

**Minutes of the Meeting of Bowes Parish Council
held at Bowes School Wednesday 9th September 2015**

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Carlisle, Cllr White, Cllr Brown and Mrs H Overfield

1. **Apologies** Cllr Hughes, Cllr Wake
2. **Minutes** of the Meeting held Tuesday 8th July 2015 agreed to be a true record, approved by Cllr Carlisle, seconded by Cllr Brown.
3. **Matters arising** (unless dealt with later in the agenda)
None
4. **Finance & Accounts – See summary below**
Receipts since last meeting
Expenses since last meeting £15.75 K Adams £633.91 Zurich Insurance
£672.00 RB Watson (fencing) £350.10 H Overfield

BUDGET		Year to 31st March 2016		Summary Bowes Parish Accounts & Balance sheet		As at 28th August 2015	
Income		Income		Cumulative Total			
57		Allotments	0.00	Bank as at 31st March 2015		£12,414.16	
6		Bank Interest	3.32	Income y/e 31st March 2016		£5,239.32	
200		Cemetery	540.50	Expenses y/e 31st March 2016		£-3,477.95	
500		Footpaths	0.00	Total		£14,175.53	
		General Income	508.50	Represented by			
4017		Grants	0.00	Nat West a/c - 21543798		£15,647.29	
		Precept D.C.C.	4017.00	Nat West a/c - 015102553		£200.00	
		Playground	0.00	Uncleared movements		£-1,671.76	
		Publications	0.00	Total		£14,175.53	
508.5		Vat Refund	0.00				
170		West Clint Field	170.00				
5458.5		Total Income	5239.32				
Expenses		Expenses					
1095.00		Allotments	1751.66		Petty Cash	81.48	
455.00		Cemetery	204.75				
500.00		Footpaths	0.00		Total	14257.01	
100.00		General Expense	568.62				
1750.00		Grass Cutting	0.00				
628.00		Insurance	0.00				
1400.00		Clerks salary	832.52				
349.60		PAYE	120.40				
		Bus stop/shelter	0.00				
		Playground	0.00				
350.00		VAT	0.00				
6627.60		Total Expenses	3477.95				
-1169.10	Used from reserves						

The accounts were approved to be a true record by Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr Carlisle. The website is now up and running, clerk to check all aspects of the transparency code have been covered. Cllr Brown to write a few words about Bowes for the “About Us” page.

5. **Planning**
Mr A Thompson and Mr M Thompson have applied to erect a single wind turbine of 46.3m each at Pundergill farm.
Clerk to reply – As in all proposals for wind turbines, the benefits of a small reduction in carbon based electricity generation have to be balanced against the costs to the wider community of the introduction of an alien feature into a rural landscape, one which is visible from a wide range of viewpoints and the national trunk road.

Its proximity to the A66 could distract motorists, with possible tragic outcomes. Erection of wind turbines in what is after all a semi-rural area may create an undesirable precedence for further applications. It is difficult to consider phase 1, without knowing what may be applied for in subsequent phases.

We would also like to point out that a prior application ref CMA/6.59 re a single wind turbine at Hulands quarry was refused in 2012 and nothing has changed since then.

Part of this balancing act involves considering the value and quality of the affected landscape. This site is only some 3km from a boundary of the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty – a designation second only to National Parks in terms of landscape importance.

Bowes Parish Council are of the opinion that in this instance the impact upon the designated landscapes referred to above are too great and outweigh the limited renewable energy benefits claimed to be accrued from proposed wind turbines.

Clerk to reply to South Teesdale Action Group:- Bowes Parish Council has submitted its own views on this application which will be available for public perusal. As we refused to have any direct contact with the applicant we feel it would be unfair to discuss the application with objectors..

6. **Correspondence**

Notices from the Police and Crime Commissioner and also Durham County Council's Home Security booklet have been approved for the notice board.

7. **Cemetery & Village maintenance**

The top soil purchased from S & A was full of dead nettles, weeds and vegetables which made the weeding much harder. Thanks to Cllr Carlisle and Mrs Carlisle for their continued hard work on the flower bed. Work schedule for Kath was discussed, clerk to type up and e-mail to Kath asking her to start as soon as possible.

8 **Allotments**

Youngs ref Clint Field – Charles replied to our letter of 22nd July. He is awaiting the Lords in Trust's instructions. He pointed out that it will be the intention of the Lords in Trust to review the rent for the allotments at the next available opportunity. Clerk to bring the calculations for the allotments to the October meeting, to allow councillors to make an informed decision regarding allotment prices from November. Mr Todhunter would like his wall inspecting – clerk to reply:- The situation remains as discussed at the last meeting. The parish council is unable to repair the walls as they don't own them. Mr Fairburn replied, he would like to keep his allotment and is working hard on it at the moment

9 **Play Park**

A railing on the fence on the footpath side of the fence is broken, Cllr Brown has volunteered to fix it.

10 **Parish Paths**

Cllr White has been in touch with Emma Ashton Wicket and they are hopefully getting prices for the work they discussed last year. Cllr White will apply for the diminishing P3 grant for 2 cuts at bull banks next year. If there are any other jobs/projects that need doing in the parish please notify Cllr White at the next meeting.

11 **AOB**

Meeting closed at 9.00

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