

BEARPARK PARISH COUNCIL

At a **meeting** of **Bearpark Parish Council** held on **Wednesday 21 February 2018** at **7.00 p.m.**

Present:

Councillors M Chard, O Edwards, E Hull, R Kemp, J Peart, E Wilding and M Wilson.

In the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council the Clerk sought nominations for a Member to Chair the meeting. The nomination of Cllr E Hull was moved by Councillor Wilding, Seconded by J Peart.

Resolved

That Councillor E Hull Chair the meeting.

Councillor E Hull in the Chair.

17/96 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors T Wilson and M Wright.

17/97 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

17/98 REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no representations from the public.

17/99 POLICE REPORT

There were no representatives from the police present and no report had been provided.

17/100 DERIC PROJECT

The Chair welcomed Caroline Jackson to the meeting. Caroline provided the Council with an insight into the DERIC Project which was now based at Bearpark Community Centre following its move from Langley Park. Caroline informed the groups of the following activities that were underway:-

- A breakfast club was being held on Saturday mornings for 8-13 years olds, providing a hot breakfast, arts and crafts, games and teambuilding – these sessions were attracting up to 30 youngsters;
- detached sessions were due to commence. This would focus on young people that 'hanging around' at key locations in the village;
- sessions for older people were due to commence. This was being funded by Durham Area Action Partnership. More details would be available in the coming weeks. A pick up and drop off service would be available for those with mobility issues; and

- projects were underway with young and older people in relation to World War One which would culminate in a village celebration style event. Local stakeholders would also be involved in due course.

The Parish Council thanked Caroline for providing this brief insight into the work of the project which had got off to an excellent start.

17/101 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor Wilson provided a general update, as follows:

- The County Council had held their budget meeting and set the Council Tax for 2018/19. The Council Tax had increased by 4.99%;
- The pavilion at the recreation ground had been earmarked for improvement following requests made by Cllr Wilson. This was essentially to bring the building back up to standard as it had been allowed to fall into a very poor state. Unfortunately, a feasibility study had indicated that it would cost in the region of £101,000.00 to make the necessary improvements;
- The Brownies had been invited to attend County Hall on 13 March to meet with the Chairman of the County Council and to participate in a Q&A session with other Councillors. The session would assist the Brownies in acquiring their badge for suffrage. The badges would then be presented to them by the Chairman;
- Discussions were ongoing with a charitable organisation regarding plans for the Beaurepaire site;
- A new business club for small businesses in Bearpark and Ushaw Moor had been set-up on a trial basis with the assistance of Business Durham. The first session would take place in March at the Silver Trees Centre, Ushaw Moor from 8am-11am;
- Durham Area Action Partnership were in the process of finalising details for the drop-in session that would take place on 27 March 2018 between 3pm-7pm. The session had been arranged to with a view to forming an action plan for the village; and
- in response to questions from Cllrs Hull and Kemp regarding the closure of the Marks and Spencer store in Durham City, Councillor Wilson explained that discussions were ongoing with the Council, Business Durham and Marks and Spencer, although it would be inevitable that the store would close.

17/102 MINUTES

- (a) The minutes of the meetings held on 17 January 2018 were **Moved** by Councillor M Wilson, **Seconded** by Councillor R Kemp and agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

17/103 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

Supplier	Description	Amount
Mr M Turnbull	Clerks Salary (February)	383.21

17/104 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

DM/18/00515/FPA

3 Linden Road, Bearpark Durham, DH7 7DD - First floor extension to rear.

The Council considered the above application and accompanying plans.

Resolved

That the application be noted.

17/105 EVENTS WORKING GROUP UPDATE

The Clerk provided an update to the Council following the meeting of the Events Working Group held on 7 February 2018. Agreed events to hold in 2018 were as follows:

- Folk Concert
- Village fair
- Contribution to bonfire night
- Christmas

The detail of the events would be discussed at the next meeting. The working group would work within a budget of £2000 as set by the Parish Council. Various events including a bake-off, ceilidh, recognition of a village memory were all discussed but would not be taken forward in 2018/19.

Resolved

That the update be noted

17/106 PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Councillor Hull referred to the draft plan for the parish newsletter which had been circulated by the Clerk prior to the meeting. Councillor Hull had prepared some content for the newsletter which she would circulate to the Clerk and Chair in due course. Groups in the village had also been contacted to provide articles for the newsletter. Councillor Wilson confirmed that she would be providing a County Councillors report to cover her term in office from May 2017. Councillor Kemp offered to provide information on events held in 2017 and would also include an article for the folk concert arranged for April 2018.

Councillors R Kemp and M Wilson thanked Councillor Hull for preparing the plan.

The Clerk informed the Council that he would be seeking to utilise the services of The Design Hub who had designed and printed the previous parish newsletter.

Resolved

That the update be noted.

17/107 VILLAGE MATTERS

Councillor Kemp informed the Council of the Fairtrade Coffee morning taking place at the Methodist Chapel on Saturday 3 March 2018 at 10 a.m.

17/108 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council would take place on Wednesday 21 March 2018 at 7.00 p.m.

The meeting closed at 8.10 p.m.