Fishburn Parish Council

**Chair Cllr. S.Dowson**

**Minutes of a meeting of Fishburn Parish Council held on Thursday 11th July 2024 in Fishburn Youth and Community Centre.**

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

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

**In attendance :** Mr. J.Robinson Acting Parish Clerk. County Councillors D.Brown and C. Lines.

There were no members of the public present.

**57.0/24 Apologies**

Cllr. R.Pedlow

**58.0/24 Declaration of Interest**

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

**59.0/24 Member dispensation**

None required

**60.0/24 Chairmans Report**

Cllr. S.Dowson on behalf of members congratulated Cllr. V.Anderson on her recent election to Durham County Council to represent the residents of Coxhoe.

She will be attending the forthcoming AAP Board being held in Fishburn

She advised members that the trees reported at the last meeting being pollarded in the Cemetery had in fact been done by the Council Environment Contractor and he has assured her they will grow back in the Autumn.

She has received positive comments regarding the hanging baskets across the Parish but especially in the Colliery part

Grass cutting bowling green. Acting Clerk to raise the matter with S.E.Landscape.

No progress has been seen on the development at the former Beehive Public House.

**61.0/24 Minutes of meeting held 13th June 2024**

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

**62.0/24 Minutes of a meeting held 27th June 2024**

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

**63.0/24 County Councillor Report.**

Cllr. C. Lines tabled a written report to the meeting (copy on file). He advised he continues to chase up the issue of lack of buses. NETPARK will celebrate its 20th year this year, Maria Daniels has now been appointed as local officer for ASB. Cllr. D.Brown advised the closure of South View and footpath on Stobart Terrace has been approved as of 22nd July 2024.

**64.0/24 Correspondence**

**64.1/24 VE Commemoration:-** Members noted the 2025 VE 80th commemoration pack had been received from the National Pageant Master. It was agreed to place this on all future agendas as a standing item.

**64.2/24 Highways Notification:-** Notice from DCC that they intend introducing no waiting/no loading on Salters Lane. Order noted.

**64.3/24 Review of AAP:-** Members noted the DCC Consultation regarding the new AAP boundaries. If agreed East Durham Rural would go and the Sedgefield Division would go in with Newton Aycliffe. Members discussed the proposal and expressed concerns at this and the affect of 1 large town dominating the smaller villages. Agreed to write to DCC objecting to same.

**65.0/24 Planning Application**

DM/24/01733/FPA 27 Oakdene Road, two storey side extension and porch to the front .No objections raised.

**66.0/24 Flagpole**

After discussion it was agreed to purchase a 9-meter pole from Harrison’s at a cost of £1238. Cllr. V.Anderson asked if advise could be taken regarding planning permission.

**67.0/24 Annual Audit/Accounts**

Acting Clerk presented the annual accounts for the benefit of those members unable to attend the Council meeting 27th June 2024. Members noted the outturn and effect of VAT not being claimed. It was noted VAT is now being claimed as in accordance with National Policy and an estimated £30,000 is due. This was the only comment made in Internal Audit report.

**68.0/24 Monthly Account Reconciliation**

Members agreed to payments for all invoices as per Appendix 1.

**69.0/24 Social Media/Website.**

Members discussed the need to update the website and social media. It was agreed Cllr. D.Dowson establish a Facebook Page and to explore updating the website. Acting Parish Clerk to investigate both gov.uk website domain and members having gov.uk emails.

**70.0/24 LIVIN Garages**

Still no progress on legal deeds. Acting Clerk to chase up.

**71.0/24 Office**

Members noted the Office is now in up and running. It was proposed Cllr. S.Tinkler seconded Cllr. M.Barker and agreed to donate £1200 to Fishburn Community Centre towards the cost of running same and to review in 6 months.

**72.0/24 Recruitment Parish Clerk.**

Members agreed to delegate to the Chair and Vice Chair a review of the Job Description to bring it in line with the current job role. It was also agreed:

1. Post to be advertised week beginning 22nd July 2024
2. Short listing 3rd August
3. Interviews 15th August.
4. All members be invited to attend both short listing and interviews.

**73.0/24 General Maintenance**

1. Acting Clerk to retrieve 80s signs from S.E.Landscape
2. Concern was expressed re quality and colour of plants at main crossroads. Also agreed at the end of season to have soil etc renewed
3. Cllr. D.Dowson agreed to contact Turfcare for an update of the football ground drainage. It was agreed to look into moving goal posts in September and to lower the outlet pipe on the field.

**74.0/24 Community Grants**

It was proposed Cllr. D.Dowson seconded Cllr. S.Tinkler and agreed to donate £200 to CALM Bereavement support at the church.

**75.0/24 Cemetery Matters**

The following Headstone applications were approved:-

K.Williams in respect of Section C, row b number 27

L.Summerson Section A, row D number 28

D.Morrison.

**76.0/24 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting to be held on Thursday 12th September 2024 at 6.30pm in Fishburn Youth and Community Centre.

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Signed:-

Chair Fishburn Parish Council 12th September 2024