

Minutes of the Belmont Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 14th October
2021 at 6:30pm in Belmont Community Centre

Present: Chairman, Councillor C.A. Fletcher, Councillors M.P. Bennett, Mrs P.J. Conway, P.S. Conway, V. Hawes, J. Knight, C.A. Lattin, K. Noble, M. Watson and S.C. White.

Also Present:

Parish Clerk Mrs S. Overton,

Members of the public (1)

21.80 To Receive Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors J. Appleby, E.S. Mavin, L. Mavin, A.P. Watkins and A.C. Walker.

RECEIVED.

21.81 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.

RECEIVED.

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders.

21.82 To Receive Miscellaneous Reports.

(a) Police.

A report has been circulated to all Councillors.

An issue was raised regarding a recent surge in domestic violence due to the impact of COVID-19. It was agreed to approach local PCSO and ask what the Parish Council could assist with. The Parish Council is also keen to explore any opportunities with other organisations relating to this issue and also look at funding. Contact numbers to be displayed on Parish website.

(b) Community Warden.

There was no Neighbourhood Warden present the clerk to request a report from the Neighbourhood Warden.

(c) Members of the Public.

Member of the public left the meeting at 6:50pm.

The Chairman re-imposed Standing Orders

Councillor V. Hawes joined the meeting at 6:55 pm.

21.83 To Consider and make Comment on Planning Matters*.

A list of Weekly Planning Applications for the month of September 2021 and Countywide Delegated 2021 was given to members for information – see attached*

The Chair of the Planning Committee Councillor PSC gave a report to councillors.

The Chair thanked Councillor PSC for his report.

21.84 To Confirm and sign as a correct record of the Minutes of the meeting of Belmont Parish Council held on 9th September – Minutes attached* AGREED.

21.85 To Receive Matters Arising from the Minutes not on the Agenda.

21.66 PG 1 – Members of the Public – Miscellaneous reports. The contact details for Durham Area Youth are 07871524985

21.77 PG 5 Gilesgate Moor - Ward Reports

Netomina

For information Councillor MW said that some residents were still not happy with the state of the paths following recent repair works by Netomina

21.77 PG 5 Carrville- Ward Reports

It was reported that the newly installed pedestrian crossing on Carrville High Street was causing parking issues.

21.86 To Receive Matters of Information, Clerk's Report, Correspondence Tabled Items – for information.

1. The next AAP meeting will be held virtually on Tuesday 26th October at 6.00 pm anyone wishing to attend should inform marie.ainscough@durham.gov.uk.

2. Belmont did extremely well in the Northumbria in Bloom competition and the Beautiful Durham competition. The Certificate and Awards will be on display in Belmont Library next week.

21.87 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 October meeting and has been incorporated into reports and presented to members.

RECEIVED.

21.88 To Consider Financial Matters*

(a) To Receive Receipts and Payments during the month of September 2021– see attached*

RECEIVED AND AGREED.

(b) To Receive Bank reconciliation during the month of September 2021– see attached*

RECEIVED AND AGREED.

(c) To Receive three monthly Budget for July/August/September 2021. – see attached*

RECEIVED AND AGREED.

(d) To Consider Donation requests during the month of September 2021 – see attached*

St Cuthberts Hospice - £50.00

AGREED.

21.89 To Approve purchasing of wreath for Remembrance Sunday.

AGREED: £25.00

21.90 To Approve donation for Parochial Church Council towards refreshments for Remembrance Sunday.

AGREED: £100.00

21.91 To Discuss laying of wreath Remembrance Sunday.

A vote took place amongst councillors and it was agreed for Councillor MW to lay the wreath at this years Remembrance Service.

Proposed - Councillor MP.B

Seconded Councillor CAL

AGREED:

20.92 To Discuss Service Level Agreement regarding play areas in the parish.

AGREED. To circulate Service Level Agreement to members of the Environment Committee and then Finance and Assets Committee to look at in further detail and report back to Full Council in November.

AGREED.

20.93 To Receive Internal Audit report – 2021 Interim Audit.

RECEIVED AND AGREED.

20.94 To Approve Awards and Gifts policy.

AGREED.

20.95 To Approve Cemetery Rules and Regulations.

AGREED.

20.96 To Discuss residents request to place plaque on cemetery bench.

A discussion took place among councillors regarding a residents request to place a plaque on one of the seats in the cemetery. After consideration the request was DECLINED.

21.97 To Receive Committee Reports.

(a) Communications Committee

Delivery of parish newsletters was discussed with members who were able to assist.
AGREED.

(b) Environment Committee

The Chair of the Environment Committee gave a report.

Northumbria in Bloom

It was agreed for Councillors LM and MW to oversee next year's Northumbria in Bloom competition 2022. A full list of this years achievements will be made available in the parish newsletter and parish website.

Cemetery

A request was received from a resident enquiring if they would be allowed to place a plaque on a bench in the cemetery. A discussion took place and it was agreed to DECLINE the request due to it being public property.

(c) Finance and Assets Committee

A report was given to members by the Chair, Councillor MP.B
AGREED.

21.98 To Receive reports from Ward Councillors.

Carrville

A concern was raised regarding overhanging trees causing problems for the end house on Belmont Road, the matter to be reported to Durham county council.

A concern was raised regarding speeding traffic along Swinside Drive residents are unable to hear onset of vehicles due to the proximity of the motorway. It was agreed to contact local delivery drivers to impress upon them to adhere to local speeding restrictions.

Belmont Parish Hall's Luncheon Club will re-start next Thursday 14th October 2021

A concern was raised regarding anti-social behaviour on Bainbridge Street the police are aware of the issue.

Concerns were raised regarding ongoing speeding issues on Carrville High Street the concerns to be forwarded to Durham County Council.

Belmont

Gilesgate Moor.

Concerns were raised regarding issues with large trees, bushes and saplings in need of a tidy up, the matter to be reported to Durham County Council.

A concern was raised regarding a banner which has appeared on Moorfield Park. It was reported that meetings were taking place on Sunday mornings allegedly relating to an anti-vaccine group. It was agreed to observe any further activity and report back with findings.

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

21.100 Date of next meeting Thursday 11th November 2021.

The meeting closed at 8:40pm.

Diary Dates

Finance and Assets Committee meeting - Thursday 21st October 2021 5:30pm – 7:00pm

Environment Committee – Wednesday November 3rd in 5:30 pm – 7:30pm