



## **Bishop Middleham Parish Council**

**Reply to,**  
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### **Conserving our Past: Building Our Future**

#### **Chairman Cllr. Harvey Neve**

Minutes of a meeting of Bishop Middleham Parish Council held Wednesday 13th April 2022, in Bishop Middleham Village Hall.

**Present:** - Cllrs. H. Neve (Chairman), J. Brownlee, V. Cooke, G. Jacobs.

Parish Clerk J. Robinson

**Apologies:** - Cllrs. E. Peeke, M. Maccallam, G. Turner

1 member of the public were present.

**177.0/21 Notice of meeting:** - It was moved by Cllr. H. Neve that the meeting be opened.

**178.0/21 Declarations of Interest** – none required.

**179.0/21 Member Dispensation** – none required.

**180.0/21 Public Participation:** -A resident raised concerns in regards to the state of the woods on the walking trail at the Wildlife area, and the recent work undertaken. It was agreed the Clerk request SELandscape to undertake remedial work as soon as possible.

#### **181.0/21 County Councillor Report**

Cllr. E. Peeke was unable to attend as she was at a County Council meeting but had submitted in writing the following report:-

a. AAP has allocated £31,000 towards the Council play project

- b. Village Hall are to receive £11,500 towards their refurbishment programme
- c. Town and Village Programme, Expression of Interest open for over £10,000. The Parish Clerk advised he had met the Co-ordinator, Angela Blanchard and has eoi application forms. hey must be submitted by 20th May 2022. Cllr. J.Brownlee advised the village hall are to make a bid from the pot with the support of Cllr. E.Peeke
- d. She is working with the LADDER Centre on advise sessions
- e. Case work continues across the ward
- f. She is to attend her 2nd Bus Board and is happy to follow up on members queries if they contact her directly.

### **182.0/21 Minutes of monthly meeting held 9th March 2022**

**Resolved:** - It was proposed Cllr. G.Jacobs seconded Cllr.V.Cooke and carried to adopt the minutes as a true record and endorse recommendations within.

### **183.0/21 Action Plan**

The following matters were raised: -

- Cllr. V.Cooke advised he had met with Quarry Manager and work undertaken. Members felt that it need to be clarified if it needed further flattening. Cllr. V.Cooke agreed to meet the Manager once more.
- Cllr. H.Neve agreed to do a video for Facebook regarding the Jubilee
- Cllr. H.Neve advised he and the Clerk had raised the Jubilee flowerbed with SELabdscape and they would revisit
- Cllr. H.Neve agreed to chase up wildflower beds with SELandscape.
- Cllr. V.Cooke advised guttering at Pavillion needs attention, Clerk to chase up..

### **184.0/21 Council Vacancies**

The Clerk advised the Election has not been called and therefore Council are free to co-opt. Clerk to advertise on website/noticeboard. Cllr. H.Neve to advertise on Facebook.

### **185.0/21 Recruitment new Parish Clerk**

Cllr. H.Neve agreed to look at Contract/Clerk Specification and report back to members.

### **186.0/21 Environment Issues across the Parish**

none raised.

### **187.0/21 Planning Applications**

Members considered the application DM/22/00820/FAA erection of dog Kennel, Town End Farm. Members expressed great concern at this application and issues raised included:-

- a.None compliance with NPPF or the Durham County Plan
- b.No permission was given for such a development in the original planning permission
- c.It is outside the village boundary and would have a significant negative visual impact on the Historic Village and Conservation area
- d. There is no impact statement showing the need for such a development.

Members felt in the light of a number of members not being present, they be consulted on their views, and for the Clerk to then submit a letter of objection and request for it to be called into Committee for member determination.

### **188.0/21 Correspondence**

- a. Several e-mails circulated to members for information only
- b. Request by a resident, circulated to members regarding grass cutting and pesticide. Cllr. H.Neve agreed to take this forward with the resident concerned.

### **189.0/21 Annual Parish Assembly**

To be held 11th May 2022 at 7.00pm prior to the Annual Meeting of Bishop Middleham Parish Council.

### **190.0/21 2021 Memorial seat**

The Chairman advised members the family who had requested providing a memorial seat in the village had been consulted on the type of seat being suggested and were happy to support the purchase. It was agreed to order the Elwood Seat at a cost of £706. Finance to be confirmed once seat is in place. The Clerk advised the company had advised a 6 week run in time.

### **191.0/21 Monthly Transactions**

Monthly reconciliation agreed.

The Clerk advised Internal Audit to commence week beginning 9th May and will be reported back to the June meeting.

### **192.0/21 Platinum Celebration Report**

The Chairman reported on the recent meetings to organise events to celebrate the Queens Platinum Celebrations and all is in hand.

### **193.0/21 Wildlife Garden Project**

The Chairman reported he had been at a meeting of the Brightwater Board and he had met with the Chairman of Durham Wildlife Trust. A brief conversation took place regarding the possibility of them taking over the running/maintenance of the Garden on the Councils behalf.

It was agreed by members that the Chairman explore this proposal further and report back to the May Council.

### **194.0/21 Playground Report**

Cllr. J.Brownlee gave an in-depth report including HAGS designs and costs. Members were in support of the proposal and welcomed the varied play. It was proposed Cllr. J.Brownlee seconded Cllr. H.Neve to confirm HAGS as the preferred contractor to provide the refurbished play area. This was carried.

It was agreed to discuss at the May meeting the Councils potential funding input to the project to see if it could proceed as soon as possible with phase 1.

**195.0/21 Member Sharing**

a. The Chairman advised he had recently attended the opening of the refurbished Sedgefield Fire Station and they now also host NEAS staff.

b. Cllr. H. Neve had been invited to attend the Quarry Liaison meeting on May 10th 2022. It was agreed Cllr. V. Cooke, the Council's representative attend the meeting. Cllr. H. Neve agreed to forward the paperwork onto Cllr. V. Cooke.

c. Cllr. V. Cooke asked if the Clerk could obtain a litter picker for a resident. This was agreed.

d. It was agreed to ask Cllr. E. Peeke if she could ask DCC to provide a litter bin at the A177 junction.

**196.0/21 Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 11th May, it will be the Annual Parish Council meeting and commence after the Annual Parish Assembly.

The meeting closed 9.10 pm

Signed: -

Chairman.  
11th May 2022