



FISHBURN PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting of Fishburn Parish Council
held in Fishburn Youth Club at 6.30 p.m. on
Thursday 12th January 2023

PRESENT: Councillors A. Pearson (Chairman); M. Barker; D. Dowson; S. Dowson; S. Tinkler. **IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. K. Murray-Hetherington (Parish Clerk); Councillor David Brown (DCC).

- | Minute No. | Agenda item |
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| 972. | APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: RESOLVED: That an apology and reason for non-attendance shall be accepted from Cllrs. M. Hodgson [holiday] and C. Welsh [child care]. Cllr. A. Lord was absent with no reason tendered. |
| 972.1 | Cllr. P. Pearson had decided to resign following a setback to her on-going health condition. Cllr. M. Jones had tendered his resignation as he did not feel that he contributed anything. The Principal Electoral Officer at Durham County Council had been notified and arrangements were being made for the necessary Notice of Vacancy to be published. |
| 973. | DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATION REQUESTS: Cllr. Barker declared an interest in matters affecting Fishburn Football Club [treasurer] and a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) in matters affecting Fishburn Allotment Association [treasurer/plot holder]. Cllr. D. Dowson declared an interest in any matters affecting Fishburn Football Club. |
| 974. | DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL (DCC): Cllr. Chris Lines had submitted an apology for absence but had sent in advance a comprehensive report on matters relating to DCC. Cllr. David Brown explained the position relating to devolution arrangements; the Boundary Commission's proposals; building at The Sands in Durham, formerly intended as a new council HQ; a new vision for DLI Museum; plans to re-open the Leamside line; Active Travel. |
| 975. | MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: RESOLVED: To approve as a correct record and authorise signing of the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 8th December 2022. |
| 976. | MATTERS ARISING: Cllr. D. Dowson mentioned a request from the under 8s and under 11s football teams to paint the outside of the pavilion changing rooms. He had requested quotations for the costs of rendering/applying a coat of cement on the external walls of the pavilion, the preferred alternative to painting, and for the costs of cladding. The Parish Clerk had contacted CISWO for consent and was awaiting a response. |
| 977. | REPORTS: |
| 977.1 | Cllr. Barker reported a Russian Vine problem on land owned by Fishburn Social Club near the allotments. The Chairman offered to arrange for the area to be sprayed with weedkiller. |
| 977.2 | Cllr. D. Dowson reported that the Football Club had held its first women's training session. |
| 978. | CORRESPONDENCE: There was no correspondence which required action. |
| 979. | PLANNING APPLICATIONS: There were no planning applications received. |
| 980. | FINANCIAL MATTERS: RESOLVED: To receive the schedule of monthly expenditure and approve payment of those invoices presented to the meeting and issue cheques. RESOLVED: To receive the most recent budget report. |
| 981. | GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES: |
| 981.1 | The Chairman mentioned that the re-painting of the bollards on village green [once per year] had not been done yet despite a promise from S.E. Landscaping Ltd. in October 2022. |
| 981.2 | The Parish Council discussed Fishburn Bowls Club's proposal for the water supply and |

reiterated that no money had been set aside or permission given for any additional water charges for the bowling green, which would arise from the proposed works and the Bowls Club would be responsible for paying the bills and any hire costs for a water standpipe. **RESOLVED:** To invite representatives from the Bowls Club to attend the parish council meeting in March 2023 to discuss the proposal in more detail.

982. **FOOTBALL FIELDS DRAINAGE:** Cllr. D. Dowson had asked whether the Parish Council's preferred contractor, was intending to drain the whole football field, or just the pitches as the Football Club were looking at potentially rearranging the pitches. The Clerk explained that his had not been discussed in that much detail. **RESOLVED:** To ask *Turfcare Specialists Ltd.* to visit the site, accompanied by Cllr. D. Dowson, to look at the specification in depth; confirm whether their quote was for the whole field; and outline any guarantee covering the work.
983. **FISHBURN CEMETERY:** Cllr. S. Dowson had received an updated quote for phase four improvement works at the cemetery and she was awaiting another two to support an application for funding from the East Durham Rural Corridor Area Action Partnership Area Budget Project and the deadline for applications was 12 noon on Monday 9th January 2023.
984. **THE KING'S CORONATION:** Buckingham Palace had stated that beacons would not be lit to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III. It was felt that the Parish Council had gone to considerable expense and expended a great deal of time and effort to install a bespoke beacon following intensive publicity and promotion from the Pageantmaster's office, and members were bewildered by the stance taken on this subject. **RESOLVED:** To authorise Cllr. S. Dowson to purchase additional vintage cloth Union Jack double sided bunting, the same quantity as the Parish Council bought for the Platinum Jubilee.
985. **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS:** Cllr. S. Dowson gave a report on electrical cabling and she was awaiting quotes for the cost of Christmas lights for 2023 prior to an application being made for funding from County Durham Community Foundation (E.ON Butterwick Moor Wind Farm).
986. **ROYAL GARDEN PARTY:** It was unanimously **RESOLVED:** To nominate Cllr. Barker to enter County Durham Association of Local Councils' ballot to receive a ticket to attend a Royal Garden Party in 2023.
987. **NEXT MEETING: RESOLVED:** That the next meeting shall be held on Thursday 9th February 2023.
988. **CONCLUSION OF MEETING:** The meeting closed at 8:11 p.m.