

Chairman Cllr. Harvey Neve

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Bishop Middleham Parish Council held
Wednesday 14th February 2024, in Bishop Middleham Village Hall at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr. H. Neve (Chair), Cllr. J. Brownlee, Cllr. J. Burrows, Cllr. G. Jacobs, Cllr. G. Turner
Cllr. E. Peeke (County Councillor)
1 Resident
A. Hall (Parish Clerk)

ITEM NO.	MINUTES	ACTION
1.02/24	Notice of Meeting - it was moved by Cllr. H. Neve to open the meeting at 7pm	
2.02/24	Apologies: Cllr. V. Cooke (personal), Cllr. P. Musgrove (sick), Cllr. M. MacCallam (work)	
3.02/24	Declarations of Interest - Relating to Item 9.02/24c) Cllr. J. Burrows is related to the person who has submitted the Grant applications. Cllr. J. Brownlee for the same item as she is Chair of the Village Hall Committee.	
4.02/24	Minutes - The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10 th January 2024 were accepted and approved. Resolved: Proposed Cllr. Neve, seconded Cllr. Turner	
5.02/24	Public Participation One member of the public was in attendance to give further information regarding 2 Community Grant applications he had submitted. Resident also wanted to raise an issue of parking on the green adjacent to the church. He had been approached (as part of the church) regarding parking. Cllr. Neve reported that he had also been approached. It was confirmed that this land was Church Commission land but it was leased to the Parish Council. Discussion had taken place on some options. It was felt this should be put on the agenda for the March meeting.	
6.02/24	County Councillor's Report 1. Speed report had been received following the speed strips being installed for Bishop Middleham. No major issues found. Although councillors raised concern they were placed in the wrong place to get better results. Cllr. Peeke to feed this back relevant departments. 2. Cllr. Peeke updated the Members on the work of the AAP.	
7.02/24	Outdoor Activities a) Wildlife Garden - funding application pulled from AAP. The AAP raised some questions relating to maintenance and the Management Plan. It was felt that these should be looked at before applying again. Clerk spoke to John Olley (DCC) who wrote the original	AH

	<p>Management Plan and has said it will cost £150 to review and update the Plan. Following discussion by the Members it was agreed to arrange a meeting with the Wildlife Trust and John Olley (DCC) Resolved: Clerk to arrange meeting.</p> <p>b) Trees - Tree Management Policy to be sent to all Members to review before next meeting. The Clerk had requested information regarding legal requirements for trees. Information had been received from CDALC which stated</p> <p><i>There aren't any specific legislative requirements about trees per se the council as owner/occupier of the land on which the trees are growing has responsibilities under various legislation to put measures in place to safeguard the public, contractors, employees etc, most importantly Section 3 Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. So, it's a case of managing risk, with your risk assessment at the heart of this and the carrying out of inspections and maintenance being some of the key mitigation measures.</i></p> <p>Resolved: Clerk to email Tree Management policy and pull together information to send to DCC.</p> <p>c) Pavilion - Water Leak - Clerk has been trying to contact the seniors team to move the nets from the middle room at the pavilion as there is a water leak. Clerk to move this forward.</p>	AH
8.02/24	Health and Safety - Nothing to report.	
9.02/24	<p>Finance</p> <p>a) Payments and receipts for January 2024 had been circulated to all Members prior to the meeting - no issues raised. Resolved: approve all transactions.</p> <p>b) Village Green Lease - Members were informed that no further communication had been received from Savills. Clerk has contacted the Church Commission who signposted to Savills.. Resolved: Chair to try to contact Savills to try to move forward.</p> <p>d) Community Grant application</p> <p>i) The Rotary Club of Great Aycliffe to fund the annual Model Railway Exhibition. Cllr. Peeke felt this was an event she could help with from her budget in 2024/25. In principle the grant was approved and Cllr. Peeke would let the Parish Clerk know how much she can fund and the Parish Council would give the remainder as a grant. Resolved: To approve the Grant Application of £763 or remainder if Cllr. Peeke was able to support the event. Proposed Cllr. Neve, seconded Cllr. Turner</p> <p>ii) Application from the Village Hall to fund prizes for young people at the children's discos. Cllr. Peeke has agreed to fund it from her budget, therefore a community grant was not required. However, as the first event is in 23/24, the Parish Council would fund £100 and Cllr. Peeke would fund £320 in 24/25. Resolved: To fund £100 towards prizes for the disco. Proposed Cllr. Neve, seconded Cllr. Turner</p> <p>c) Assets - the Members approved the disposal of an old printer that had not been used for a long time and could not be connected to the current laptop.</p>	AH AH AH
10.02/24	<p>IT Services</p> <p>a) Clerk is in the process of getting 3 quotes for the supply and hosting of a website. Discussions had taken place with the current provider who is looking at a system that can be used to allow the Clerk access to update the content.</p> <p>b) The Clerk had set up a Facebook page - Clerk has requested that Cllrs look at the page and share it with residents. It was noted that</p>	AH

	<p>this page should be for promoting events/activities and used for the Clerk to communicate with residents. Members were concerned that this could be used for negative purposes. It was felt that all posts should be approved by the admin.</p>	
11.02/24	<p>Planning- One application had been shared with Members in the last month but no comments were required.</p>	
12.02/24	<p>Councillor Vacancy No applications had been received for the Co-option to the Council notice. To look at alternatives dates and re-issue.</p>	AH
12.02/24	<p>Policies -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Information received from CDALC to change the threshold for tenders to go to Contracts Finder is now £30,000 as updated from £25,000. 2. Armed Forces Covenant - originally been signed but not recorded on the system. Re-signed by the Chair to be updated. 	ALL
13.02/24	<p>Member Sharing</p> <p><u>Cllr. J. Brownlee</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pickleball - new sport taking place in the village hall, suggestion that it could be played in the MUGA. Costings to be sought by the village hall. - Request to look at moving unused picnic benches and possibly equipment from the little park to the main park. - New residents are now in the post office - an opportunity to welcome them to the village would be good. Cllr Brownlee to move forward <p><u>Cllr. J. Burrows</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A couple of trees are down at bottom of south view, request to report to DCC <p><u>Cllr. Neve</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Request for details on Sedgefield Charities to support families in the area. Ge <p><u>Clerk</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DDay80 Lamp of Peace - £55 to be purchased for the event. - King Charles Portrait - now available free of charge for Parish Councils - Clerk to order - Smaller Councils Meeting 15 February - Clerk won't be in the office. 	
15.02/24	<p>Next Meeting: Wednesday 13th March 2024 at 7pm</p>	

The meeting closed 9pm

Signed: - Chair.

Date: 13th March 2024