

KIMBLESWORTH & PLAWSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings at the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held in Nettlesworth Community Centre on Thursday 12 November 2015 at 6.30pm.

PRESENT: Councillors D Inman, J Barclay, R Harrison, T Kingston, G Kendall, M Toms and L Walker.

83 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Holden, S Wilson and D Bruce.

84 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 8 OCTOBER 2015

RESOLVED: "That the minutes of the proceedings at the meeting of the Parish Council held on 8 October 2015, copies of which had previously been circulated, be confirmed as a correct record."

The Chairman proceeded to sign the minutes.

In relation to minute no. 70, the Clerk had now received the particulars from Durham County Council regarding the provision of a Parish Church Sign. The Council were satisfied with the agreement and, seconded by Councillor Kingston, Councillor Barclay moved that the agreement with the County Council be entered into.

Resolved:- "That the Clerk be authorised to sign off on the agreement between Durham County Council and the Parish Council in relation to the purchase of a Parish Church sign".

It was further agreed that the Clerk should notify the Church Council of the agreement and request its contribution of £200.00.

Meeting Papers – It was highlighted that some Members struggled to access the papers for the Parish Council meetings, which were commonly issued by email from the Clerk.

Councillor Inman proposed a motion that any Member who requested such, should receive hard copy papers, to be issued three clear days ahead of a Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councillor Walker.

Resolved:- "That hard copy papers be issued upon request, three clear days ahead of a meeting, in accordance with statutory requirements".

Councillors Harrison and Walker requested hard copy papers for all future meetings.

85 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

86 ISSUES/QUESTIONS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC

There were no members of the public in attendance.

87 POLICE MATTERS

There were no representatives from the Police in attendance. Councillor Walker advised that a PACT meeting was to be held later in the month.

88 CO-OPTION TO COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Following due consideration it was agreed that as no prospective candidates had yet come forward, the vacancy should continue to be advertised.

89 CORRESPONDENCE

Standards Training Session – The Clerk advised of a training session which was been hosted by Durham County Council Standards Committee, in conjunction with CDALC, at County Hall on the evening of 18 November. The session would cover Code of Conduct issues and look at potential issues faced by Councillor's when using social media.

Councillor Harrison was attending the session as a member of the Standards Committee, Councillor Inman hoped to attend to represent the Parish Council.

Sacriston Christmas Extravaganza – Posters had been provided to the Parish Council to advertise the forthcoming Christmas Extravaganza in Sacriston. It was agreed that these would be placed in the Parish noticeboards.

In relation to noticeboards, it was noted that there had not been a progress report for some time as to how the new noticeboards were coming along. Members recalled that Changing Lives were making the boards and that £150 had previously been paid. Members had understood that one board would be prepared initially so that they could see the quality before commissioning another two. The Clerk agreed to seek an update from Councillor Bruce and an itemized breakdown for the works should be requested from Changing Lives.

90 ACCOUNTS

The Clerk confirmed that the balance of the General Account was £7281.60 and advised Members that a financial report would be presented to the next meeting in order for Members to consider budget and precept requirements for 2016/17.

RESOLVED: "That authority be granted for payment of the following account:

Durham County Council - £508.48 – Church Sign".

91 WORKING GROUP REPORTS

Councillor Harrison provided an update from the Local Councils Working Group.

Details were provided of an Area Action Partnership meeting where Public Health Executive, Anna Lynch, had delivered a presentation.

In relation to Allotments, it was noted that there was an issue with flytipping in an area of land adjacent to the main allotment site, which was meant to be taken over by a local resident. It was agreed that the Clerk write to the resident to advise that the land should either be tidied up or the Parish Council would take the land back.

It was agreed that parking bays at the allotments, needed to be discussed at the next meeting.

It was noted that there continued to be a significant pest issue at the allotments. Councillor Walker clarified that 2 tenants had confirmed they were willing to distribute pest control to all tenants and Councillor Walker was willing to work with them on this.

It was further noted that Councillor Kingston already had prior approval from the Council to purchase pest control up to the value of £50.00, he would therefore make the necessary purchase and liaise with Councillor Walker.

The Clerk clarified that a meeting with all allotment tenants would be hosted ahead of the next Parish Council meeting – Councillors Walker, Kingston and Inman would attend along with the Clerk.

Furthermore, the Clerk would provide copies of the current tenancy agreement at the next meeting, Councillors could then consider whether it remained fit for purpose and whether any clause needed to be included to cover the abandonment of allotment plots.

92 CDALC

Councillor Harrison advised that he had been re-elected as Vice President and he advised of a regional event which was to be held in March 2016. It was noted

that there may also be changes to the formula currently used to calculate affiliation fees, Councillor Harrison would keep the Parish Council informed of any relevant developments.

93 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

There was no County Councillor in attendance.

94 COMMUNITY CENTRE REPORT

There was nothing to report.

95 PARISH NEWSLETTER

Councillor Barclay advised that the next edition would be issued at the end of the month and it was agreed that a piece could be included asking the electorate to come forward with any suggestions they might have for inclusion in the 2016/17 Parish Council budget.

96 PLANNING

There were no planning applications to report.

Signed _____
Chairman