

Minutes of the Belmont Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 10th March 2022  
in Belmont Community Centre at 6:30pm

Present: Chairman, Councillor E.S. Mavin, Vice-Chair Mrs C.A. Fletcher, Councillors, M.P. Bennett, Mrs V. Hawes, J. Knight, Mrs C.A. Lattin, Mrs L. Mavin, Mrs K. Noble, A.P. Watkins, M. Watson and S.C. White.

Also Present: Parish Clerk, Mrs S. Overton,  
Members of the public (2)

21.169 To Receive Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors J. Appleby P.J. Conway, P.S. Conway and A.C. Walker.

RECEIVED.

21.170 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.**

21.171 To Receive Miscellaneous Reports.

(a) Police.

A report has been circulated to Councillors.

(b) Community Warden.

There was no Community Warden present.

(c) Members of The Public.

Two residents from Cambridgeshire Drive requested an update regarding Rennys Lane Underpass relating to ASBO, lighting and drainage issues.

The police to be alerted about a number of small fires being lit in and around the underpass allegedly by youths.

A concern was raised regarding issues with tags on the motorway fence, permission from the Highways Department would be needed to remove them.

Councillor AW joined the meeting.

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

21.172 To Consider and make Comment on Planning Matters\*

A list of Weekly Planning Applications for the month of February 2022 was circulated to Councillors for information – see attached\*

AGREED

- 21.173 To Confirm and sign as a correct record of the Minutes of the meeting of Belmont Parish Council held on 10th February 2022 – Minutes attached\*  
RECEIVED.
- 21.174 To Receive Matters of Information, Clerk’s Report, Correspondence Tabled Items – for information.  
1. VAT Form to be submitted shortly.  
2. Scott Memorials to be contacted for an update on the memorial plaque for Queen’s Platinum Jubilee 2022.  
RECEIVED.
- 21.175 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 March meeting and has been incorporated into reports and presented to members.  
AGREED
- 21.176 To Consider Financial Matters\*  
(a) To Receive Receipts and Payments during the month of February 2022– see attached\*  
RECEIVED AND AGREED.
- (b) To Receive Bank reconciliation during the month of February 2022– see attached\*  
RECEIVED AND AGREED.
- (c) To Consider Donation requests during the month of February 2022 – see attached\*  
Donation request from St Cuthberts Hospice  
AGREED:£50.00
- (d) NALC update of pay scales for 21/22 pay settlement  
The National Association of Local Councils has circulated the revised pay scales for 2021/2022 and advised including the backdated pay increase including all the months from April 2021 with March’s pay.  
AGREED:
- 21.177 To Discuss support for crisis in the Ukraine.  
£100.00 (includes £50.00 from Chairman's Allowance).  
AGREED.
- 21.178 To Approve Office Risk Assessment.  
There has been no changes to the office Risk Assessment.  
AGREED.
- 21.179 To Approve Publication Scheme.  
AGREED.
- 21.180 To Approve amendments to Code of Conduct from Durham County Council.  
AGREED.
- 21.181 To Approve Standing Orders.  
AGREED.

21.182 To Approve Asset List.  
AGREED.

21.183 To Receive Committee Reports.  
Communications Committee

A discussion took place regarding the Ukraine Crisis and it was agreed to add to the Parish Newsletter whether any residents would be willing to offer temporary accommodation.

Environment Committee

A report was given by the Chair MW which included storm damage to several trees in the parish.

It was reported the Emergency Response Working Party Meeting held on 2nd March 2022 at in Belmont Community Centre had gone very well and Terms of Reference had been agreed. Some of the issues discussed included financial implications, suitable venues and a list of vulnerable people in the area to be made known to the emergency services. It was agreed to wait for further instruction from Durham County Council.

Finance and Assets Committee

The Chair of the Finance Committee gave a report to Councillors which included the Council producing a Medium Term Financial Plan in the near future. The date of the next meeting to be arranged in April.

Planning Committee

A Planning report was given by Councillor SW in the absence of the Chair PC.

21.184 To Receive reports from Ward Councillors.

Belmont

The next litter pick takes place on Sunday 3rd April, information to be displayed on the Parish Website regarding meeting points and times.

The new bus shelter getting replaced opposite The Belmont public House has been confirmed for the 15th March.

Carrville

The Luncheon Club at Belmont Parish Hall has re-opened and will take place every Thursday at 12:00 noon, transport provided if required. The luncheon Club helps socially isolated people find companionship and support in a warm and friendly environment.

Gilesgate Moor

A concern was raised regarding the amount of glass in Moorfield Park and Cheveley Park, Durham County Council to be informed.

A request for six street lights to be placed in Moorfield as visibility is poor on an evening causing Health and Safety concerns for dog walkers etc, Durham County Council to be informed.

A concern was raised regarding anti-social behaviour from a group of youths in the area the Police are aware of the issue.

A request for a crossing to be put in place at the top of road as you exit Belmont Community Centre as pedestrians are finding it difficult to cross the road. A site visit to be arranged with Durham County Council Officer and County Councillor EM to discuss issues.

A resident reported that vans and cars were still continuing to park outside his property

when visiting Willowtree Shops. Durham County Council have recently placed white lines however a 'keep clear gap' was left for the owner to park his car, Durham County Council to be informed of the issue.

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

(a) The Northumbria in Bloom 2022 Spring meeting was held on Wednesday 9th March 2022, the date of the Spring judging has been confirmed for Thursday, 21st April. The event was attended by Councillors MW and LM along with Belmont Allotments Chairman and Project Manger.

(b) A vacancy has arose at Cheveley Park Primary School for a school governor, any Councillors interested in applying to contact the school for further details.

21.186 Date of next meeting Thursday 14th April 2021.

The meeting closed at 20:05pm