

# Minutes of the Meeting of Bowes Parish Council held at Bowes School on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm

## Present

Cllr Carlisle, Cllr Redfern, Cllr Hughes, Cllr Tipping, Cllr White and Mrs H Overfield.

## 1. Apologies

None

## 2. Minutes of the Meeting

held Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September agreed to be a true record, approved by Cllr Hughes, seconded by Cllr Tipping.

## 3. Matters arising (unless dealt with later in the agenda)

Flower garden – an employee from C A Stamp has been out and strimmed it. Clerk to go back and say that this isn't how we expected the flower bed to be dealt with. Currently the Council is not willing to pay the bill. The Council are happy to pay the grass cutting invoices as the work has been satisfactory.

Clerk contacted Staindrop Parish Clerk but they don't own a traffic control device although one is deployed by DCC on a rota basis about five times a year". Clerk also contacted Gainford Parish Council, they paid in the region of £4800.00 including VAT for their device from Westcotec, it is solar as they mentioned that the costs DCC wanted to fit power was ridiculous. Gainford Council had to wait a long time for Highways to approve the installation.

## 4. Finance & Accounts – See summary below

Receipts since last meeting £0.14 interest £61.50 Teesdale Memorials

Expenses since last meeting £

Summary Bowes Parish Accounts & Balance sheet				As at 28/09/2021	
Year to 31st March 2022					
<b>Budget</b>	<b>Income</b>			<b>Cumulative Total</b>	
108.00	Allotments	170.00		Bank as at 31st March 2021	£11,370.04
1.00	Bank Interest	0.68		Income y/e 31st March 2022	£6,882.62
350.00	Cemetery & Village	490.00		Expenses y/e 31st March 2022	-£3,645.42
0.00	Footpaths	0.00		Total	£14,607.24
0.00	General Income	1.82		Represented by	
200.00	Grants	177.00		Nat West a/c - 21543798	£14,778.74
5310.30	Precept D.C.C.	5382.30		Nat West a/c - 015102553	£200.00
0.00	Playground	0.00		Uncleared movements	-£11.50
0.00	Publications	0.00		Total	£14,967.24
600.00	Vat Refund	660.82			
170.00	West Clint Field	0.00			
<b>6739.30</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>6882.62</b>			
	<b>Expenses</b>				
400.00	Allotments	350.00		Petty Cash	£0.00
1200.00	Grant Exp	0.00		Total	£14,967.24
0.00	Cemetery & Village	107.50			
250.00	Footpaths	47.04			
1350.00	General Expenses	261.05			
550.00	Grass Cutting	1050.00			
1600.00	Insurance	542.33			
400.00	Clerks salary	848.50			
200.00	PAYE	212.00			
600.00	Playground	0.00			
200.00	VAT	227.00			
<b>6750.00</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>3645.42</b>			
<b>-10.70</b>	<b>Actual Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>3237.20</b>			

Finances approved by Cllr Redfern, seconded by Cllr Carlisle.

Clerk contacted the charities commission after both charities were removed from the charities commission, see below;-

We have two charities, John Bousfield which has been running since 1892 and also The Kipling Charity, which has been running since 1762. When I logged on to complete the return, I was unable to do so, when I contacted an advisor they said that both of these charities had been removed due to the small amount of income that they generate.

I am the contact for both of these charities, but I wasn't informed. The Parish Council would like to know how this has happened without the Trustees' permission or knowledge. If anyone searches for this charity now how will they be able to find it? We intend to continue to administer, is this appropriate since we have been de-registered? As yet, no reply has been received.

## **5 Planning**

DM/21/02795/FPA Valley Farm Stainmore Road, Erect new storage/dog kennels for agricultural use  
DM/21/02622/VOC Former Department of Transport Storage Depot – variation 2 for the addition of a second dormer window – approved.

A Parishioner has contacted us as they have recently received notification of a planning application/amendment at Kilmond Wood Quarry to operate an asphalt making plant in the base of the quarry and a variation in hours to potentially run it on a 24/7 basis nearly every day of the year. The parishioner has contacted us for our views on this development within the parish.

The parishioner is very concerned about this development which seems to be quite significant.

Clerk to comment as follows on the planning portal –

Bowes Parish Council was not consulted as a Statutory Consultee and notes that there have been no comments from the Ward Councillors included in the comments published on the County Council's website.

The application has the potential to increase noise, dust and light pollution and, possibly, given the noxious and volatile substances associated with tar coating of minerals, pollution of ground water. Surrounding private residences and farm properties have no mains water and an escape of pollutants would create an environmental hazard of massive proportions with associated risks to public health.

A tar coating plant capable of operating 24 hours a day and 7 days a week (excluding bank and Public Holidays) could intrude on the right to quiet enjoyment of the owners and occupiers of properties within 3 to 3.5 kilometres of the site.

The arrangements for traffic exiting the site and heading Eastbound are presently inadequate as lorries cannot stand safely in the centre reservation whilst waiting for a gap in the Eastbound traffic. A similar situation at Stainmore Café has led to accidents and death. The Coroner's report specifically commented on the inadequacy of the centre reservation for large vehicles and a similar situation obtains here.

The Parish Council acknowledges the increased employment potential of the site and the reduced environmental impact of locally provided material for the proposed A66 upgrade but, on balance, wishes to object to the application. The Council may be able to support a time-limited operation based around the proposed A66 upgrade but does not support the application as submitted.

Clerk to let the parishioner know that the comment has been added to the portal.

## 6. Correspondence

Nothing of note

## 7. Cemetery & Village maintenance

2 street lights out at the top of the village, Cllr Tipping has logged these on the “Do it online” reporting portal. One of them has since been repaired. Councillors have also reported an overgrown hedge near Dotheboys Hall, this has not been cut back as yet. Clerk to write to DCC, where are we on the schedule for replacement LED lights in the main street.

Thanks to Cllr White from Cllr Carlisle for his support with his work in the cemetery. Both Councillors have been trying to get prices to cut the trees back. Several people were invited to quote, some didn't show, and some haven't quoted.

Mr John Alderson from DCC met Cllr Carlisle on 5<sup>th</sup> October and was very helpful. Clerk to submit a planning application. Once approved by the Planners this will go back to John Alderson. This process takes 6 weeks but, we will still be able to trim back the trees as needed as we will have 2 years from the date of consent.

Memorial application from Bambridge Bros for an additional inscription for Gladys Hillery. Pictures and wording sent in with application - approved. Clerk to send an invoice.

## 8 Allotments – no further work has been completed on the stile.

Allotment bills to be sent out soon

## 9 Play Park

Durham County Council have sent us a Service Level Agreement for inspecting the playpark 4 times a year at a cost of £65.00 or for 12 visits a year at £195.30. It was unanimously agreed to opt for 4 times per year. Clerk to complete the Service Level Agreement and return to James Young.

Ask James about the grass cutting and the flower bed especially. Do you also cut trees too

## 10 Parish Paths

Nothing to report.

## 11 AOB

CMMO for the Sleightholme to Tan Hill Road. Reply from DCC Highways:-

"The British Horse Society application is still being investigated, so we have not yet reached the stage of consultation with the Parish Council etc. Dagmar will be in contact in due course. The BHS application is to record the route as a restricted byway, which would give the public access on foot, on horseback, by bicycle and by horse-drawn vehicle. We have also received representations from those alleging public rights with motor vehicles, but our view at the moment is that public vehicular rights don't exist over Sleightholme Moor Road, as it was not recorded on the List of Streets (held pursuant to Section 36 of the Highways Act 1980) on 2 May 2006, or immediately prior to that date.

Clerk to log on “Do It Online” the need to resurface the layby, opposite the Old Police House, DL12 9HX. The surface is damaged with large pot holes which flood regularly. Cllr Redfern will take some photo's.

Bypass – Cllr Tipping went to the meeting of Highways England on Friday about the Bypass. Clint bridge is definitely coming down and first thoughts are that it will probably be replaced with a footpath

for people and cattle. Cllr Tipping has spoken to George F White Solicitors today and they have confirmed that if Highways England take land from you/us we are entitled to a land agent that they will pay for. We have decided to engage a land agent at Highways England's expense. Cllr Hughes will investigate suitable agents to represent the Parish Council on the affected land that is owned by the council and see if they can represent the Parish Council in their public duty to the residents of the parish.

Meeting closed at 21.07

Section 17 Law & Disorder Act. It was felt the above would have a positive effect.