors Neighbourhood Budget, had been submitted. The funding would be used to re-surface the track that crossed the village green to the rear of Hillrise Crescent. The project would be funded by County Councillors Batey and McKenna each contributing £2,000 and the Parish Council contributing £3,600 giving a total cost of £7,600.

Members were advised that the application had been successful and the Parish Council had been awarded £4,000 from the County Councillors Batey and McKenna.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted and a letter of thanks be forwarded to Councillors Batey and McKenna.

(3) Carol Singing 2023

The Clerk reported that the annual carol singing with the Salvation Army was scheduled to be held on 20 December 2023. The December meeting of the Parish Council would traditionally be held on the same date at 6pm followed by the carol singing at 7pm. As this date was close to Christmas it was suggested that it be brought forward to 13 December 2023.

RESOLVED that the December meeting of the Parish Council and the carol singing with the Salvation Army be held on 13 December 2023.

(4) Village Christmas Tree

The Clerk reported that the Chair had purchased a set of Christmas lights at a cost of £79.99.

RESOLVED that the Chair be reimbursed £79.99 for the Christmas lights.

(5) Trees

The Clerk reported that following the last meeting Durham County Council were asked to supply and plant 2 new trees to replace those that had died during the summer at a cost of £389.80.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(6) Sinkhole – B1404

The Clerk reported that Durham County Council had been asked to provide an update on the monitoring of a section of the B1404 where the sinkhole had previously been.

Durham County Council had advised that a planned ground penetrating radar survey had not been done due to the extreme cost of it. However, the road was scanned for condition data which did show slight wear and tear on various sections of the road. The County Council were monitoring the road and if any intervention was needed it would be actioned in accordance with the Councils Highways Safety Inspection Manual. The dip in the road was inspected every month and there had been no significant movement to date. The Parish Council would be advised if there were any deviations with the carriageway.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

Seaton with Slingley Parish Council – 14 December 2022

9 MEMBER ISSUES

(1) Advertising Sign – B1404

Members expressed concern at an advertising sign that had been erected opposite the slip road leaving the A19 and joining the B1404 at Seaton. The sign was distracting to motorists and needed to be removed.

RESOLVED that the matter be reported to Durham County Council.

(2) Pedestrian Crash Barrier – B1404

Members expressed concern at the number of accidents at the slip road leaving the A19 and joining the B1404 at Seaton. It was felt that it was only a matter of time before a pedestrian was seriously injured at this location. It was suggested that the installation of a pedestrian crash barrier would provide protection to pedestrians in the event of an accident at this location.

RESOLVED that the request for a pedestrian crash barrier at the top of the A19 slip road be referred to Durham County Council.

(3) 30MPH Sign

Members reported the 30MPH sign at the Burn bank was dirty and covered in graffiti.

RESOLVED that the matter e reported to Durham County Council.

10 PAYMENTS

RESOLVED that the following schedule of payments made since the last meeting be approved.

CHQ NO	PAYMENT TO	DETAIL	COST	VAT	TOTAL
100739	HMRC	PAYE - December 2022	156.39		156.39
100740	Payroll	Wages - December 2022	618.00		618.00
100741	JACS Accountancy Limited	Payroll Services - December 2022	10.00	2.00	12.00
100742	A Slater	Reimbursement - Christmas lights	68.15	13.63	81.78
100743	DESTROYED				
100744	Society of Local Council Clerks	Annual Subscription	168.50		168.50
100745	Open Spaces Society	Annual Subscription	45.00		45.00
Sheet 148	HSBC	Bank Charges	8.20		8.20
		TOTAL	1,074.24	15.63	1,089.87

11 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED that the next meeting be held 18 January 2023 at 6.45pm.

.....Signed

.....Dated