



SACRISTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held on the Wednesday 6th January 2021
Via Zoom at 6.30pm

Present: Cllrs H. Dixon (Chair), E. Waldock (Vice Chair), S. Wilson, B. Smith, K Wilson, D. Robson, R. Sharp and G. Ludlow, R Harrison and C. Wilson (Parish Clerk)

Apologies: Cllrs L Claughan, E Metcalfe

Item No.	Subject	Discussion and Decision	Lead Cllr (s)	Action/ Timescale
1.	Introductions and Apologies for Absence	Chair opened the meeting @ 6.30pm and welcomed everyone. Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs E Metcalfe, L Claughan, H. Hubber Resignation received and accepted from Cllr H Hubber.	HD	
2.	Disclosure of Interest from Members	None		
3.	Public Questions	(Questions & Comments from the public in attendance – max 5 mins per item/individual) None		
4.	Minutes of the Previous Meeting	Council meeting held on 2nd December 2020; Amendment to Agenda item 12 – Invoice to be paid for was a remembrance wreath and not a Christmas wreath. Minutes were then accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair.	BS, CW HD	

5.	Police Matters	PACT Report • Violence against a person: 2 (6 last month) • Report of assault or threats to assault, either with or without injury. • Theft: 1 (2 last month) Theft of property other than burglary. • Criminal damage: 2 (3 last month) • Damage caused to property. • Vehicle crime: 2 (1 last month) • Damage caused to vehicle. • Road related offences: 4 (8 last month) This includes manner of driving. • Harassment crime: 5 (2 last month) • Pursuit: 1 (0 last month) • Public order 1 (0 last month) • Concerns for safety: 4 (15 last month) Concerns raised for persons safety. • ASB personal: 6 (2 last month) This involve individuals feeling targeted. • ASB nuisance: 1 (9 last month) This includes youth nuisance and alcohol related incidents. • ASB environmental: 1 (4 last month) These include off-road vehicles, vehicle nuisance house parties. • Domestic crime: 9 (3 last month) Domestic related incidents including arguing, violence and threats. • Missing person: 3 (1 last month) Person reported missing to police. • Suspicious activity: 7 (20 last month) Cllr S Wilson informed there have been reports of persons drinking alcohol and going into gardens at the bottom of Charlaw Terrace and using hose pipes. That area plus Blackett's bank and the mud area are on the watch list.	CW	
6.	Clerks Report	• Information is available regarding the new Centralised Custody Suite. DURHAM Constabulary hopes to build a single 48-cell custody facility at Durham Gate, near Spennymoor. The new centre will provide a safe and modern custody suite which is urgently needed to replace the four ageing custody suites currently in use at Durham, Bishop Auckland, Darlington and Peterlee, one of which dates back to the 18th Century. A list of FAQ's is provided in relation to this proposal and Feedback is welcomed from our communities and local stakeholders, and the following specific email inbox has been set up for this purpose: custodyproposal@durham.pnn.police.uK • The Good Councillor's guide to community business has been launched.	CW	

		The guide for parish, town and community councillors will set out the principles of what a community business is and help local (parish and town) councils to consider whether this form of business could be appropriate in their community. This publication contains 12 sections and aims to help councillors learn about the development stages of a community business, consider their role and that of the local council and also learn from examples of where collaboration has succeeded in other areas. Furthermore, seven case studies of local councils are included along with a resource list of useful websites, to facilitate further learning about this form of business. Community businesses are locally rooted, community-led, trade for community benefit and make life better for local people. There are 9,000 community businesses across England employing 33,600 people with assets of £890m. From pubs to libraries; shops to bakeries; swimming pools to solar farms; community businesses are creating great products and services, providing employment and training and transforming lives. Copy downloaded and can be forwarded via email. • North East Transport Plan As you may have recently seen in the media the North East Joint Transport Committee has launched a public consultation into a 15-year regional Transport Plan. The plan covers all aspects of transport that affect our daily lives, setting the policies that will allow us to deliver the regions vision and objectives. The Plan is supported through a 15-year pipeline of projects, including many of our regional priorities such as regional rail improvements (including the opening of the Leamside Line), regionwide bus improvements, electric vehicle charging, and active travel. It is however the case that funding for all projects is yet to be secured. The individual projects within the Plan include a range of initiatives in our County, some of which are well developed and others which are just at the planning		
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		stage. The projects include significant investment in walking and cycling with key routes across the County such as the Great North Cycle Route together with improvements around Durham, Sedgefield and Coxhoe. Also included is our long-term ambition to provide a cycle link along the route of the Bishop Auckland to Barnard Castle Railway Line. Projects also reflect where we have concerns around traffic congestion such as the key routes in the North West of the County along the A692/A694/A167 corridors and the A693 Stanley Bypass as well as looking to support wider economic investment in areas such as Bishop Auckland with access improvements and a new bus station. The plan also recognises some longer-term projects which need significant investigation such as the Barnard Castle and Toft Hill Bypasses and the reopening of Ferryhill Station, as part of the Leamside Line. To ensure that the Plan will reflect the needs of the people of County Durham it is important that our resident's views are considered, and I would urge you to respond to the eight-week consultation which has now been launched. The consultation is now open and will run until 14 January 2021. • Prevent members handbook – Copy downloaded. This document provides information for Local Authority Elected Members about the context, purpose and implementation of Prevent. It looks at the important role that Local Authorities and Elected Members can play at a local level, and how they can lead the vital work that is necessary to safeguard individuals against radicalisation. • If your council wishes to comment on the Police Crime and Victim Commissioners (PCVC) proposed 2021/22 precept increase then they have the chance to do so through the following consultation link. As you will read the PCVC is consulting on a £15 increase to a band D property for 2021/22. This equates to nearly a 7% increase. Please click on the link below to read more on this and see what questions the PCVC is asking your councils opinion on. https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/967C3F9		
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		Please get this considered by your council and any survey responses completed by 12:00 on the 31 January 2021.		
7.	In Bloom	Currently on hold. Cllrs H Dixon and D Robson have now completed all works on the polytunnel and are considering whether to offer the persons on the allotment waiting list the opportunity to tend to this area.	HD, DR	
8.	Village Schools	To be discussed in Cllr S Wilson's report.	SW	
9.	Parish Assets	Bus Shelters – Bus stop outside Herons and the Village Inn have been ordered for repair by Julie Anson. The proposed bus shelter for opposite St Bede's School is going ahead. Village Clock – Nothing to report Parish Building – Nothing to report	SW	
10.	County Councillor's Reports	Cllr Simon Wilson Report • White lines - I have gone back to the council to ask for them to be extended. • Housing development bottom estate - I have sent over pictures of the state of this to building control and will be having them liaise with planning and the Health and Safety Executive • Woods near scrapyard - appears someone has been fly tipping, including a large number of tyres, wardens are investigating. • Light at Crossleas - council officer appears to be reneging on promise so trying to contact the portfolio holder. • Speeding surveys for Plawsworth Road and Findon Hill still waited on (change of staff and meant emails were going off into a void) • Rats around Charlaw Terrace - have been working with residents and NWL to try and get sewers inspected, these are now baited.	SW	

		• Fyndoune/Education Plus - trying to get plans for the new fence that is going up, had some concerns raised but have spoken to some residents on reporting this issues to me and also how to proceed • Fyndoune site - requested response from Education dept regarding the works being done. Have been assured this does not affect consultation. Have been in touch with Carl Marshall and he has raised this further also. He has told me there have been positive discussions but as per previous correspondence from Cllr Dixon he would like to have a further meeting. Cllr Heather Liddle Report • I have been working with the neighbourhood warden and local PCSO with 2 ongoing issues. Both are the cause of a number of complaints, one regarding nuisance and harassment and the other regarding a bus/mobile home which parks at Crossleas and the medical centre car park. Notices have been served which we hope will resolve the issues and those affected can live in peace. • Following a tender process an architect has been appointed to oversee the shop fronts and roof renewal on the old Co-op buildings. Work on Live Well North East's units started in December and Sacriston Youth Project are awaiting the outcome of the competitive tender process overseen by JD Sports. • I don't have a Front Street update, however following the site meeting on 15th October with Julie Anson and Graham Cozens some of the shrub areas along the shopping parade which has been extended to the Industrial Estate and Old Coop on Plawsworth Road have been cut back to open up those areas. The team continue to work through the schedule of works identified and agreed at the start of 2020. • A Teams meeting was held with DCC Regeneration and Local Services team to discuss the community orchard project. Nothing further to report other than we meet again this month. • A new project named Friends of Local Nature Sacriston is due to start this month, pending updated risk assessments to incorporate tier 4 restrictions. A resident approached me for support to establish a group and set up a project to improve the local woodlands and open areas in the village – as with all of the projects we run in my division, the overall aim is to prevent social isolation and support mental health and wellbeing through volunteering in the community. The call out for volunteers has been really positive. They will be sent a volunteer registration form	CW	
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		in advance of the first volunteer day. There is a facebook page for the group where updates and news will be posted. • I am in the process of arranging a multi department meeting with KP Parish clerk and DCC to discuss the Ugly Lane improvement project KP Parish council are considering. • The NHS have recruited a new Youth Practitioner who started in December and will be working with Sacriston Youth Project, local schools and other youth services to support young people and their families in Sacriston and surrounding areas. This new role combined with the new NHS Social Prescribing Worker and Sacriston Youth Project's new Family Support Coordinator will have a huge impact across the Sacriston Division. • Food for Thought – when the project was started in March 2020, we anticipated that the hot meals and food packages would need to be provided continuously until around January 2021. It is evident that this is a service that needs to continue for the foreseeable future. The hot meals continue to be prepared by Changing Lives volunteers on a Tuesday and KP Parish Council, Nettlesworth Community Centre and Kimblesworth and Nettlesworth Task Force volunteers on a Thursday. Donations for the food bank are received daily from a number of partnerships including the Salvation Army, Tesco Sacriston, Robinson's Fruiterers in Durham and Greggs. We have also partnered with Glenroyd House and PACT house to share resources, donations and share best practices. The main referrals we receive are via the Salvation Army, the primary school head teachers, and Sacriston Medical Centre. The fundraising is working well, in the beginning the idea was that the different groups supporting Food for Thought would apply for funding as a consortium and the funds would be distributed amongst the hot meals, food bank and other services offered. Funders love the consortium model we have set up so we continue to work with this model which takes the pressure away from a single organisation and the reliance on one group running and funding the project. The project now incorporated community shelves. To avoid food going to landfill, it is displayed on Tuesdays and Thursdays outside the youth project on Plawsworth Road and is free to everyone. Leading up to Christmas, the Salvation Army and Sacriston Youth Project supplied over £1000 worth of gifts to families in need. The youth project ran a Christmas appeal and used the donations to purchase 115 gift vouchers which were distributed to their young members. The Salvation Army were on stand-by between Christmas and New year to distribute emergency food packages. Double hot meals had been delivered the week prior so that recipients could freeze meals		
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		for consumption during the volunteer's week off. The idea was that the volunteers would have their first week off since March, however they continued to work behind the scenes and collected the daily donations from our retail partners. PACT house offered to provide a free Christmas lunch, delivered on Christmas Day in the Sacriston division. Thank you to everyone involved with the Food for Thought project, working together works better and we couldn't provide this vital service without your support. If you know anyone in need, please refer them to Food for Thought by emailing foodbank@sacristonyouthproject.co.uk • Covid updates are issued on a regular basis by the government and local authorities. The latest data for County Durham can be accessed via this link InstantAtlas Durham – Covid 19 (durhaminsight.info) • Government guidance on Tier 4 can be accessed via this link https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tier-4-stay-at-home We might be in tier 4, but it's business as usual for myself and the volunteers who work around the clock supporting vulnerable residents in the Sacriston division.		
11.	Reports from Group Representatives	Fulforth Centre Committee Meeting • Nothing to report - no meeting held Sacriston Community Development Group • Nothing to report - no meeting held Sacriston Parish Allotment Committee • Meeting held on Monday 4th January 2021 It was discussed that two plot holders had requested for some help on their plots and had provided the names of those persons wishing to help. It was agreed that the plot holders can obtain help from these persons however, the rules for this would be as follows: - • Their names would be added to the agreement however; • If the first named person gave up the allotment they would not be allowed to step up and claim that plot, the plot would then be offered to the next person on the waiting list; • They could add their names to the current waiting list but, would be at the bottom of that list; • If it is observed that the first named allotment holder is no longer working the plot the added named persons would be asked to vacate the plot • The plot would then be offered to the next person on the waiting list		

		- Plot 3DH was discussed and it was agreed that Cllr Sharp would contact the RSPCA regarding the removal of the livestock on the plot. - Avian flu discussed and the council were informed that notices have been put up at the allotments and all allotment holders were aware. - Rat poison is being distributed by RL and plot holders are to contact him directly. - RL has requested if a strimmer and rotavator can be purchased, this has been previously agreed. Cllr G Ludlow will contact RL direct. New Hill Allotments - Nothing to report. HR & Finance Group - Nothing to report. CDALC - Nothing to report.	GL	
12.	Budget & Grant Applications	As at the 5th January 2021 there was £59,563.29 in the bank. <u>Invoices to be paid.</u> Zoom January - £14.39 Recorded delivery letter - £2.06 Grass cut - £1680.00 There were no grant applications to consider.	CW	
12.1		Precept: The Chair informed the meeting the precept for 2021/2022 has been received and reviewed and it was recommended and agreed that there would be no increase.	ALL	
12.2		Financial Projection of Parish Accounts to 31st March 2021: A report with regards to current and projected financial resources of the Parish, which was: -	ALL	

		The Parish had spent £52,216.31 up to the 01st January 2021; Projected spend to the 31st March 2021 was £47,512.27. VAT return - £6072.95 The expected income to carry forward to 2021 / 2022 is £53,585.22.	ALL	
13.	Events and Information	The Christmas lights will be dismantled on Thursday 7 th January 2021.	CW	
14.	Date & Time of Next Meeting	Next meeting – 3rd February 2021 @ 6.30pm Chair thanked everyone for their attendance. Meeting Closed @ 7.30pm Signed Date/...../..... <i>Chairperson</i>	HD	