

**Minutes of the Meeting of Bowes Parish Council
held at Bowes School Wednesday 14th December 2016**

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm

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

1. **Apologies:** None
2. **Minutes** of the Meeting held Wednesday 9th November 2016 agreed to be a true record, approved by Cllr Redfern & seconded by Cllr Brown.
3. **Matters arising** (unless dealt with later in the agenda)
4. **Finance & Accounts – See summary below**
 Receipts since last meeting £0.59 interest £15.00 Allotments
 Expenses since last meeting £446.40 H Overfield wages £111.60 HMRC £177.84 TreesPlease

Budget		Summary Bowes Parish Accounts & Balance sheet		As at 30th November 2016	
		Year to 31st March 2017			
Income	Income			Cumulative Total	
108.00	Allotments	30.00		Bank as at 31st March 2016	£10,766.73
6.00	Bank Interest	4.56		Income y/e 31st March 2017	£7,095.73
600.00	Cemetery	1202.00		Expenses y/e 31st March 2017	-£4,818.64
	Footpaths	0.00		Total	£13,043.82
	General Income	0.00		Represented by	
708.00	Grants	1000.66		Nat West a/c - 21543798	£12,843.82
4070.00	Precept D.C.C.	4070.00		Nat West a/c - 015102553	£200.00
	Playground	0.00		Uncleared movements	
	Publications	0.00		Total	£13,043.82
596.87	Vat Refund	618.51			
170.00	West Clint Field	170.00			
6258.87	Total Income	7095.73			
Income	Expenses				
250.00	Allotments	200.00		Petty Cash	104.36
1000.00	Grant Exp	436.66		Total	13148.18
300.00	Cemetery	1685.50			
250.00	Footpaths	0.00			
960.00	General Expenses	329.10			
650.00	Grass Cutting	0.00			
1660.00	Insurance	511.15			
415.00	Clerks salary	906.90			
	PAYE	226.60			
200.00	Playground	195.00			
5685.00	VAT	327.73			
	Total Expenses	4818.64			
573.87					

Finance approved by Cllr Carlisle, seconded by Cllr Brown.

Precept request – Clerk produced a budget for 17/18. After discussions it was decided that the Precept remain the same as last year as we have enough in reserves. Chairman and clerk signed the precept form.

The change to the tax base reduction was noted.

5. **Planning**
 5 dwellings behind the Ancient Unicorn- Clerk to reply as follows –Our main concern is the access from Bowes Main street through the Ancient Unicorn car park, apart from the poor condition of the surface of this car park and the presence of a well in the centre of it, this approach through a private car park seems to be inappropriate especially as 5 dwellings are involved. Secondly we are concerned that due to the presence of a listed archway it will be impossible for waste disposal vehicles and fire engines to access, ambulances may also have a problem but without specific dimensions we can't comment further. The existing access is of course purely agricultural. Though not strictly a planning matter it should be borne in mind that the ownership of the pub may change, and the new owner may feel differently about the application.

Unless parking outside the pub is strictly controlled access will not be preserved to the proposed development at all times resulting in even more cars parked on Bowes main street, causing hazards especially in winter time. If it is intended for construction vehicles to use the same access great care must be taken not to damage the listed arch. If another access is available for construction vehicles why has it not been used for the properties?

Our only comment regarding building design is again the absence of chimneys, in a rural area where solid fuel heating may be need at some time due to power cuts.

6. **Correspondence**

Nothing of note

7. **Cemetery & Village maintenance**

Thanks to Cllr White for obtaining another grant, this time for trees. Cllr White has purchased 28 English Oaks which will be planted in Bowes Parish Council land immediately past west end garage by Cllr White, Cllr Brown, Cllr Redfern and Cllr Carlisle this week, if the weather holds.

8 **Allotments**

Nick has given up his allotment on Clint Field, Clerk to offer it to Denise Marmont who is next on the waiting list. Denise already owns half a plot.

9 **Play Park**

Clerk has contacted Durham County Council regarding the play park and a meeting has been set up for Friday 16th December. Cllr Carlisle agreed to meet him.

Cllr White summarised the report from Playdale. All issues are extremely low risk. They have suggested that some areas need wetpour renewing, but we shall wait to hear what Durham County Council say before ordering the wetpour as the quote has come in at £470.00. Cllr Carlisle has cut back some of the overhanging branches and Playdale have greased items where required. Toby Leetham will remove the moss in spring and any paint work can be done in the summer months.

10 **Parish Paths**

Nothing of note

11 **AOB**

Clerk to contact English Heritage - since the new gate have gone up at the Castle the sign about dog fouling is now missing, consequently the castle grounds are unpleasant to walk through. Clerk to chase up their reply on the disabled ramp railing as well.

Demolition of existing garage and construction of six no. dwellings

Cllr Carlisle has also spoken to the planning officer in charge to express concerns over the treatment of the well under a bench on the west wall currently covered with a cast iron manhole. There have been several similar comments on the website too.

Clerk to send Toby a Christmas card from us all.

Meeting closed at 8.40

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