

Sacriston Parish Council

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Sacriston
Parish Council held on
Wednesday 3rd October 2018 6.30pm
Fulforth Centre**

Present: Councillors - Claughan, Dixon, Harrison, Ludlow, McLoughlin, Robson, Smith, Waldock, K Wilson and S Wilson

Also in attendance – Julie Evans – Future Parish Clerk

80. **Welcome:**

Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

81. **To receive Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies were submitted by Councillors – Burn, Carter, Morrell and Mulvey
PCSO James Robson - Neighbourhood Support Office

82. **To receive and accept any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest from members in any item to be discussed Declaration of Interest from members:**

No members declared an interest

83. **Questions and comments from members of the public – maximum 5 minutes per item / individual:**

No members of the public were in attendance

84. **Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 4th July 2018:**

Agreed as a true record

85. **Xmas Extravaganza:**

Ms. Andrea Meek gave an update with regards to the Extravaganza stating that all entertainment had been contacted and deposits for many of the attractions had been paid.

Overall cost for the Extravaganza was within agreed budget. The lights will be switched on by a Disney Princess and Superhero, and there

will be photo opportunities to be taken with them afterwards.

Andrea was to seek the overall dimensions of the stage as it was hoped to relocate it to the end of the Fulforth Centre nearest the play area.

The security of the marquee was also raised as we had problems of anti-social behaviour from young people last year. The company have stated they would not be able to dismantle the marquee at the end of the evening due to safety reasons and, it would be the responsibility of the hirer (The Parish) to ensure its safe keeping. It was agreed that Andrea contact other companies to seek further quotes and contact PCSO to try and get Police presence towards the end of the evenings event

Action - *Andrea Meek to seek further information and quotes from other marquee companies.*

Action - *Andrea Meek to contact Councillor Heather Liddle to arrange Police presence at the event.*

86. **Clerks Report:**

We have received a quote of £383.29 from Keiron Moralee of DCC for bus stop repairs in the village.

Action - *Clerk to contact Keiron Moralee to go ahead with the repairs*

Lee Vest is to deliver Parish website training on Thursday evenings between 6:00pm and 7:00pm starting 4th October 2018. All Councillors are invited to attend.

The Gap site project is due for completion early October, the main contact for this is Michelle MacCallam of Groundwork NE & Cumbria

87. **Growing Sacriston Together / In Bloom.**

All agreed that the Parish would enter the village for the 2019 / 20 Northumbria in Bloom competition and, when appropriate will pay the acceptance fee.

It was agreed to contact the Fyndoune group who are also involved in the village in bloom and take the "In Bloom" project forward under one umbrella.

Action - *Councillor Wilson to contact the Fyndoune group with this proposal.*

88. Police Matters:

A male who is local to the Sacriston area has been caught buying alcohol and cigarettes for children in the village. He was also found to be in possession of cannabis, he will be sent to court for both offences.

A group of youths who have been causing a nuisance to the community will be receiving curfews from the local authority.

Off road bikes have been reported to be regularly using Sacriston woods.

A vehicle was broken into in Acorn Close, the front window was smashed, and over £4000.00 worth of cash was stolen including £500.00 of shop vouchers. A child's school bag was taken from a parked vehicle at Priory Court, the vehicle itself was unlocked.

There have been two shed burglaries reported, one being at Findon Hill, the second at the Care and Share shop on the Front Street.

89. Fyndoune School / DCBC

Concerns were raised with regards to pupil numbers at Fyndoune. There appeared to be conflicting figures given by Julian Kramer of Durham Education Authority and information received by Councillor Smith where, she believed the average daily attendance figures were approximately eleven children. Further information is to be sought from the education authority to confirm official numbers. Councillor Ludlow reported that he had to attend DCBC to arrange transfer home for his daughter, these were concerns raised by the Parish at previous meetings with DCC and the Federation about child safety between DCBC and home.

Action - Councillor S. Wilson to seek answers from Durham County Council, Durham Education Authority and DCBC with regards to official child numbers at Fyndoune and, child safety during transfer from DCBC and home.

90. Village Clock:

The previous clerk had arranged for a temporary repair to be carried out on the clock structure however, this had not taken place. It was agreed to seek three quotes for the repair of the clock structure when a decision would then be finalised.

Action - Clerk to seek three quotes from companies for the repair to be carried out.

91. **Parish Council Vacancy:**

There has been interest shown from two parishioners with regards to the vacancy. As this position can now go to co-option it is intended to invite both candidates to the next parish meeting in November to discuss the merits of both candidates.

Councillor McLoughlin believed we should be positively promoting the work done by the Council to ensure we get the right person applying for Councillor positions.

The Clerk had produced a policy to be put on the Parish website with regards to "How to become a Councillor" and, "The co-option process" and believed this should also be promoted in our newsletter.

Action - Clerk to invite both candidates to the Parish Meeting on the 7th November 2018 allowing them to express their interest in the Council position.

92. **Correspondence:**

A range of correspondence has been received for September which is in the correspondence file.

93. **Reports from Representatives:**

(i) **Development Group:**

Nothing to report, majority can be confirmed via County Councillors report.

(ii) **Fulforth Centre:**

Councillors Ludlow and K. Wilson are meeting with Mark Blackbourne to discuss the possibility of the village football field coming under the control of the Fulforth Centre.

We are aware it is currently owned by CISWO and discussions would have to include them to finalise any decision.

(iii) **Allotment Associations:**

Councillor S. Wilson had spoken to members of the Cross Lanes allotment association with regards to a list of allegations. If these allegations are substantiated, a panel consisting of members of the Parish Council needs to be convened for a decision to be made on how to move forward.

Councillor Wilson is in possession of the allotment associations bank account details.

There was some discrepancy with regards to what had occurred at the AGM and clarification needs to be sought however, the eviction notices have not been acted upon.

The allotment rule sheet was circulated to members.

The allotment committee are to meet to discuss written submissions, allegations, and evidence to decide on what actions / sanctions are to take place and, once decisions are made they will inform the Parish Council by the 31st October 2018. As the landowner of the allotments the Parish need to be aware of our position in possibly taking back control of the allotments.

It was agreed that notices would be put up at Cross Lanes and Daisy Hill allotments requesting all information, allegations etc. be submitted to the Parish by the 31st October 2018 prior to the November Parish meeting.

These notices should be in place and displayed by Saturday the 6th October 2018.

It was also agreed that a panel of three to four members of the Parish be formed to decide the eventual outcome for the allotments. It would also be necessary to review the allotment association Rule book prior to this panel being convened.

Action - Councillor Waldock to ensure notices were displayed in both notice boards by Saturday the 6th October 2018.

Action - At the November meeting of the Parish a panel to be formulated to discuss and decide the eventual outcome of the Cross-Lane Allotment Association.

(iv) **County Councillor Report:**

Fyndoune / DCBC - Concerns raised over student admissions, Fyndoune is classed as the nearest site therefore, that is where travel starts from.

Councillor Wilson has spoken with legal section however, there is no positive response.

As previously stated in the Fyndoune / DCBC report there is conflicting information with regards to student attendance figures which need to be clarified.

Travel is still taking place from the village, through Langley Park and on to DCBC, there is a concern that this will not be possible during bad weather periods.

Evolution sports are no longer involved in the sports side of Fyndoune / DCBC, the school has taken over the running of the sports facility in the interim period.

Fly tipping - is still happening at and around the scrap yard area, this is to be monitored.

St. Peter's / Blackwater – this area is to be cleaned up.

Cross Lane road closure - has still not been sorted out. Noise limits have been assessed and are within permitted levels.

Speed bumps - now with a technician with regards to costing. The responsibility for the speed bumps would lie with the County Council.

A complaint was raised concerning the new fish shop regarding double parking, this is to be raised at County Hall by our County Councillor.

Concerns were raised once again that the Parish had not received a County Councillors report from Councillor Heather Liddle.

Action - Clerk to contact Councillor Liddle with regards to her monthly report.

(v) **Human and Resource Panel:**

The Clerk informed the council of the external audit report received from Mazars LLP. It is intended to formulate an action plan to address areas of concern raised. The council accepted the report.

(vi) **CDALC:**

Councillor Harrison informed the meeting that he had been successful in his nomination as Vice President of CDALC.

The CDALC AGM will take place at 10:00am on Saturday the 20th October 2018. at County Hall.

(vii) Parish Newsletter:

It was agreed that a meeting will take place of the newsletter committee this month to enable a newsletter to go to print before Christmas.

94. Accounts & Grant Applications:

Application has been received from Sacriston Youth Project. After review of their bank details and, the payment costs to volunteers it was agreed that the Parish would give £1000.00 to the project.

Action - Clerk to arrange payment of £1000.00 to SYP.

Application has been received from The Fulforth Centre requesting continued support with the development and action of project work within the village. It was agreed that £4,000.00 be paid to the Fulforth Centre.

Action - Clerk to arrange payment of £4,000.00 to the Fulforth Centre.

It was agreed to pay £30.00 to Party Gem NE as deposit for Xmas Extravaganza

Action - Clerk to arrange payment of £30.00 to Party Gem NE

It was agreed to pay £480.00 to Mazars LLP for work carried out on the external audit.

Action - Clerk to arrange payment of £480.00 to Mazars LLP

Expenditure:

Current Balance - £62,145.31

Members were informed that there is £1,410:63 VAT to reclaim.

Action - The Clerk to submit a VAT 126 claim form for return of funds to HMRC for £1,410:63.

	A. Payments: Resolved: That the following payments have been agreed: I. That the sum of £480.00 be paid to Mazars LLP for external audit report; II. That the sum of £30.00 be paid to Party Gem NE as deposit for Xmas Extravaganza; III. That the sum of £12.06 be paid to Angela Ramshaw for stamps and postage; IV. That the sum of £4,000.00 be paid to The Fulforth Centre on behalf of project work. V. That the sum of £1,000:00 be paid to Sacriston Youth Project via their grant application.
	B. Receipts:
	C. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 7th November 2018 to commence at 6:30pm This meeting terminated at 8.45 pm Signed: _____ (Chairperson) Date: _____