



SACRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 6th September 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 E Waldock, Cllr A-M Johnson, Cllr R Sharp, Cllr A Page, and Cllr F Morrell, Cllr K Wilson and Miss C Wilson (Clerk)

Apologies: Apologies received from Cllr D Forth and Cllr L Claughan

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 D Forth and Cllr L Claughan.
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) No members of the public were in attendance.
4.	Previous meeting minutes	Previous minutes from 5 th July 2023 were accepted and signed as a true record. Cllr Morrell asked if there was an update regarding Andy Hill. The clerk informed the meeting, that nothing was raised at the last meeting about a follow-up and therefore no further correspondence has been sent. Andy Hill has not been in contact. Cllr Robson asked if there was an update regarding the grass cutting at Fyndoune. Graham Cozens has reported that they are attempting to get someone to carry out an initial cut and then the clean and green team will take this over.
5.	Police Matters	Nothing to Report.
6.	Clerks Report	<u>Planning Application</u> DM/23/00023/AD Proposal: Advertisement consent for the installation of an Artwork Mural measuring 3m by 1m to be installed on the school perimeter wall. Address: St Bedes Roman Catholic Primary School, Front Street Sacriston, Durham, DH7 6AB.

		DM/23/02436/FPA - 59-61 Front Street. Change of use of first floor rooms from residential for shop to flat and commercial storage. DM/23/02494/FPA - 73 Daleside. Single-storey extension to front of the dwelling. <u>RESOLVED</u> No comments received.
7.	Sacriston in Bloom	An invoice had been received for the annual maintenance of the village. A meeting has been requested with Graham Cozens and Ian Harland to discuss this as the Parish Council does not feel we are getting a good service and being provided everything we are paying for. Cllr Dixon raised the fact that other villages seem to be a priority for works being done over other areas. Cllr S Wilson is raising a complaint about off-cuts being tipped down the drains on various roads that have been resurfaced. Cllr Sharp raised the matter that some potholes had been filled at Daisy Hill and the leftover tarmac had been tipped on the grass. Cllr Wilson asked for photographs and would raise a complaint.
8.	Parish Assets	Bus Shelters – The insurance company has made payment of funds and DCC has been instructed to replace the shelter. DCC have informed that this could take some time to be erected. Village Clock –Nothing to report. Parish Building – The ridge tiling has come off the roof. RESOLVED All agree for a quote to get this repaired. War Memorial – Cllr Ludlow has found a company (Scott Memorials) that would carry out the work. He asked for a price for cleaning and carrying out the leadwork. Pit Wheel – Nothing to report.
9.	County Councillor's Reports	Reports received from Cllr S Wilson; • Been informed that there should be a decision for the Crossroads project from CPAL. • Valley View reports that streetlights are out. • Crossleas light has gone quiet. • Fyndoune pitches have still not been cut.

		• Chasing building control about Chillis. • Have been requesting Derwent Close be cut along with other areas in village. • Still waiting for a response from Karbon regarding Cinderstrip. • Issues at Lavender Gardens – meeting next week. • Fynway – issues with garage. Fines have been issued to people who are still parking there. Cllr E Waldock; • Lots of residential issues over the summer. • Issues raised regarding public transport. To contact Go North East. • Cemetery not at an acceptable standard. Looking into this and trying to get this resolved. Residents complaining. • Newsletter – Wednesday 13th September in The Fulforth Centre. • Issue that has arisen with St Leonards contacting all parties involved to try and progress the matter. Cllr Johnson raised concerns that issues are not being addressed and every month the same issues are being brought up with no resolution. Other Cllr's agreed that they felt the same. Cllr Waldock informed that there is a new system coming into place. Cllr Robson has asked if we can get the lines painted again and make them bigger on the road at the top of the Fulforth Centre. Cllr Johnson has passed on information regarding the name and address of the person who owns the shop next door to The Salvation Army. Cllr Wilson has informed it has been passed to Building Control. Cllr Sharp informed the meeting that the post box was stolen at Daisy Hill. Cllr Waldock and the MP are aware and are chasing this.
10.	Group Representative Reports	Fulforth Centre Committee Meeting Funding • Successful funding applications since the July meeting: • £9,955 per year for 3 years from Sir James Knott Trust for Project Development Worker salary • £10,000 per year for 2 years from the Chester-Le-Street PCN Fund. This will cover Lunch Club subsidy costs for 2023-24 and extend the 50+ Project Worker post (Mags role) until August 2025.

		£68,735 from the Know Your Neighbourhood Fund (£32,955 for Aug 2023-March 2024 and £35,780 for April 2024-March 2025) for work reducing isolation and loneliness and increasing volunteering in Sacriston - including 2 new jobs £2,000 from EDF Energy Langley Wind Farms towards Computer IT Suite (laptops & accessories, plus trestle tables) - an additional £4,000 pledged from the Neighbourhood Budget (from Councillors) which is undergoing approval process. Events - Charity MacMillan Coffee Morning held in August was a success - raised £860. - Clairvoyance Evening is being held on Friday 9th September. - Christmas Extravaganza is scheduled for Monday 27th November and planning for this event will commence in September. Staff and Volunteers - Secured all funding required for Project Development Worker salary from September 2023 to August 2024 - Appointed two new part-time staff members using Know Your Neighbourhood Funding – successful candidates will start on Tuesday 19th September, subject to references & DBS checks. - Volunteer Coordinator: 26 hours per week and Fifty Plus Project Worker (Digital & Research): 20 hours per week Their working hours are planned to provide cover throughout weekdays. Charity Governance - New CIO Charity has been created and, a meeting arranged with solicitors and accountants to progress the asset transfers to the new charity and the closure of the old charities. Health & Safety - Becca attended Health & Safety Training delivered by Durham Community Action. - Durham Community Action will come out to deliver H&S for Trustees training within the Fulforth Centre. Coffee Mornings £860.00 was raised at the Macmillan Coffee Morning held for Pat and I have a further £700.00 which is to be donated
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		to Marie Curie, making a total of £1,560 raised for these two charities. • A further Coffee Morning has been arranged for the 28th October on behalf of the Air Ambulance. Lawnmower and Grass Trimmer • Were discussed and agreement met whereby Parish Council would purchase a lawnmower and trimmer and these would remain assets of the Council. The Fulforth Centre will not charge the Council for this year's room hire costs which were in the sum of £1000 and therefore the Council will be paying a cost of £70 towards the items once the VAT has been reclaimed. The meeting was asked what the budget would be this year for the Christmas Extravaganza so Becca can start to get costs, and if there were any suggestions regarding stage size etc. RESOLVED All agreed on the purchase of a lawnmower and trimmer at a cost of £1,338 inc. VAT. It was agreed that as per previous years, £5,000 would be provided for the Extravaganza. Development Group • Derwent Close was raised. • The roads were discussed. HR & Finance Group • £105,489.66 in bank • Plawsworth Road Bus Shelter claim has now been received from insurers and awaiting DCC to erect a new shelter. • S.L.C.C. Annual Fee is due for £146.00. • Received a reminder for £10,235.41 from DCC with regards to the annual flowers for the village. The feeling from the committee was that we had not gotten "value for money" from DCC and have requested a meeting with Graeme Cozens and Ian Harland to discuss the cost. • Discussed a Lawnmower and Grass Trimmer Pack to be purchased by the Parish and donated to the Fulforth Centre Allotment Association Meeting • £543.33 in bank; 681.31 cash in hand. • Water meter readings have been taken for both sites however, Cross Lanes are still in credit with the water supply company.
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		• The National Allotment Society Annual Fees have been paid from the Parish account which we can claim back the VAT, this money will then be refunded from the allotment account. • There are still concerns about the amount of asbestos sheeting being found at the Daisy Hill site, this is being stored in the allotment garden until it is identified that there is no more on-site. • There are three people on the waiting list for Cross Lanes and one person on the list for Daisy Hill. New Hill Allotments • Nothing to report. • Beamish Pest Control has installed the rat boxes, and they seem to be making a difference. The clerk confirmed he is due to reattend the site on Friday morning.
11.	Budget & Grant Applications	<u>ACCOUNTS</u> As of the 6th September 2023, the bank balance was £105,489.56. <u>Invoices paid in July/August</u> Smarty - £6.00 Peoples Partnership - £23.94 Maxwells - £100.00 WH Smith - £17.60 NSALG - £66.00 Amazon - £13.94 HMRC - £58.00 Claire Wilson Employee Pay - £790.39 HP Instant - £2.99 Hade Edge Band - £2,000.00 Pity Me Nursey - £28.00 B & Q - £59.46 LITE - £4,874.88 HP - £6.99 HMRC - £58.80 Employee Pay - £793.01 Poundland Ltd - £2.00 <u>To Pay</u> SLCC - £1460 DCC - £10,235.41 – awaiting an update from the meeting before making payment. <u>RESOLVED</u> Payment of invoices agreed, subject to meeting with DCC.

		<u>AGAR</u> The AGAR has been returned from Mazars. There were no comments or improvements required. This will now be published on the website. <u>Request for funding</u> Cllr Johnson informed the meeting she has been trying to raise funds for vein finders for Sacriston Surgery and has been carrying out fundraising which at present has raised £800. She is requesting a donation of £200 which would bring the total to £1,000 so the surgery is able to purchase two vein finders as this would benefit the whole community. <u>RESOLVED</u> Agreed to provide funding of £200. Cllr Johnson confirmed money would be paid to The Salvation Army and then given to Sacriston Surgery.
13.	Date and time of next meeting	Next meeting is to be held Wednesday 4th October 2023 at 6.30 pm. Meeting closed at 7.33 pm

Agreed and signed by Chair of Sacriston Parish Council Date