



SACRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 5th June 2023 at 6.30 pm In The Fulforth Centre

Present: Cllr H. Dixon (Chair), Cllr G Ludlow (Vice Chair), Cllr S Wilson, Cllr D Robson, Cllr J Barrett, Cllr K Wilson, Cllr D Forth, Cllr E Waldock, Cllr A-M Johnson, Cllr R Sharp and Miss C Wilson (Clerk)

Apologies: Apologies received from Cllr L Claughan, Cllr Sharp, Cllr A Page, and Cllr F Morrell

Item No:

1.	Introductions and Apologies for Absence	The Chair opened the meeting at 6.30 pm and welcomed everyone. Apologies received and accepted from Cllr L Claughan, Cllr R Sharp, Cllr A Page, and Cllr F Morrell.
2.	Disclosure of Interest from Members	Cllr S Wilson declared an interest regarding any planning applications and left the room when they were discussed.
3.	Questions from the public	(Questions & Comments from the public in attendance – max 5 mins per item/individual) There were 6 members of the public in attendance who wanted to discuss the situation that has arisen with the horses. An email had been sent to the Council from a horse rider, the email had been shared with Cllr Waldock. Member of the public in attendance speaking on behalf of horse owners and wanted to explain the reason an email had been sent which raised issues that currently horse riders were experiencing. The meeting was informed that everyone could work together so all parties were happy. Information was requested about certain areas in Sacriston Woods and permission to ride on pathways not used along with the open-access land, however, the land in question does not belong to the Parish Council. Cllr Waldock and Cllr S Wilson advised they would investigate this matter further, speak to DCC, and liaise directly with the horse owners. Cllr Ludlow informed the meeting that all paths in the woods are churned up by horses. Two members of the public agreed with this comment and have only seen horses on the paths and not on the bridleway. Safety concerns were raised as footpaths are narrow and the horses take up all the footpaths. All members of the public left the meeting at 18.47 pm.

4.	Previous meeting minutes	Previous minutes from 3rd May 2023 were accepted and signed as a true record. A draft copy of the AGM minutes from 3rd May 2023 was circulated and all agreed that the draft minutes can be posted on the website.
5.	Police Matters	The clerk had received an email from a member of the public regarding the newsagent selling vapes to underage children. The clerk had responded to the email informing the member of the public to report the instance to the Police. The clerk had also made Cllr Waldock aware of the situation.
6.	Clerks Report	<u>Planning Applications</u> Application No: DM/23/01517/FPA Proposal: Two storey side extension Address: 12 Oakwood Close, Sacriston, Durham, DH7 6QQ Application No: DM/23/01566/FPA Proposal: Single story rear extension Address: 3 Crossways, Sacriston, Durham, DH7 6LH <u>RESOLVED</u> No objections to the planning applications. <u>Complaints</u> Various complaints received which the parish council has been made aware of regarding issues arising in the village: - • Grass cutting • Dog waste bins • Overgrown hedgerows • Bottom estate land/building site • Billboard between the vape shop and the newsagents which is damaged. • Thomas and Sowerby Street • Cemetery - The condition of the cemetery was discussed. Members were upset and unhappy after seeing the condition. This is the worst condition the cemetery has ever been in. <u>RESOLVED</u> Many of the issues need directing to DCC as the Parish is not directly involved; or does not own the land. Some issues are also already being dealt with by County Councillors. In relation to grass cutting, this has now been cut although to a very poor standard. DCC has been contacted and provided inadequate responses for why the grass was not cut. Councillors have had to cut the grass around the pit wheel due to DCC not carrying this out.

		Cllr Waldock and Cllr S Wilson are trying to arrange a meeting with Ian Harland to discuss the above. Cllr S Wilson to send an email with some proposed dates and times for a meeting. <u>Skate Park</u> The Parish Council has been asked by Daniel Henry, Atomise Skateboards to support a project to install a skate park at Fyndoune school. He has asked to put the Parish Council details on the Go Fund Me page in support of this. <u>RESOLVED</u> Discussed the skate park and it was agreed that the Parish Council was not in support of the project. The Parish Council has been attempting to secure the Fyndoune site for a few years without success. It was felt that a skate park at Fyndoune would attract ASB as the area is secluded. There were concerns raised over who would maintain the skate park and health and safety concerns raised. The Clerk is to contact the project lead for the skate park to inform them that the Parish Council is unable to support the application. <u>Stress Testing</u> Emailed Roch and they can carry out the stress testing just trying to confirm things with Jon Hall (Managing Director). <u>LITE</u> Confirmed with David Murphy that we want to proceed with the festive light quotation. <u>Plastics Presentation</u> Anne Hitch is to attend our meeting on 6th September to give a presentation and provide further information on recycling plastics. <u>Andy Hill</u> An email was received and forwarded to all council members, for their review before the meeting so this could be discussed. <u>RESOLVED</u> Again, the Parish Council is unhappy with Andy's comments regarding the fact that no one has contacted him when he has been included in all email trails. The Parish Council feels that Andy should be attending the meeting to discuss the project. The Clerk is to invite Andy Hill to the next meeting and obtain his correspondence address.
7.	Sacriston in Bloom	Work was carried out to the pit wheel site to keep it tidy.

		The steel fence which housed the pony trap has been dismantled and moved to the rear of the pit wheel in readiness for the trap to be relocated. Stuart Wright has offered the parish another pit tub which will be cloaked at the pit wheel site. Looking at costings for the plants in the village. Concerns that there has been no work on the flowerbeds in the village. Following a Facebook post by the Clerk members of the public have requested a seat at Heugh Edge/Cross Lane. Queries about where the seat would go. If the seat was at the top of Cross Lane this would fall into Kimblesworth Parish. Questions were raised regarding if 106 monies could be used to purchase the seats. Cllr Waldock is to speak to Kimblesworth about putting a seat at the top of Cross Lane and maybe applying for funding for that. Also, could 106 monies be used to match fund the project at the Crossroads. Cllr S Wilson is to ask for the funding application to be forwarded so it could be completed in readiness for the project.
8.	Parish Assets	Bus Shelters – Waiting for quotes for all bus shelters from DCC. Cllr Waldock still chasing the bus stop at the bottom of Lingey Close. Village Clock –Nothing to report. Parish Building – Nothing to report. War Memorial – Nothing to report. Cllr Ludlow still chasing this. Pit Wheel – Nothing to report.
9.	County Councillor's Reports	Reports received from Cllr S Wilson; • Path – obtaining a quote for the BT pole to be removed. • Still ongoing with the advertisements at the Crossroads. • Special meeting to be held in July for Sniperley Development • 106 monies • Chasing light at Crossleas. • Concerns at Oakwood Close over the possibility of it coming down. • Charity day at the weekend

		• Grass cutting at Fyndoune • Police have visited the car wash and are monitoring. • Ongoing issues at Fynway garage • Fyndoune is ongoing with Jim Murray. • Incident at Nettlesworth but resolved and no threat to the immediate public. • Gym24 was inspected by Environmental Health, and everything was found to be in order. • Another enforcement case has been opened with Persimmon Homes. Cllr E Waldock; • Litterpick was carried out. Cllr Dixon raised concerns over the hedge line/fence line which borders Springside and Cinder Strip Close. A property in Cinder Strip Close has taken the hedge out and moved the fence line forward so there is now an area that no one will be maintaining. Cllr S Wilson asked if he could attend the site with the housing officer.
10.	Group Representative Reports	Fulforth Centre Committee Meeting • Kings Coronation gave away 309 picnic lunch bags. Good event but was a shame about the rain. • Party in the park was held successfully. Thanks to all volunteers. The Fulforth Centre made a profit of £1,000. • Cool Blue College delivering free training courses in June & July. Charity fundraising event to be run by Bernie for Mind and Alzheimer's on Friday 9th June 11-1 pm. • Volunteer purple t-shirts to be handed in as new lettering to be added for next time. • Discuss a thank you event for volunteers. Development Group • No meeting has been held. HR & Finance Group • Discussed internal audit report, Sections 1 & 2 of the AGAR. • No HR issues. Allotment Association Meeting • Inspections have taken place. • Concerns over rats. • No vacant plots at Daisy Hill.

		- Water meter readings were taken at Cross Lane and awaiting Daisy Hill reading. New Hill Allotments - Nothing to report.
11.	Budget & Grant Applications	<u>ACCOUNTS</u> As of the 5th June 2023, the bank balance was £114,815.19. <u>Invoices Paid</u> - Mobile phone - £6.00 - CDALC - £680.06 - Durham Miners Gala brochure - £200.00 - Live Well North East - £250.00 - CDALC training - £30.00 - BHIB (insurance renewal) - £1879.26 - Printer ink subscription - £44.99 - O'Brien's funfair - £1875.00 - WH Smiths (Stamps) - £17.60 - HMRC - £90.80 - Clerks Wages - £921.29 <u>To Pay</u> - Printer Ink - £44.99 - Beamish Pest Control - £1000 - Walworth Birds of Prey - £345 - DJ - £225 - NBK Inflatables - £995 <u>RESOLVED</u> Payment of invoices agreed. <u>Request for funding</u> Trevor Gray has requested funding of £400 to raise awareness for Veterans at Ease Charity. Like last year, he will be going around the villages with a Santa sleigh and giving the children selection boxes. The £400 is to purchase the selection boxes. <u>RESOLVED</u> The Council is not aware if Trevor has a business account for the monies to be paid into so would like some further information, which the clerk is to request.
11.1	Internal Auditors Report 2022/2023	The Internal Auditor's report was discussed and accepted by the Council. There were no comments raised.

11.2	Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement 2022/2023	Section 1 The Annual Governance Statement 2022/2023 was discussed and agreed upon and accepted by the council.
11.3	Section 2 - Accounting Statement 2022/2023	Section 2 The Accounting Statements for 2022/2023 was discussed and agreed upon and accepted by the council. As the Council had agreed Sections 1 and 2 were signed and recorded by both the Chair and Parish Clerk.
13.	Date and time of next meeting	Next meeting is to be held Wednesday 5 th July 2023 at 6.30 pm. Meeting closed at 8.24 pm

Agreed and signed by Chair of Sacriston Parish Council Date