

URPETH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Urpeth Parish Council held on Tuesday 27 July 2021 at Ouston Community Centre at 6.00pm.

Councillor A Batey (Chair)

Present:

Councillor A Batey, B Barrett, G Holmes, I Stewart-Fergusson, I Mullaney and B Scott
County Councillors P Pringle and D Wood

3 members of the public.

31. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor B Anderson.

32. Declarations of interest

Councillor Batey noted for the record and residents present that she was also a County Councillor and had been contacted in her capacity as such regarding Item 4.

33. Minutes of the meeting held on 29 June 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 June 2021 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

34. Public Questions / Representations

(i) DM/21/01633/FPA – Construction of 24no. luxury holiday Lodges, Reception Building and Associated Landscaping, Land North West of Beamish Hall Hotel

The Chair welcomed members of the public who were in attendance to discuss the above planning application. She went on to provide an overview of discussions to date with the developer and residents and asked the Clerk to provide a summary of the planning process and procedure, for the application being heard by the Planning Committee.

It was noted that an indicative date of 28 September had been provided by the Planning Case Officer for committee, however this was subject to change. The Clerk further explained that once the case officer had prepared his report and papers had been published, it would be known whether he was minded to approve or refuse the application. Should he be minded to refuse, the application would likely not need to be heard by Committee.

Residents at this stage had the opportunity to ask questions and discuss next steps. It was also agreed that a site visit should be requested by the parish council and the Clerk agreed to do this

It was noted that the next meeting of the parish council was to be held on 21 September and preparation for committee could be discussed further at this meeting should the application be going ahead on 28th.

35. Update on Moss Close Farm Development by Miller Homes

The Clerk advised that no update had been received. It was agreed that contact should be made with the Planning Case Officer to advise that regular communication was not being maintained by Miller Homes in accordance with prior agreement.

36. PACT & Neighbourhood Warden Report

A copy of the PACT report had been previously circulated for information. Councillor Barrett noted that he had attended the recent event hosted by the Police and Crime Commissioner and was pleased to note her commitment to working with parish councils in the future.

It was suggested that the PCC be invited to attend a future meeting.

37. County Councillors Report

County Councillors D Wood and P Pringle provided the following updates on matters relating to the County and parish area:

- DCC traffic survey undertaken on A693 and some short-term improvements had been agreed
- Tenders for play area upgrades underway – consultation undertaken and a decision on the contract award was likely to be known in the coming month.
- Eden Place Car Park – options being explored for improvement of facilities for potential extension of car park (ongoing)
- AAP Funding cut by new Joint Administration with additional funds being allocated to Neighbourhood Budgets.

38. Monthly Accounts

Resolved: that the following amounts be approved for payment.

Clerk (Wages and Expenses)	818.44
HMRC PAYE 4	174.40
Litter picker (Wages)	427.60
HMRC PAYE 4	107.00
Litter picker (Wages)	285.12
M Turnbull – Internal Audit Fee	150.00
Greenham Supplies	367.11

39. Correspondence and Clerks Report

i) Meeting Venues

The Clerk advised that Karbon Homes had not yet agreed to reopen their community rooms and were not likely to do so until September 2021. The Clerk therefore advised

that meetings would need to continue at alternative venues until that time. Further details would be provided when available.

Following discussion, it was further agreed that meetings should commence at 6.00 p.m. for the remainder of the meeting cycle.

Resolved:

The future meetings of Urpeth Parish Council would commence at 6.00 p.m.

40. Allotments

There were no issues to raise under this item however a follow up on gardens which had received dirty garden letters would be required at the next meeting.

41. Beamish

Councillor B Scott further noted areas of concerns or issues for action within the area as follows:

- Speeding on A693 Beamish to Stanley – noise impacting upon residents.
- Fencing near roundabout at the junction of Beamish village damaged due to continuing issues with road traffic accidents and lack of clear signage warning drivers to slow on approach.
- Verges at Beamish still in a poor state
- Planting – Councillor Batey agreed that she would discuss this further with the Clean and Green Manager and provide an update at the next meeting
- Double yellow lines – as lines very faded takeaway vans were parking on them and this was causing some obstruction out of the junction of Nicholson Terrace.
- Lampposts 439, 440 Station Road obstructed by overgrown trees.

42. Urpeth Grange

i) Urpeth Grange Play Area

All households had now signed the document which requested the transfer of land, play area and funds to DCC. A further update would be provided when available.

ii) Root damage to foot paths and driveways

The Chair further noted that the issue of tree roots damaging footpaths needed further follow up an action.

43. High Handenhold

Councillor Mullaney noted that there was some unsightly graffiti in the bus stop which required cleaning and she felt that the area would benefit from a litter bin. Councillor Wood agreed to meet with Councillor Mullaney on site to review the above. He also suggested that he further meet with Councillor Stewart-Fergusson as he had also made a similar request for the Pelton Lane Ends area.

44. Pelton Lane Ends

Councillor Stewart-Fergusson advised that there were no further issues to raise in addition to those already discussed earlier in the meeting.

45. West Pelton

There were no issues to raise under this item.

46. Any other business

a Dispensation for non-attendance at council meetings

Resolved:

That Councillor B Anderson be granted dispensation for non-attendance at council meetings for a period of 6 months.