

Minutes of the Belmont Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September  
2021 at 6:30pm in Belmont Community Centre

**Present:** Chairman Councillor E.S. Mavin, Vice-Chairman Councillor C.A. Fletcher, Councillors J. Appleby, M.P. Bennett, Mrs P.J. Conway, P.S. Conway, V. Hawes, J. Knight, C.A. Lattin, L. Mavin, A.C. Walker, A.P. Watkins and M. Watson.

**Also Present:**

Parish Clerk Mrs S. Overton,  
PCSO Andrew Gilhooley  
Durham Area Youth (2 representatives)

21.64 To Receive Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors K. Noble and S.C.White  
**RECEIVED.**

21.65 To Receive Declarations of Interest.

Members Please Note: - this is a standard item. If Members are aware of a personal or prejudicial interest in relation to any item on the Agenda this should be disclosed at this stage or when the interest becomes apparent during the consideration of an item in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Members. This item is linked to your Declaration of Members Interest forms please consult these forms when reading these Notes on agenda items to ensure compliance with this item.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

**RECEIVED.**

**The Chairman suspended Standing Orders.**

21.66 To Receive Miscellaneous Reports.

(a) Police.

The PCSO gave a report regarding various issues in the area

(b) Community Warden.

There were no Community Wardens present a report to be circulated to all Councillors when received.

(c) Members of The Public

Two representatives from Durham Area Youth introduced themselves to Councillors and gave a short overview of their work with youths in the area. The Chairman advised they work with other youth groups and thanked them for their attendance.

## **The Chairman re-imposed Standing Orders.**

### 21.67 To Consider and make Comment on Planning Matters\*.

A list of Weekly Planning Applications for the month of July/August 2021 was e-mailed to members for information – see attached\*

The Chairman thanked Councillor Conway for his report.

**RECEIVED AND AGREED.**

### 21.68 To Confirm and sign as a correct record of the Minutes of the meeting of Belmont Parish Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021 – minutes attached\*

#### Amendments

21.60 Environment Committee – from ‘pay to play, line 3

21.61 - Ward Reports

Councillor A.C.Walker raised the following concerns:-

A concern was raised regarding the poor state of grass cutting on Moor Park, the matter to be reported to Durham County Council.

A concern was raised regarding the dog bin at Renny’s Lane entrance to Cambridgeshire Drive which needs replacing, the matter to be reported to Durham County Council.

A request from a resident for a box junction to be placed at the entrance to Buckinghamshire Drive onto Belmont Road.

A concern was raised regarding a large Copper Beech in need of topping and trimming in Cambridgeshire Drive, the matter to be reported to Durham County Council.

Councillor Walker enquired why the Parish Council meetings had been moved to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month instead of the first. He was informed that it made it easier for finance reports to be completed and printed.

21.61 from Belmont Ward to Carrville Ward

A concern was raised regarding untidy hedges belonging to Believe Housing in need of attention.

A concern was raised regarding several dilapidated garages on Broome Road, the matter to be reported to Durham County Council.

### 21.69 To Receive Matters Arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda.

### 21.70 To Receive Matters of Information, Clerk’s Report, Correspondence Tabled Items – for information.

1. Letter sent to Planning Officer opposing Planning Application DM/21/02241/FPA: conversion and extension of 13 Belle Vue Terrace.

2. Letter sent to Planning Officer regarding Planning Application DM/21/01611/FPA: objecting to the scheme.

3.Thank you letter from Macmillan Cancer support for the donation of £50.00 from Belmont Parish Council.

21.71 To Consider Risk Management in relation to items on the Agenda.

Members please note: - this is a standard item. Risk Management has been considered when compiling these notes for September meeting and has been incorporated into reports and presented to members.

**RECEIVED**

21.72 To Consider Financial Matters\*

(a) To Receive Receipts and Payments during the month of July/August 2021– see attached\*

**RECEIVED AND AGREED.**

(b) To Receive Bank reconciliation during the month of July/August 2021 – see attached\*

**RECEIVED AND AGREED.**

(c) To Consider Donation requests during the month of July/August 2021 – see attached\*  
St Cuthberts Hospice - £50.00

**AGREED.**

(d)The Chair of Finance and Assets proposed that an audit trail be put in place for any purchased items.

**AGREED.**

(e) It was proposed that in the event of an emergency to go ahead with any works deemed urgent rather than wait for a decision by Full Parish Council.

**AGREED.**

(f) A request was made by Belmont Allotments for funding to support Gilesgate primary school allotments.

**AGREED:** that £250 would be funded by the parish council in the current year and reviewed in succeeding years.

21.73 To Consider and make Comment on Cemetery Reports.

(a) To Receive the report of burials during the month of July/August 2021

(3)

(b) To Receive the report of Grave & Ashes Purchases during the month of July/August 2021

(3)

(c) To Consider Memorial Erection and Additional Inscription Applications during the month of July/August 2021

(6)

(d) Ashes interred in Burial Plots during the month of July/August 2021

(0)

**RECEIVED AND AGREED.**

21.74 To Discuss County Durham Association of Local Councils (CDALC ) Area Representation for the CDALC City of Durham Area Committee

**AGREED:** Councillor A.C. Walker to attend the next meeting of the City of Durham Area Committee when date is confirmed.

21.75 Conclusion of External Audit.

The Clerk informed Councillors the Conclusion of External Audit has been received with no issues and will be displayed on the Parish website for information in accordance with audit regulations.

**RECEIVED.**

21.76 To Receive Committee Reports.

(a) Communications Committee

The next meeting of the Communications Committee to be held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September at 5.30 pm – 19.00 pm in Belmont Community Centre Rm 3.

**AGREED.**

(b) Environment Committee

A report was given by the Chair, Councillor M.Watson.

It was decided to enter next year's Northumbria in Bloom Competition.

**AGREED.**

The next meeting of the Environment Committee to be held is Wednesday October 6<sup>th</sup> in Belmont Community Centre Rm 3.

The Chair informed Councillors the date of the next litter pick is scheduled for Sunday October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**AGREED.**

(c) Finance and Assets Committee

A report was given by the Chair, Councillor M.Bennett.

The next meeting of the Finance and Assets Committee to be held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September at 17.30 – 19.00 pm in Belmont Community Centre Rm 3.

**AGREED.**

(d) Planning Committee

A report was given by the Chair, Councillor P.S. Conway see attached  
**AGREED.**

21.77 To Receive reports from Ward Councillors.

Belmont

The cemetery fence has now been repaired and will be repainted within the next week.

The cemetery contractor to repair hole in fence near the new ashes section shortly, after concerns regarding anti-social behaviour from youngsters visiting the Cheveley Park Play area next door.

Councillor A.C. Walker raised a concern regarding Broomside Road/Belmont Road junction, querying if blocking the hatch signs at the junction would deter the speed of traffic joining Belmont Road from Broomside road. He said residents were asking for a chicane on Broomside road.

Carrville

A request for double yellow lines at the newly installed crossing on Carrville High Street as drivers were seen parking their cars there causing Health and Safety issues.

It was reported that residents were concerned about the new bus route provision by Go North East.

The Chairman informed Councillors he had requested three bus shelters, one on Broomside Lane, The Belmont Arms and one near B & M.

A concern was raised regarding overflowing bins at Pickering Place.

Councillor Fletcher said she had met with officials and several issues were raised concerning weeds, untidy green, old garages, and street lighting in Broome Court.

Gilesgate Moor

It was reported that some residents were unhappy with the state of the footpaths after the recent removal of telegraph poles by Netomina.

The Chairman informed Councillors that removal of weeds in gutters throughout the parish would begin presently by Durham County Council.

It was reported that double yellow lines and hatches were needed on the new road where MKM Building Suppliers are situated as drivers were reportedly sitting in their wagons there causing obstruction.

It was reported that Belmont United were looking for funding as they had one hundred youngsters attending sessions on Monday evenings. The Chairman advised an e-mail be sent to the Parish Office regarding their request.

The Chairman advised Councillors to report any concerns themselves via Durham County Councils facility [doitonline](#).

21.78 Council business (any item which has been brought to the attention of the Chairman for discussion during the meeting for approval or otherwise)

21.79 Date of next meeting Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

The meeting closed at 8:35pm