

URPETH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Urpeth Parish Council held on Tuesday 19 February 2019 in Edenfield Communal Room, West Pelton at 7.00 p.m.

Councillor W Barrett (Vice Chair in Chair)

Present:

Councillor W Barrett, A Batey, B Scott and I Stewart-Fergusson

County Councillor D Wood

103. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B Anderson, F Wilkinson and M Wilkinson.

104. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

105. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public present.

106. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 January 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

107. POLICE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDEN REPORT

The Clerk circulated a copy of the previous months PACT report which contained information relating to police activity and policing priorities for the area.

108. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Councillor D Wood and Councillor A Batey provided an overview of activity related to Durham County Council and matters relating to the parish area including:-

- Speed humps at Bradley Close to be supported by local County Councillors as agreed at a previous meeting.
- Durham County Council HQ update on planning application.
- Durham County Council to meet to determine budget and council tax on 20 February 2019.
- Bring Spring Clean Up – to notify local Members of any areas which required attention in order for PPE equipment to be arranged for volunteers.
- Community Wishlist – suggestions to be forwarded.

109. ACCOUNTS

Resolved: that the following amounts be approved for payment:

HMRC Paye 11	127.40
Clerk (Wages & Expenses)	611.39
HMRC Paye 11	63.20
Litterpicker (Wages)	265.66
Litterpicker (Wages)	352.35
DCC Vermin Contract	2132.35
Zurich Insurance	923.35
Inter-Line NE Ltd	59.13
Volunteering Matters Donation	100.00
NE Brass Band Donation	100.00

110. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reminded Members that consultation was open on the County Durham Plan Pre-Submission Draft and should any Member wish to submit comments they should be forwarded either directly to DCC or via the Clerk. The deadline for responses was 8 March 2019.

In addition, feedback was also being sought by Healthwatch County Durham on the impact Care Navigation has had on the patient's experience in Primary Care i.e. GP Services. Members were encouraged to provide feedback online and details could be obtained from the Clerk.

111. ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk advised that a number of quotes had now been sought for fencing repairs at High Handenhold. Following consideration of those quotes it was agreed that the chosen contractor be instructed to commence works as soon as practicable.

It was also noted that there had been a number of thefts of property at Grange Villa allotments and tenants should ensure that items were securely stored overnight.

112. URPETH GRANGE

Councillors Barrett and Batey provided an update on issues within the Urpeth Grange area as follows:-

- Reinstatement of flower beds following works undertaken by Northumbrian Water
- Speed humps to be installed at Melbeck following agreement by DCC and financial support provided for their installation by Councillor Carr, 2 years previously.
- Speed humps at Bradley Close – Neighbourhood Budget application required following discussion and agreement. Clerk to complete and submit to AAP as soon as possible.
- Ongoing issues with parking on blind corners and on grass verges common problem throughout estate
- Some street signage to be replaced by DCC following damage.

113. WEST PELTON

The Clerk advised that Councillor Anderson had not forwarded any issues prior to the meeting however, it was noted that he reported smaller issues to DCC directly.

Councillor Barrett went on to provide an update on progress relating to the West Pelton Banner Group and the purchase of banner poles. It was further noted that representatives from the community were sought for the new banner group and a County Councillor could also take a place if desired.

114. BEAMISH

Councillor B Scott provided an update on issues within the Beamish area. The Clerk noted that no further correspondence had been received from the museum relating to event and traffic management however, it was known that the issue had been raised at a recent board meeting. Councillor Scott noted that he was to discuss further with Kevan Jones MP with a view to him meeting the Director to discuss. He added that he was extremely concerned that a repeat of the Christmas incident would occur again during the Easter period and any future events. Councillor Batey noted that she was also aware that a countywide event Durham Dash would also be taking place at the Museum over the summer and would attract a high volume of visitors.

Councillor Scott went on to note that the bus stop at end of village required cutting back works and tidying up. Councillor Batey agreed to chase this up and further agreed to provide an update at the next meeting regarding a land ownership query raised by residents at a previous meeting.

Members also noted that there had been a reduction in flytipping since the last meeting however some areas still required attention. The Clerk agreed to follow these up with the Neighbourhood Warden directly.

Discussion then ensued regarding the possibility of holding a service at the memorial in May 2019. The Clerk advised that this should be discussed further at the next meeting and information be sought from Beamish Museum as to what if any level of support they were willing to offer.

115. HIGH HANDENHOLD

There were no issues which had been brought to the Clerks attention.

116. PELTON LANE ENDS

Councillor Stewart-Fergusson raised the following issues / queries:

- Options for a memorial or feature at The Parade. Suggested site visit take place regarding the placing of a flower bed or arrangements of flower tubs
- No up to date information available on Moss Close Farm development.
- Request for Kevan Jones MP to attend a meeting to discuss issues within area and with specific reference to Pont Valley, opencast site at Dipton. It was noted that although traffic from the opencast site did travel through the parish it did not directly affect the parish's residents and it was felt that it would be unnecessary to invite Kevan Jones MP to discuss this matter.

- Boundary enquiry – Clerk to provide copy of boundary map to Councillor Stewart-Fergusson.