

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WHEATLEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON MONDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2019**

**Present:** Councillor J Miller (Chair)  
Councillors E Carr, M Goyns,  
B Miller, C Stogdale and L White

**Apologies:** Councillors E Goyns and L Stewart

**Also Present:** County Councillor J Grant

**1** The Minutes of the last meeting held on 8 July 2019 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved and signed by the Chair.

**2 PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There was no public present at the meeting.

**3 POLICE**

Members were advised that 96 incidents had been reported to the Police which included 7 reports of anti-social behaviour, 5 thefts, 2 criminal damage, 1 burglary and 2 vehicle crimes.

Members were advised that year to date crime was up 15% and anti-social behaviour was up 16%.

The Police Neighbourhood Newsletter for September was circulated to Members.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

**4 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT**

County Councillor J Grant provided an update on the following issues:-

- Weardale Park
- Footpath/parking at the Co-op store
- Flooding at Vincent's Corner
- Litter - St Godric's car park
- Speeding traffic and parking at the medical centre
- General litter and flytipping
- Allotment fires - rear of the workmen's club

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

**5 CORRESPONDENCE**

**(1) Request for Financial Assistance – Wheatley Hill Working Men's Football Club**

The Clerk reported the receipt of a request for financial assistance from Wheatley Hill Working Men's Football Club.

RESOLVED that a donation of £300 be made from the Section 137 Budget.

(2) Remembrance Sunday 2019 - Peace Perfect Peace

The Clerk reported the receipt of correspondence from Wheatley Hill History Club which gave details of the second part of their Heritage Lottery Funded project called Peace Perfect Peace.

Members were advised that the first part of the project called We All Served was screened on Remembrance Sunday 2018 outside the Heritage Centre.

The History Club was seeking permission to screen Peace Perfect Peace at this year's Remembrance Day event on Sunday 10 November 2019. Lonely Tower Film and Media would be responsible for all activities associated with the screening such as equipment, installation and risk assessment. All costs would be covered by the History Club.

**RESOLVED** that approval be granted for the screening on Sunday 10 November 2019.

(3) Information Lectern

The Clerk reported the receipt of correspondence from Mr G Tempest which sought approval to erect a second information lectern adjacent to the Miner statue in the Cemetery.

In 2017 the Miner Statue was erected in the Cemetery with an information lectern. The information panel referred to the number of fatalities at Wheatley Hill Colliery. However, there was no record in Wheatley Hill of the men and boys from Wheatley Hill who died in the mine, either at Wheatley Hill or other local collieries.

Mr Tempest was compiling a list of miners from Wheatley Hill who either died, were killed, fatally injured or died as a result of injury whilst working at local collieries. Mr Tempest was seeking approval to erect a matching lectern which would display the names, ages and collieries where these deaths occurred. The second Lectern would be positioned to the east of the statue and be symmetrical to the existing one.

Mr Tempest was raising funds for the project, which were estimated to be in the region of £900 to £1,000 plus VAT in the name of The Wheatley Hill Banner Appeal Community Group.

If Members were mindful to grant approval for the erection of the Lectern Mr Tempest had requested the Parish Council to adopt the project. The Wheatley Hill Banner Appeal Community Group would transfer the cost of the Lectern to the Parish Council to allow it to place the order and once erected the Parish Council would take on all future maintenance and responsibility.

**RESOLVED** that;

- (i) approval be granted for the erection of a lectern to the east of the miner statue in the Cemetery
- (ii) upon the receipt of the cost of the Lectern the Parish Council place the order and once erected take on all future maintenance and responsibility.

(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 10 September 2019.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(5) County Durham Single Use Plastic Pledge

The Clerk reported that at the last CDALC larger and smaller council's forum member councils agreed, in principal, to sign up and pledge to join the County Durham Single Use Plastics Pledge, details of which were outlined to Members.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council sign up and join the County Durham Single Use Plastics Pledge.

(6) NHS Information

The Clerk reported the receipt of correspondence from NHS County Durham which advised that following consultation it was evident people were often unsure what to do when they were unwell and were unaware of what help was available regarding NHS funded transport to attend non-emergency hospital and medical appointments.

The NHS had launched an 18 month campaign aimed at getting key health messages out to members of the public to help them better understand how to access the most appropriate care when needed.

The NHS had produced several leaflets to help residents better understand how to access appropriate care when they needed it and NHS funded transport to attend non-emergency hospital or medical appointments.

The NHS had sought the assistance of the Parish Council to help get these key health messages publicised. This information was not widely known so it was important to get the message out to those who would benefit from the information.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

6 PLANNING

Applications

DM/19/02245/FPA – To erect new 2.5 storey dwelling and detached double garage with associated landscaping on site of former dwelling at Black Lane Bungalow, Black Lane, Wheatley Hill DH6 3PJ

DM/19/02210/FPA – Two storey extensions to front and side at 1 Gowland Terrace, Wheatley Hill DH6 3QW

DM/19/02415/VOC – Variation of condition 2 of DM/15/02976/FPA to allow substitution of house types on plots 24 – 55 at Marley Fields, Wingate Lane, Wheatley Hill DH6 3LZ

DM/19/02761/FPA – Single and two storey extension to rear (re-submission) at Braelea, Durham Road, Wheatley Hill DH6 3LJ

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**

**(a) Site Meeting – 4 September 2019**

The Clerk reported details of the allotment site meeting held on 4 September 2019.

Members were advised that allotments 8, 9 and 10 were vacant. Plots 8 and 9 had no internal fencing and it was suggested that they be divided into 3 plots, giving a total of 4 new individual plots.

RESOLVED that internal fencing be erected to create 3 individual plots on plots 8 and 9 giving a total of 4 new plots.

**(b) Annual Rents 2019/2020**

The Clerk reported that annual rent letters would be issued at the end of September 2019.

Members were advised that at a meeting of the Parish Council held on 10 September 2018 it was agreed to increase the fees for allotments and stable blocks by £10.00 per plot in 2019. Tenants were advised of this increase, in writing in 2018.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

**(c) Stable Blocks 11, 12, 17 and 19**

The Clerk reported the receipt of a request from the tenant of stable blocks 11, 12, 17 and 19 asking the Parish Council to reconsider its position in relation to barbed wire on the external fences of these plots.

Due to the low height of the boundary fences on these plots the tenant had previously been advised that barbed wire could not be allowed to encroach onto the track as it was a hazard and a danger. Any barbed wire erected must be a secondary fence.

RESOLVED that the tenant be advised that due to the low height of the boundary fence on plots 11, 12, 17 and 19 that barbed wire could not be attached to any fence adjoining any track. If barbed wire was used on the plots it must be as a secondary fence.

**(d) Allotment 15**

The Clerk reported the receipt of a request from the tenant of allotment 15 to add an additional name to the tenancy agreement.

Following discussion and consideration of issues related to plot 15 it was RESOLVED that the request be denied.

**(e) Applications**

The Clerk reported the receipt of 2 applications for an allotment.

Members were advised that both applicants were not registered on the electoral register. The applicants had advised that they had recently moved into their properties.

## Wheatley Hill Parish Council – 9 September 2019

RESOLVED that applications 4/2019 and 5/2019 be accepted onto the waiting list for an allotment subject to confirmation of an address in Wheatley Hill.

### (2) Meet Your Councillor – 19 September 2019

The Chair reported that the Parish Council would hold a “Meet Your Councillor” event on Thursday 19 September 2019 between 5pm and 7pm.

RESOLVED that a “Meet Your Councillor” event be held on 19 September 2019 between 5pm and 7pm at Wheatley Hill Community Centre.

### (3) Community Defibrillator

The Clerk provided details of community defibrillators and suggested that the Parish Council fund the purchase of one for the village.

Members discussed the various locations that would be suitable, particularly in relation to security. It was suggested that a defibrillator could be erected on the wall of the Heritage Centre in the Cemetery.

It was also suggested that a second defibrillator be purchased and located in the Community Centre.

Following discussion it was RESOLVED that the Clerk investigate the options and further developments be awaited.

## 9 PAYMENTS

CHQ NO	PAYMENT TO	DETAIL	COST	VAT	TOTAL
105608	CDS Security and Fire	Alarm Callout	79.00	15.80	94.80
105609	Horns	Compost	20.84	4.16	25.00
105610	J Thompson	Telephone Allowance	25.00		25.00
105611	J Thompson	Reimbursements	29.80	4.50	34.30
105612	Durham County Council	Machine Repairs	188.42	37.68	226.10
105613	JAC's Accountancy Limited	Payroll Services - August 2019	15.40	3.08	18.48
105614	J Dent	Skip Hire	220.00	44.00	264.00
Internet Banking	Payroll	Wages - August 2019	4453.54		4453.54
Internet Banking	HMRC/DCC	PAYE/Pension - August 2019	2795.31		2795.31
Direct Debit	British Telecom	Telephone/Internet	45.83	9.16	54.99
Direct Debit	O2	Chairs Mobile Telephone	25.62	5.12	30.74
Invoice 27	Co-Op Bank	Service and Commission Charges	12.05		12.05
105615	CDS Security & Fire	Annual Maintenance Charge	487.00	97.40	584.40
105616	J Thompson	Telephone Allowance	25.00		25.00
105617	Horns Garden Centre	Cemetery Supplies	8.26	1.64	9.90
105618	J Thompson	Reimbursements	8.38		8.38

## Wheatley Hill Parish Council – 9 September 2019

105619	Wheatley Hill Working Men's Football Club	Section 137 Donation		300.00		300.00
105620	Durham County Council	Machine Fuel		91.63	18.33	109.96
105621	Mazars LLP	External Audit		440.00	88.00	528.00
105622	JAC's Accountancy Limited	Payroll Services - September 2019		15.40	3.08	18.48
Internet Banking	Payroll	Wages - September 2019		4,453.34		4,453.34
Internet Banking	HMRC/DCC	PAYE/Pension - September 2019		2,795.51		2,795.51
Direct Debit	British Telecom	Telephone/Internet		45.83	9.16	54.99
Direct Debit	O2	Chairs Mobile Telephone		25.62	5.12	30.74
Invoice 28	Co-Op Bank	Service and Commission Charges		8.85		8.85
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,615.63</b>	<b>346.23</b>
						<b>16,961.86</b>

**RESOLVED** that the payments listed be endorsed.

### 10 RISK MANAGEMENT

There was nothing to report.

### 11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

#### (1) Potholes

Members referred to potholes at various locations throughout the village which included Byron, Moore, Shakespeare and Burns Street and South and East View.

**RESOLVED** that the potholes be reported to Durham County Council.

#### (2) Streetlight

Members reported that streetlight number 204 was out

**RESOLVED** that the light be reported to Durham County Council.

#### (3) Overgrown Trees

Members reported overgrown trees at various locations throughout the village.

**RESOLVED** that the overgrown trees be reported to Durham County Council.

#### (4) Gully Cleansing

Members reported the gully at the entrance to the village, off the A181 which was overgrown with weeds.

**RESOLVED** that the matter be reported to Durham County Council.

..... Signed

..... Dated