



FISHBURN PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council
held in the Youth Club building, Butterwick Road,
on Thursday 11th May 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors S. Dowson (Chair); V. Anderson; M. Barker; D. Dowson; S. Dowson; M. Hodgson; A. Pearson (Immediate Past Chairman); C. Welsh. **IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. K. Murray-Hetherington (Parish Clerk); Cllrs. D. Brown and C. Lines (Durham County Council); Mr. Paul Howell, M.P., and 4 members of the public.

Minute
No.

Agenda item

1. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** There were no questions, comments, or suggestions from members of the public. 4 residents spoke in favour of a proposal from Livin Housing Limited regarding the transfer of garage sites at Stobart Terrace East and West to the Parish Council.
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: RESOLVED:** That an apology and reason for non-attendance shall be accepted from Cllr. S. Tinkler (work commitments).
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:** Cllr. Barker declared an interest in matters affecting Fishburn Football Club (FC) [treasurer] and Fishburn Allotment Association [treasurer/plot holder]. Cllrs. D. Dowson and C. Welsh declared an interest in matters affecting Fishburn FC.
4. **DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL (DCC):** Cllr. Chris Lines had submitted a comprehensive written report on matters relating to DCC. **RESOLVED:** To proceed with the verge hardening scheme on Salters Lane, and to start agreeing the next steps, obtaining more detailed costings, and discussing funding options. The Chair presented commemorative bookmarks to Cllrs. Brown and Lines to mark the King's coronation.

[Cllr. Lines and Mr. Howell left the meeting at 7:00 p.m.]

5. **LIVIN HOUSING LIMITED:** It was unanimously **RESOLVED:** That the proposal for the transfer of two parcels of land, garage sites at Stobart Terrace East and West, currently owned by Livin Housing Ltd. (Livin) to Fishburn Parish Council is agreeable, as set out in the main terms outlined by Paul Stephens, Executive Director - Corporate Services - but the Parish Council would like the remaining two parcels of land owned by Livin upon which garages are sited to be transferred to the Parish Council at the same time.

[Cllr. Brown left the meeting at 7:11 p.m.]

6. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: RESOLVED:** To approve as a correct record and authorise signing of the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13th April 2023.
7. **MATTERS ARISING:** Cllr. S. Dowson gave a report on the new lights on the village green. It was very disappointing for all concerned that the lights were not able to be lit to mark the King's Coronation. Durham County Council had accepted that there is a fault with an underground cable and they will be contacting Cllr. Dowson to arrange a site visit to see what they can do. **RESOLVED:** To invite Durham County Council's Street Lighting and Operational Support Manager to arrange for remedial work to be done in time for the Christmas lights.
 - 7.1 The Parish Clerk explained that there were two spare sets of pavilion keys and fobs, but only one Mul-T-Lock padlock key left. **RESOLVED:** To authorise the hand over to Cllr. D. Dowson the final two sets of keys and fobs for the new football teams and the unique key card to obtain additional keys for the recreation ground padlocks from the master locksmith.
 - 7.2 Cllr. Hodgson explained that she and Cllr. Tinkler had not been able to visit Barclays to enable their personal details forms to be sent to the Mandate Change Team. Cllr. Welsh confirmed that she had not been able to visit Barclays for the same purpose.

8. **REPORTS:** Cllr. S. Dowson had visited Fishburn Primary School on behalf of the Parish Council to present the commemorative bookmarks to the children, and the Headteacher had commented: "That's so lovely! Thank you for thinking of us".
- 8.1 The Clerk reported that a member of the public who attended the previous parish council meeting to make representations about Livin's termination of garage tenancies, and who lives in Trimdon but owns property in Fishburn, had expressed an interest in filling one of the three current vacancies and was present as an observer.
9. **CORRESPONDENCE:** CDS Fire & Security had implemented an increase to call-out prices from 1st May 2023: Normal Working Hours (Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm): £99 + VAT; Out of Hours (Monday to Friday 5pm to 8am, Weekends and Bank Holidays): £130.00 + VAT.
10. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS:** There were no planning applications for consideration.
11. **FINANCIAL MATTERS:**
- 11.1 **RESOLVED:** To receive the schedule of monthly expenditure and approve payment of those invoices presented to the meeting and issue cheques.
- 11.2 **RESOLVED:** To receive the most recent budget report.
- 11.3 Cllrs. Tinkler; Hodgson; and Welsh had not been able to visit Barclays to enable their personal details forms to be sent to the Mandate Change Team.
12. **GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES:**
- 12.1 **RESOLVED:** That Cllr. S. Dowson shall obtain from J.P. Driveways & Landscaping a third quotation for the cost of fencing at the pit wheel fields car park.
- 12.2 Members were informed that the person who came to conduct the Legionella risk assessment did not have access to the boiler room and the Parish Clerk was asked to clarify how the report would be properly completed without that access.
- 12.3 Cllr. Anderson asked for the seat near the old notice board on Front Street to be cleaned by Durham County Council.
- 12.4 **RESOLVED:** To meet on the village green outside 14 Butterwick Road on Sunday 4th June 2023 at 11:30 a.m. to agree the locations for installation of six new 'no parking' signs.
13. **D-DAY 80 ANNIVERSARY: RESOLVED:** To approve the lighting of the ceremonial beacon at 9:45 p.m. on Thursday 8th June 2024 to commemorate
14. **NEXT MEETING: RESOLVED:** To confirm the date and time of the next ordinary meeting: Thursday 11th May 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
15. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC: RESOLVED:** That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public shall be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, i.e. legal proceedings preparation and advice.
- [Cllr. Welsh declared an interest in the following item of business and left the meeting at 8:11 p.m. She did not take part in the discussion and did not vote].*
16. **ILLEGAL PARKING ON VILLAGE GREEN: RESOLVED:** To contact Durham's Police and Crime Commissioner to express disappointment at the lack of action taken by Durham Police to address anti-social behaviour, namely illegal parking on the village green.
17. **CONCLUSION OF MEETING:** The meeting closed at 8:30 p.m.