

BEARPARK PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of Bearpark Parish Council held on **Wednesday 19 September 2018 at 7.00 p.m.**

Present:

Councillor M Wright in the Chair.

Councillors N Anderson, G Hendry, E Hull, J Peart and M Wilson.

18/52 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Chard, O Edwards, M Wilson and T Wilson.

18/53 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in relation to any items of business on the agenda.

18/54 REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no representations from the Public.

18/55 POLICE REPORT

There was no representative from the Police present and no report had been provided.

18/56 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

In the absence of a County Council there was no report to note. The Clerk informed the Council that Councillor M Wilson had provided feedback on a planning related matter which would be provided under the relevant item.

18/57 MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 18 July 2018 were **Moved** by Councillor G Hendry, **Seconded** by Councillor J Peart and agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

18/58 PARISH COUNCIL COOPTION

The Chair welcomed Mr P Wilson to the meeting. Mr Wilson had expressed an interest in being a parish councillor following dialogue with the Clerk in relation to a recent advert. Mr Wilson provided the parish council with a brief summary of his motivations for being a parish councillor.

Moved by Councillor G Hendry, **Seconded** by Councillor E Hull and

Resolved

That Mr P Wilson be co-opted as a Councillor on Bearpark Parish Council.

Mr Wilson signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office which was countersigned by the Clerk to the Council as Proper Officer.

18/59 REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

(i) Durham Fybro Haven

The Clerk informed the Council that an application from Durham Fybro Haven had been received and circulated with the papers for the meeting. The Chair welcomed three representatives of the organisation who provided the Council with an overview of the organisation, its background, aims, objectives, membership and the background to the request.

A general discussion ensued regarding membership of the group, group activities and other alternative sources of funding. Councillors R Kemp and G Hendry expressed an interest in attending one of the events and/or sessions hosted by the group to get a flavour for their work.

Resolved

The Council agreed to determine the application at a future meeting, prior to December. This would allow Councillor(s) to attend and observe a group session and/or activity, whilst allowing the Council to consider the proposal in light of its current financial obligations regarding grants and donations.

(ii) Citizens Advice County Durham

That the request from the previous month from Citizens Advice County Durham also be deferred to a future meeting.

18/60 FINANCE REPORT

The Council considered the monthly financial report which detailed the current bank balances, payments made since the last meeting and payments to be made.

Payments

Payment	Supplier	Description	Amount
BACS	Animal Story	Village Fair	325.00
BACS	AA Garden Landscapes	Gardening	360.00
BACS	HMRC	PAYE (Period 6)	201.82
BACS	M Turnbull	Salary (August & Sept)	807.24
BACS	M Turnbull	Facepainter (Village Fair)	60.00

18/61 CLERKS REPORT

The Clerk provided the Council with an update regarding the following matters:

(i) Village Christmas Tree

The Clerk reported that much work and discussion had taken place with representatives from Durham County Council and Northern Powergrid regarding a

village Christmas tree. The timescales were extremely tight and essentially down to the waiting time for the delivery of a kiosk to house the electricity supply. The Clerk advised the Council that he was working extremely hard with all parties to achieve the desired outcome, although at this stage, it could not be guaranteed that the project would be delivered on time.

(ii) **Durham AAP Parish Forum**

The Clerk informed the Council that a meeting would take place on Wednesday 3 October 2018 at Durham Town Hall with a view to engaging more with the Durham area parish councils. The forum would also consider nominations of a parish representative for the Durham AAP board. The Clerk informed the Council that he would attend. Councillor M Wright would accompany the Clerk.

(iii) **Mid-Durham AAP Project: Making Deerness the Active Valley**

The parish council had been approached by Mid-Durham APP, through the efforts of Councillor M Wilson to secure involvement to increase physical activity, by improving and promoting various rights of way, leisure facilities, allotments, fitness sessions, after school activities, gyms, youth clubs, social groups, trails, skate park and play parks to name but a few, that spanned the Deerness Valley, of which Bearpark was a part of. A meeting was being held on Thursday 4 October at 6 p.m. with like-minded providers from the Deerness Valley to seek how to increase residents' awareness of the benefit of physical activity and residents health and wellbeing. Active Durham would be involved in the project and wanted the AAP to be the rural model of delivery. County Durham Sport would also be involved in terms of supporting the project.

Resolved

That the Council send two representatives – Councillors E Hull, P Wilson and County Councillor M Wilson would also attend.

18/62 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no applications for consideration. In the absence of Councillor M Wilson, the Clerk provided an update regarding the Taylor Wimpey development at Colliery Road. The agents for Taylor Wimpey had indicated that a revised package of supporting documents would be soon available and re-consulted up.

18/63 VILLAGE MATTERS

(i) **Village Fair Feedback**

Councillor Kemp mentioned that some residents had expressed their disappointment at the lack of an arts and crafts session at the village fair and that the table top sale had been disappointing.

The Clerk commented that much hard work had gone into the village fair and it was disappointing that no arts and crafts session had been provided, however, the council had been let down at very short notice. Despite the Clerk's best efforts an alternative could not be sourced. The comments regarding the stalls was noted. The Clerk explained that the village fair format needed to be completely reconsidered for

future years as the event was becoming tired. The Clerk also proposed a yearlong programme of events, possibly linked to celebration days, be drawn up and agreed in advance of the budget setting meeting in January.

(ii) **Dog Fouling**

Councillor Hendry raised the issue of dog fouling along Colliery Road. A small discussion ensued. The Clerk reiterated advice provided at previous meetings and informed the Council that more stencilling work would take place in the village over the coming months.

(iii) **Bonfire Night**

Councillor Anderson asked if the parish council would consider contributing towards a Bonfire Night event at Bearpark WMC. This year's event would include a fireworks display, refreshments, disco and concert by local singers. No bonfire would be held.

Resolved

That the parish council note the request and it be considered in line with the decision taken earlier regarding the grants and donations budget heading.

18/64 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council would take place on Wednesday 17 October 2018 at 7.00 p.m.

The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.