

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WHEATLEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY 11 JANUARY 2016

Present: Councillor M Nicholls (Chair)
Councillors Mrs E Carr, E Goyns, Mrs M Goyns,
B Maddison, J Miller, Mrs M Nicholls, Mrs L Stewart
and Mrs C Stogdale

1 THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING held on 7 December 2015 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved and signed by the Chair.

2 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There was no public present at the meeting.

3 COMMUNITY POLICING/STREET WARDENS

The Chair reported that PCSO D Watson had submitted his apologies.

4 CORRESPONDENCE

(1) Letters of Thanks/Cards

The Clerk reported the receipt of the following letters of thanks and cards.

Durham Cathedral
Great North Air Ambulance
Wheatley Hill Community Association
Wheatley Hill Workmen's Social Club and Institute
Wheatley Hill Mothers Club

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(2) Royal Garden Party 2016

The Clerk reported the receipt of correspondence from the County Durham Association of Local Councils advising they had been allocated 4 places to attend the Royal Garden Party on 24 May 2016.

RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs Stewart be nominated to attend the Royal Garden Party on behalf of Wheatley Hill Parish Council.

(3) Durham County Council – Invitation to Afternoon Tea

The Clerk reported the receipt of an invitation from the Chair of Durham County Council, Councillor J Blakey to attend an afternoon tea on 18 January 2016.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(4) East Durham Association of Parish and Town Councils

The Clerk reported that the next meeting of the East Durham Association of Parish and Town Councils would be held on 19 January 2016.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

5 PLANNING

(i) APPLICATIONS

DM/15/03859/FPA – Erection of dormer bungalow and conversion of former betting shop to garage at land adjacent Royal Villa, Quilstyle Road, Wheatley Hill for Mr S Townley

(ii) APPROVALS

DM/15/02970/FPA – Vehicular access at Thorne Villa, Woodlands Avenue, Wheatley Hill, Durham DH6 3JY for Mr A Kirby

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

6 DELEGATES REPORTS

The Chair provided an update on the following:-

- New Health Clinic
- Front Street - Problems associated with absentee landlords, empty properties and untidy gardens. The betting shop and the Pet and Corn Store had been fitted with new fronts and it was hoped more would follow.
- Stoker Crescent - Problems with cars parking on grassed areas. Investigations were underway to look at the possibility of erecting racecourse fencing to prevent cars parking on the grass.
- Durham County Council - Savings of £153M had been made since 2011 and further savings were required before 2020.
- Devolution - Proposals for devolution.
- Quad Bikes – Problems with quad bikes destroying grassed areas at various locations throughout the village.
- South View – Problems regarding a large hedge which had been reported to Durham County Council.
- Village Bus – Discussion regarding the introduction of a village bus were taking place and quotations were being sought.
- Untidy Gardens – East Durham Homes had been made aware of untidy gardens in the village i.e. Luke Terrace, Jack Lawson Terrace and Liddle Terrace.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

7 HEAD GROUNDPERSONS REPORT

The Clerk reported that routine work had been undertaken in the Cemetery and around the village since the last meeting, details of which were outlined to Members.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

8 CLERK'S REPORT

(1) Allotments/Stable Blocks

(i) Waiting List

Members were provided with details of current waiting lists for allotments and stable blocks.

The Clerk reported that following a check of the newly published electoral register 4 of the applicants currently on the waiting list were not registered as living in Wheatley Hill.

As the criteria for being accepted onto the waiting list was that applicants had to be resident in Wheatley Hill the Clerk suggested that these applicants be removed from the list.

RESOLVED that the applicants currently not registered in Wheatley Hill be removed from the waiting list.

9 PAYMENTS

RESOLVED that the payments listed be endorsed.

	PAYMENT TO	DETAIL	COST	VAT	TOTAL	
105118	M Nicholls	Telephone Allowance	25.00		25.00	
105119	J Thompson	Telephone Allowance	25.00		25.00	
105120	J Thompson	Reimbursements	24.48		24.48	
105121	British Gas	Gas-Heritage Centre	517.59	25.87	543.46	
105122	Durham County Council	Machine Repairs	445.00	89.00	534.00	
105123	npower	Electric - Heritage Centre	220.24	11.01	231.25	
105124	JAC's Accountancy Ltd	Payroll Services - January 2016	13.25	2.65	15.90	
Internet Banking	Payroll	Wages - January 2016	3932.64		3932.64	
Internet Banking	HMRC/DCC	PAYE/Pension - January 2016	2283.27		2283.27	
Direct Debit	British Telecom	Telephone/Internet	31.60	6.32	37.92	
			TOTAL	7518.07	134.85	7652.92

10 RISK MANAGEMENT

The Clerk advised there was nothing to report.

11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Horses - Watson Close

Councillor Stewart reported that a number of horses had escaped from nearby fields and ended up on the grassed areas at Watson Close. The horses were removed but there was still a lot of horse muck which needed cleaning up.

(ii) Dog Fouling

Members advised that residents had reported an increase in dog fouling around the village, particularly on the Front Street, Granville Terrace and Gable Terrace.

(iii) Street Lighting

Councillor Carr reported that street lights numbered 182 and 189 were out.

Councillor Goyns reported that street lighting previously reported had not been repaired as Durham County Council was behind schedule with street lighting repairs.

(iv) Parking

Councillor Carr reported that a van was regularly parked on the double yellow lines at Gable Terrace.

RESOLVED that the matters be reported to Durham County Council and the Police.

..... Signed

..... Dated