

**Minutes of the Meeting of Bowes Parish Council
held at Bowes School Wednesday 11th January 2017**

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm

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

1. **Apologies:** None
2. **Minutes** of the Meeting held Wednesday 14th December 2016 agreed to be a true record, approved by Cllr Brown & seconded by Cllr Redfern.
3. **Matters arising** (unless dealt with later in the agenda)
4. **Finance & Accounts – See summary below**
 Receipts since last meeting £0.10 interest £15.00 Allotments
 Expenses since last meeting ~None

Budget		Summary Bowes Parish Accounts & Balance sheet		As at 30th December 2016	
		Year to 31st March 2017			
Income	Income			Cumulative Total	
108.00	Allotments	84.00		Bank as at 31st March 2016	£10,766.73
6.00	Bank Interest	4.66		Income y/e 31st March 2017	£7,149.83
600.00	Cemetery	1202.00		Expenses y/e 31st March 2017	-£5,554.48
	Footpaths	0.00		Total	£12,362.08
	General Income	0.00		Represented by	
708.00	Grants	1000.66		Nat West a/c - 21543798	£12,162.08
4070.00	Precept D.C.C.	4070.00		Nat West a/c - 015102553	£200.00
	Playground	0.00		Uncleared movements	
	Publications	0.00		Total	£12,362.08
596.87	Vat Refund	618.51			
170.00	West Clint Field	170.00		Petty Cash	106.36
6258.87	Total Income	7149.83		Total	12468.44
Expenses	Expenses				
250.00	Allotments	200.00			
1000.00	Grant Exp	584.86			
300.00	Cemetery	1685.50			
250.00	Footpaths	0.00			
960.00	General Expense	329.10			
650.00	Grass Cutting	0.00			
1660.00	Insurance	511.15			
415.00	Clerks salary	1353.30			
	PAYE	338.20			
200.00	Playground	195.00			
5685.00	VAT	357.37			
	Total Expenses	5554.48			
573.87					

Finance approved by Cllr Wake, seconded by Cllr Carlisle

Precept – we have received an e-mail from Michael Cowper explaining that the precept would total £4,099.00 if we kept the level the same as last time due to a LCTSS of £29.00. Councillors asked the clerk to confirm that this was correct.

5. Planning

Kilmondwood Quarry – removal of 5 million tonnes has been approved.
 Manor House Bowes - T1 Sycamore - fell to ground level in conservation area -approved.
 Clerk has spoken to the planning department reference the new garage being built at the Manor House.
 Planning explained the sizes that were allowed, they also offered to visit the property if we wished.
 Clerk to try and change the name that appears on the planning portal to that of Bowes Parish Council rather than her own.

6. **Correspondence**

Nothing of note

7. **Cemetery & Village maintenance**

Sarah Elizabeth Foster has lived in Bowes, until ill health caused to move to a nursing home in Richmond. Blenkinsop to be charged residents rate only.

8 **Allotments**

Denise Marmont has taken over the vacant plot and paid in full

9 **Play Park**

This morning I met Barry Alderson of DCC at the Playpark. The following is a summary of our discussion.

Ownership

Durham County Council admit to owning the land, whilst we own the equipment. This is to our advantage as DCC have a duty of care to the public as well as us.

Trees

Barry expressed concern about the mature trees especially the two near the power line. He will involve DCC trees Officer with a view to having them felled at DCC expense.

Power line

DCC do not like power lines over play areas for obvious reasons. I recalled that BPC had investigated re- routing it many years ago, but had hit a snag, I think with the length of unsupported spans. Now that we have DCC on our side we may have more success.

Inspection

Barry stated that the whole of the Wet Pour really needs replacing as it has shrunk, which happens after 5 to 7 years. He will arrange to have the hole under the swings repaired at DCC expense asap. and will get a contractor to quote for the lot to be done in Spring. This will cost some thousands but again we will get help from DCC. We found two small holes in the ground under leaves, to be filled in Spring, otherwise, he was satisfied. Barry will mail Helen about this and other issues.

We should be doing weekly inspections to cover ourselves. Barry to send a short checklist to facilitate this.

I gave Barry the Playdale report(copy) and we discussed costs. DCC are prepared to do bi- monthly inspections at about £300 p.a., slightly more than Playdales single one. Also, DCC use their own contractors, cheaper than play area installers, and arrange to have any work done, perhaps even helping with costs.

Conclusion

I found Barry very helpful, and I feel sure he will be good to work with. He clearly stated that there is no need to use Playdale. I thanked him for his time.

David Carlisle, Chair, Bowes Parish Council.

Durham County Council have lopped the trees nearest the power line in the corner of the play park and mended the wetpour under the swings at their own expense. Cllr Redfern agreed to complete a weekly check and take over responsibility for the play park.

10 **Parish Paths**

Nothing of note

11 **AOB**

No reply from English Heritage as yet regarding the missing notice on the gate or the installation of a hand rail, even though the clerk has e-mailed again.

Thanks to Councillors Brown, Carlisle, Redfern and White for planting the 28 Oak trees.
The Parish Council notice board needs repairing, Cllr Brown offered to take a look at it.

Bowes Christmas light committee has asked for a donation of £25.00 towards next years lights. Approved by Cllr Wake and Cllr Carlisle.

Clerk to e-mail Steve Ragg to see if the election forms can be e-mailed out asap.

Meeting closed at 8.45

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