

BEARPARK PARISH COUNCIL

At the **Annual Meeting** of **Bearpark Parish Council** held on **Wednesday 16 May 2018 at 7.00 p.m.**

Present:

Councillor M Wright in the Chair.

Councillors N Anderson, E Hull, M Chard, O Edwards, R Kemp, T Wilson and M Wilson.

18/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

18/02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in relation to any items of business on the agenda.

18/03 ELECTION OF CHAIR

Resolved

That Councillor M Wright be elected Chair for the ensuing year.

18/04 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Resolved

That Councillor T Wilson be elected as Vice-Chair for the ensuing year.

18/05 REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public present.

18/06 POLICE REPORT

There were no representatives from the police present and no report had been provided.

18/07 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

County Councillor M Wilson informed the Council of the latest developments affecting the Durham County Council: -

2017/18 had been one of the most challenging winters the unitary authority had ever faced, including several heavy snow events and the usage of more than 10,000 tonnes of salt in one week alone. The Department for Transport who had allocated

the Council an additional £1.3m through the pothole fund. As an authority the Council had taken the decision to supplement this figure by investing an additional £700,000. This brought the total council investment in roads this financial year to £5.7m, which when added to government funding brought the total for highways repairs in 2018/19 to more than £17m.

Councillor Wilson also reported on some local ongoing matters, including the work of Dream Community Charity and the Beaurepaire site.

18/08 MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 18 April 2018 were **Moved** by Councillor M Wilson, **Seconded** by Councillor E Hull and agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

18/09 PARISH COUNCILLOR COOPTION

The Clerk informed the Council that arrangements had been made to fill one of the vacancies on the Council, however, due to the resignation of Cllr E Wilding, the Clerk explained that the process would need to be delayed. The relevant notification had been provided to the County Council's Electoral Services Team.

Resolved

That the position be noted.

18/10 INSURANCE ARRANGEMENTS

The Clerk informed the Council that they were now into the second year, of a three-year contract with Came and Company. Some minor amendments had been made to the insurance policy in relation to the Council's assets, however, there had been no increase in the overall premium.

Resolved

That the insurance arrangements be noted.

18/11 REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Clerk informed the Council that there were two requests for financial assistance which had been circulated to the Council.

(i) DERIC Senior Youth Group

The Clerk informed the Council that a representative from the project had been invited to attend the meeting, however, no representative was in attendance. The Clerk informed the Council that the application contained a large amount of detail which would hopefully assist the Council in making a decision.

The Council noted that the project was seeking funds to deliver a senior (11 – 19 yr. olds) youth session in Bearpark. The project would be detached and centre based once a week. The workers would identify areas where young people were, make contact via detached youth work and build relationships. Sessions would then be

carried out at 6-8pm on a week night at Bearpark Community Centre. (e.g. one week detached – one-week centre based). The project aimed to deliver information and guidance around various topics such as drugs, alcohol, health, fitness, sexual health and staying safe. The funding would be used to employ two workers, resources and room hire to deliver the project. The funding would provide opportunities for the young people in this area to gain support and explore choices. It would enable them to discuss issues relevant to them in a supported, safe environment and would help raise their self-esteem, confidence and belief in themselves which was often at a low. The Clerk informed the Council that the group had secured funds of £5376.00 from other sources and the request to the Parish Council amounted to £474.00 which would complete the funding and enable the commencement of the project.

Resolved

That the Council donate £474.00 towards the project.

(ii) Village Pride

The Clerk informed the Council that a letter had been received from the Village Pride organisation, which had been touched on briefly at the previous meeting. The Council felt that the project was an excellent village project and noted the fund-raising session which was taking place at Bearpark Workingmen's Club. Monies raised from the sale of the book were being used to cover printing costs and Bearpark Primary School.

Resolved

That the Council purchase a supply of books for £50.00

18/12 FINANCE REPORT

The Council considered the monthly financial report which detailed the current bank balances, payments made since the last meeting and payments to be made.

Resolved

That the following payments be agreed

Payment	Date	Payee	Description	Amount
N/A	04/05/18	Coop Bank	Service Charge	5.00
N/A	04/05/18	Coop Bank	Commission	0.90
Chq 100619	16/05/18	HMRC	PAYE (Period 2)	100.91
Chq 100620	16/05/18	M Turnbull	Clerks Salary (May)	403.62
Chq 100621	16/05/18	P Martin	Folk Concert	200.00
Chq 100622	16/05/18	Came & Company	Insurance	385.56

18/13 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no applications for consideration, however, the Clerk reminded the Council that a representation was still required for the Colliery Road Development.

18/14 REPORT OF THE CLERK

(i) **Resignation of Councillor E Wilding**

The Clerk formally notified the Council that he had received notice from Cllr E Wilding that she wished to resign from her position as Councillor. Councillor Wilding had passed on her best wishes the Council and wished them every success in the future.

(ii) **Village Christmas Tree**

The Clerk informed the Council that a number of options had been provided from Durham County Council regarding the installation of a living Christmas Tree in the village. The prices of the trees had been estimated on last year's prices and may be subject to increase depending on the time of placing the order. The Clerk advised that coniferous trees were difficult to transplant and establish and whilst every effort would be made to keep the tree alive, their survival could not be guaranteed, therefore, no provision had been factored into the prices above for a replacement

Option 1 – Install and maintain a 3 meter high living Christmas tree this includes digging tree pit, plat container grown tree using a underground guying system installation of irrigation system and maintain/water for 20 weeks £2300.00

Option 2 – Install and maintain a 4 meter high living Christmas tree this includes digging tree pit, plat container grown tree using a underground guying system installation of irrigation system and maintain/water for 20 weeks £2685.00

Option 3 – Install and maintain a 4.5 meter high living Christmas tree this includes digging tree pit, plat container grown tree using a underground guying system installation of irrigation system and maintain/water for 20 weeks £2938.00

Supply and erection of a 12m of 1.8 high Bow Topped fencing in a hexagonal shape including a gate with padlock. Fence to be finished in Green or Black powder coated finish £2360.00

Resolved

That the Council note the information provided, that further quotations be sought along with potential failure rates and insurance.

(iii) **Partnership Working with Busy Bears Nursery**

The Clerk informed the Council that final arrangements were being made with Busy Bears Nursery for a litter pick to take place on Friday 25 May 2018. The Clerk had drawn up a programme which would entail a storybook session with representatives from Durham County Council Civic Pride Team. This would be followed by a litter pick which would be overseen by the Parish Council and staff from the nursery. Representatives from Bearpark Community Partnership had also expressed an interest in attending. The Clerk explained that it would be good if some Councillors could also attend the session and would send a reminder to Councillors once a time had been finalised.

The Clerk informed the Council of a further project to install some planters in the village, again, in partnership with the nursery. The nursery had agreed in principle to

pay for the planters and a price had been sought by the Clerk from a local company. The Clerk explained that it would be a nice gesture if the Parish Council could agree to purchase the compost and plants for the planters should the project come to fruition.

Resolved

- (i) That the Council note the litter pick arrangements; and
- (ii) That the Council agree a budget of £100 for planting materials.

(iv) General Data Protection Regulations

The Clerk informed the Council that the GDPR Regulations came into force over the coming weeks. Work was now underway on some of the core documents required as part of the new regulations. The Clerk explained that whilst the Council would not be compliant from day one of the regulations, it was acceptable that the Council were working towards compliance and this had been recognised within the Parish and Town Council Sector given available resources. The Council would no longer be required to appoint a data protection officer, due to an amendment made to the regulations. The Clerk explained that there was a huge amount of work to undertake including the production of several key documents and notices. It was anticipated that the work may be complete by September. The Council would need to approve the final documentation.

Resolved

- (i) That the update be noted; and
- (ii) That the Clerk be authorised to claim any overtime that may be required in working towards meeting the regulations.

18/15 EVENTS WORKING GROUP UPDATE

The Clerk provided an update to the Council on the work being made towards the village fair in September.

Resolved

That the update be noted.

18/16 VILLAGE MATTERS

(i) Information sessions with County and Parish Councillors

Councillor Wilson informed the Council that a session had been arranged at Silver Trees School with all County Councillors for the Deerness area and Parish Councillors from relevant wards on Brandon and Byshottles Parish Council. The idea behind the session was to scope what initiatives were planned and progressing in the wider area and any potential ideas to take forward, as well as a discussing issues affecting the wider Deerness area. Councillor Wilson hoped that some Parish Councillors from Bearpark may be able to attend. The meeting would take place on 24 May 2018 at 5 p.m.

Resolved

That the information be noted.

(ii) **Chloe and Liam Foundation Event**

Councillor Kemp informed the Council about a fundraising event taking place on 2 June 2018 for the Chloe and Liam Foundation. The event had a local connection in that Bearpark and Esh Colliery Band were performing at the event which was being held at Elvet Methodist Church.

18/17 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council would take place on Wednesday 20 June 2018 at 7.00 p.m.

The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.