



# FISHBURN PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held in Fishburn Youth Club, Butterwick Road, on Thursday 12th October 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councillors S. Dowson (Chair); V. Anderson; M. Barker; D. Dowson; A. Pearson; S. Tinkler; C. Welsh. **IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. K. Murray-Hetherington (Parish Clerk) and Cllr. C. Lines.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** There were no members of the public present to make representations or ask questions relating to the business on the agenda.

Minute No.	Agenda item
1.	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: RESOLVED:</b> That apologies and reasons for non-attendance shall be accepted from Cllrs. R. Pedlow [unwell] and M. Hodgson [unwell].
2.	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:</b> Cllr. Barker declared an interest in matters affecting Fishburn Allotment Association [treasurer/plot holder]. Cllrs. D. Dowson and C. Welsh declared an interest in matters affecting Fishburn Football Club.
3.	<b>DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL:</b> Cllr. Chris Lines had submitted a detailed written report on matters affecting Durham County Council (DCC) and he gave an update on matters covered in the report. Cllr. David Brown had submitted an apology for absence. Cllr. D. Dowson raised a question on the state of footpaths and the provision of additional litter bins and dog fouling bins in the parish. Cllr. Lines agreed to take up the matter with officials at DCC.
4.	<b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:</b> On the motion of Cllr. Barker, seconded by Cllr. Anderson, it was <b>RESOLVED:</b> To approve as a correct record and authorise signing of the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14th September 2023.
5.	<b>MATTERS ARISING:</b> The Clerk was asked to remind the grounds maintenance contractor to return to Cllr. Tinkler the wooden crown which was removed from the hanging basket on the village green and to ask whether he could remove and deliver the wooden bench from near the memorial garden in the cemetery, which Cllr. Tinkler had volunteered to paint/re-varnish.
6.	<b>ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:</b> The following items were agreed for inclusion on the agenda: a) <b>RESOLVED:</b> To consider at the next meeting the purchase of two metal 'Tommy' figures to commemorate veterans for installation at the entrance to the cemetery. b) <b>RESOLVED:</b> To consider at the next meeting installation of a public seat/bench with solar light near the site of the former colliery gates. c) <b>RESOLVED:</b> To consider at the next meeting re-naming the lights on the trees on the village green from 'festive' lights to 'Trees of tranquility' or similar name.
7.	<b>REPORTS:</b> Cllr. S. Dowson reported that Fishburn cemetery's stand-alone special entry in the Northumbria in Bloom competition in the Religious Establishment category
7.1	Cllrs. S. Dowson and Barker had met Mr. Macauley Underwood to discuss his request for permission to use the football fields at Fishburn Recreation Ground for Fishburn Live in June 2024 and comments from the Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation were still awaited
7.2	Cllr. Barker gave a report on the situation regarding an eviction from the allotment site. <b>RESOLVED:</b> That an official representative from Frishburn Allotment Association shall be asked to attend the Annual Parish Meeting in May 2024 to give a detailed report on the organisation's activities
8.	<b>CORRESPONDENCE:</b> There was no correspondence received which required any action.
9.	<b>PLANNING APPLICATIONS:</b> There were no planning applications received.

10. **FINANCIAL MATTERS: RESOLVED:** To approve the purchase of a new printer, scanner, copier [Canon Pixma G6050 megatank all-in-one wireless inkjet printer] for parish council business at a cost of £184.99 + £5.99 delivery = £190.98.
  - 10.1 **RESOLVED:** To receive the schedule of monthly expenditure and approve payment of all those invoices presented to the meeting and issue cheques.
  - 10.2 **RESOLVED:** To receive the most recent budget report.
  - 10.3 **RESOLVED:** To renew gas and electric supply with TotalEnergies for 12 months.
  
11. **GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES: RESOLVED:** That the design for the new playground at Stobart Terrace entitled 'Design 3' should be the winning design.
  - 11.1 Members discussed at length Mr. Macauley Underwood's request for permission to use the football fields at Fishburn Recreation Ground for Fishburn Live in June 2024. **RESOLVED:** To request more detailed plans and an item shall be placed on the next agenda for a decision, subject to any comments from the Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation as the landlord.
  - 11.2 **RESOLVED:** That the remaining balance [£36,000] for drainage work at the football fields shall be paid on the understanding that issues had been satisfactorily addressed by Turfcare Specialists Ltd. Cllr. D. Dowson agreed to write to Turfcare as secretary of Fishburn Community Football Club to seek compensation for costs incurred by delays to the works.
  - 11.3 **RESOLVED:** To seek approval from the Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation for a proposal from Fishburn Community Football Club for the club to purchase and install dugouts.
  - 11.4 Cllr. S. Dowson had been in contact with Durham County Council's Street Lighting & Operational Support Manager to discuss the festive lighting requirements. **RESOLVED:** To approve the cheque for £8,572.14 which had been authorised by the Chair to enable the work to commence on the basis that there was a general consensus/approval that the infrastructure work was necessary for health and safety with no option but to accept it.
  - 11.5 **RESOLVED:** To maintain the status quo regarding a trade waste bin for the Sports Pavilion at Butterwick Road, namely that a 360-litre bin with a fortnightly collection was not necessary.
  - 11.6 On the motion of Cllr. Tinkler, seconded by Cllr. Anderson, it was **RESOLVED:** To approve a proposal for consecration or blessing of the Memorial Garden. Cllr. Anderson volunteered to contact the Vicar at St. Catherine's Church to arrange a convenient date for the ceremony.
  
12. **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY: RESOLVED:** To nominate Cllr. Anderson as the official representative to lay a wreath at the war memorial in the churchyard on behalf of the council..
  
13. **CHRISTMAS EVENT: RESOLVED:** To approve arrangements for a Christmas tree lights switch on event on Wednesday 29th November 2023 at 7.00 p.m. including Fishburn Band.
  
14. **D-DAY 80 ANNIVERSARY:** Cllr. Tinkler proposed a piper; bedding plants in red, white, and blue; lights on the village green lit for 8 days; 11 wooden poppies on hanging baskets one week before; and readings from residents representing the generations from 8 decades.
  
15. **CCTV CAMERAS: RESOLVED:** To defer this item indefinitely due to uncertainty surrounding a project led by the Neighbourhood Policing Team to install rapid deployment CCTV cameras.
  
16. **STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN:** On the motion of Cllr. Barker, it was **RESOLVED:** To defer this item until December 2023.
  
17. **NEXT MEETING: RESOLVED:** To confirm the date and time of the next meeting: Thursday 9th November 2023 at 6:30 p.m.
  
18. **CONCLUSION OF MEETING:** The meeting closed at 8:29 p.m.