Fishburn Parish Council

**Chair Cllr. S.Dowson**

**Minutes of a meeting of Fishburn Parish Council held on Thursday 9th January 2025 in Fishburn Youth and Community Centre.**

**Present :** Cllr. S.Dowson (Chair),

Cllrs. D.Dowson, M.Barker, S.Tinkler C. Leonard, S.Hughes, V.Anderson, R.Pedlow, A.Pearson.

**In attendance :** Mr. J.Robinson Parish Clerk. County Councillor C. Lines.

There were no members of the public present.

**158.0/24 Apologies**

County Councillor D.Brown.

**159.0/24 Declaration of Interest**

The following declaration of interest were made Cllr. M.Barker, D.Dowson, A.Pearson, D.Dowson.

**160.0/24 Member dispensation**

No issues raised.

**161.0/24 Chairmans Report**

1.Cllr. S.Dowson reported the height of the hedge in front of the church has been reduced

2.Mr. H. Dowson has repaired the church gate

3. Her husband has installed blood boxes

4. She and the Clerk had both followed up on the lack of water in the Cemetery. SELandscape had informed her it was once again the adjoining building site. It has now been turned back on. She is meeting NWA to discuss; the Clerk has written to NWA asking for some form of compensation/reduction in rate due to this second incident.

5. She has launched via Facebook a scheme to produce further poppies for the 2025 display.

**162.0/24 Minutes of meeting held 5th December 2024**

Cllr. C. Leonard proposed seconded Cllr. M.Barker and agreed to adopt the minutes and recommendations of this meeting.

**163.0/24 County Councillor Report**

Cllr. C. Lines had submitted a written report, attached to the minutes and he advised the DCC Budget Consultation has begun. Report received.

**164.0/24 Feedback from meetings attended by members**

No reports given

**165.0/24 Matters of Information**

1. Clerk advised DCC Planners have now replied advising no permission is required for the Flagpole and he has now placed the order. This action was endorsed by members.

2. Cllr. V.Anderson agreed to approach the PCC Mrs. J. Allen and request funding towards the purchase of the 3rd Blood Box

3. Cllr. A.Pearson advised the secretary of the workingmen’s club has not received the Council letter but had verbally advised him that the GDPR Officer is the Secretary. It was agreed to re-send the letter by recorded delivery.

4. It was agreed Annual Assembly to be held 6.30pm on Tuesday 6th May and Annual Parish Council meeting 7.30pm on the same day.

5. Application for the £5000 grant from Durham Wildlife Trust has been made.

6.Manager of Solar Panel Project has been invited to the February meeting.

7. The 2 Amberol tubs have been ordered.

**166.0/24 Correspondence**

1. Clerks and Councils direct received.

2. Various emails previously circulated to members, received.

3. DCC advising they have had a complaint regarding fly tipping on Salvin Terrace stating the Parish Council own the land. Members advised the mattress is on the road and is DCC land. Clerk to reply accordingly.

4. NIB Survey to former entrants asking why they have withdrawn from the competition. Members advised Clerk of the reasons and he to reply.

5. North of England Brass Band Championship requesting a donation towards the 2025 competition. It was agreed to donate £100.

6. Letter from Rob George Wildlife Officer DCC advising of damage to the tree planting site. DCC agreed to undertake repair. Clerk advised he also before Christmas sent for the fire brigade due to vandals setting fire to the litter bin on the memorial site. Members noted both.

7. Clerk advised he had ordered the hard copy of the new Register of Electors 2025.

8. Letter from a resident asking about the issues regarding Christmas lights and also asking when the hedge next to Glebe Close will be cut. Light issue resolved and hedge to be done in early spring

9. AAP next meeting notification

10. Letter of thanks for reduction in hedging and repair to gate from the church

11.Blachere Lighting advising sale of lights in January. Cllr. S.Dowson and Clerk to meet with local agent to obtain prices for 3 set of lighting for the tree.

12, AAP regarding the offer of grant from County Councillors towards the public exhibition area.

**167.0/24 Annual Budget 2025/26**

Members considered the proposed budget for 2025/26 Civic Year. It was agreed to precept £128100 on a proposal by Cllr. M.Barker seconded Cllr. V.Anderson and carried unanimously.

**168.0/24 Cemetery issues:-**

No issues were raised.

**169.0/24 Environmental issues:-**

Members expressed concern at the increase in dog fowling. It was agreed Clerk contact Neighbourhood Wardens.

**170.0/24 Planning Application**

DM/24/03344/FPA 27 Brockwell Close, garage conversion and erection of single storey timber-clad store to the side elevation. No objections raised by members.

**171.0/24 Monthly Account Reconciliation**

Members agreed to payments for all invoices as per Appendix 1. A total of £46601.41. Clerk submitted his holiday record showing 6 taken and a balance of 12 remaining.

**172.0/24 VE/Remembrance/holocaust**

Members agreed/noted the following:-

1.VE 80th commemoration event in 2025, Clerk to circulate suggested ideas and programme for February meeting and set up a meeting with FYCC to discuss their plans and any possibility of collaboration.

2.Cllr. S.Tinkler submitted draft programme and speech for the Holocaust event. Clerk to circulate to all members.

**173.0/24 Allotments**

Cllr. M.Barker reported on current issues, including the need to cut back hedging/trees including Pollarding on the club side of the area. Clerk to request S.E.Landscape undertake the work in Spring.

**174.0/24 Fireworks Display**

Members discussed the above issue and agreed not to organise one this year.

**175.0/24 Fishburn Day**

It was agreed to organise a Fishburn Day on Saturday 23rd August. Cllr. R. Pedlow agreed to investigate involving the school and young people with the event including a song for Fishburn.

**176.0/24 Floodlighting of Church**

Cllrs. S.Dowson and S.Tinkler suggested discussions take place regarding floodlighting the church. It was agreed Clerk arrange a joint meeting with the church to discuss same.

**177.0/24 Spirit of Fishburn Award**

Members discussed the possibility of an annual Spirit of Fishburn Award recognising work undertaken by a resident. It was agreed to establish the award and aim for it to be presented at the Annual Assembly. Draft documentation to be discussed at March meeting.

**178.0/24 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting to be held on Thursday 13th February 2025 at 6.30pm in Fishburn Youth and Community Centre.

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Signed:-

Chair Fishburn Parish Council

13th February 2025