

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WHEATLEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY 8 DECEMBER 2014

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

Apologies: Councillor Mrs M Nicholls

1 THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING held on 10 November 2014, 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

There was no Police present at the meeting.

4 STREET WARDENS

There was no Street Wardens present at the meeting.

5 CORRESPONDENCE

(1) Requests for Financial Assistance

(i) 2nd Wheatley Hill Scout Group

The Clerk reported the receipt of a request for financial assistance from the 2nd Wheatley Hill Scouts.

RESOLVED that a donation of £300.00 be made from the Section 137 Budget.

(ii) Real Choice College

The Clerk reported the receipt of a request for financial assistance from Real Choice College based in Consett.

RESOLVED that no donation be made.

(iii) Wheatley Hill Community Nursery

The Clerk reported the receipt of a request for financial assistance from Wheatley Hill Community Nursery.

RESOLVED that a donation of £300.00 be made from the Section 137 Budget.

(iv) **Wheatley Hill Workmen’s Social Club and Institute**

The Clerk reported the receipt of a request for financial assistance from Wheatley Hill Workmen’s Social Club and Institute.

RESOLVED that a donation of £300.00 be made from the Section 137 Budget.

(2) **Letters of Thanks/Christmas Cards**

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

Wheatley Hill Banner Appeal
Greenhills Centre
Wheatley Hill Constitutional Club
Wheatley Hill Mothers Club
Wheatley Hill Heritage Society
Wheatley Hill History Club

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(3) **Greenhills Centre**

(i) **Luncheon Club Christmas Party**

The Clerk reported the receipt of an invitation for Members to attend the Luncheon Club Christmas Party at the Greenhills Centre on 16 December 2014.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(ii) **Meals on Wheels Christmas Deliveries**

The Clerk reported that the meals on wheels service would be delivering throughout the festive period with the exception of Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year’s Day.

Members were invited to join the meals on wheels delivery round for Wheatley Hill at any time over the Christmas period. The delivery van seated 3 people and there was space for 1 additional person.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(4) **Review of Premises Licence – Village Store Extra, Wingate Lane**

The Clerk reported that a meeting of the County Councils Statutory Licensing Sub-Committee was held on 2 December 2014 to review the Premises Licence for the Village Store Extra, 1 Wingate Lane, Wheatley Hill.

Members were advised that the Licensing Sub-Committee considered that it was appropriate and proportionate to impose additional conditions to the Premises Licence, details of which were outlined to Members.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(5) Infnis

The Clerk reported that at a meeting of Durham County Councils Planning Committee held on 2 December 2014 the planning application for Wingate Grange Wind Farm was refused.

Infnis had advised that whilst they were disappointed at the outcome they would review the decision and consider the best course of action. In any event, should they decide to take the project forward and gain approval in the future they intended to honour the commitments made to local partners and communities in full.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(6) 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 scheduled to be held on 9 December 2014 had been cancelled and would now be held on 13 January 2015.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(7) All Saints Church - Community Carol Service

The Clerk reported the receipt of an invitation from All Saints Church to attend the Community Carol Service on 21 December 2014.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

6 PLANNING MATTERS

Approvals

DM/14/02929/FPA - Conversion of roof space to form habitable accommodation at first floor level and infill extensions to front and rear at 14 Ryan Terrace, Wheatley Hill, Durham DH6 3RR for Mr and Mrs S Hill.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

7 DELEGATES REPORTS

There was nothing to report.

8 HEAD GROUNDSPERSONS REPORT

(i) General

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.

9 CLERKS REPORT

(1) Allotments/Stable Blocks

(i) Waiting List

The Clerk provided Members with details of waiting lists for allotments and stable blocks.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(ii) Annual Rents

The Clerk reported that the tenant of allotment number 6 had failed to pay the annual rent and the tenancy was terminated.

Members referred to the Parish Councils waiting list and suggested that allotment number 6 be offered to Mr D Hogg of 9 Bevan Crescent, Wheatley Hill Durham DH6 3LS.

RESOLVED that the tenancy of allotment number 6 be offered to Mr D Hogg of 9 Bevan Crescent, Wheatley Hill, Durham DH6 3LS.

(2) Village Newsletter

The Clerk reported that a village newsletter, jointly produced by the Parish Council and Friends of Wheatley Hill, had been delivered to every household in Wheatley Hill.

Funding for the newsletter was initially provided by County Councillors M Nicholls and L Hovvels from their Members Initiative Fund (MIF).

Funding from the MIF had covered production and printing costs for the newsletter. Delivery costs amounted to £150.00 which was made up of £37.50 from the MIF and the Parish Council made up the shortfall of £112.50.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(3) NJC for Local Government Services – National Pay Award 2014/2016

The Clerk reported that the NJC for Local Government Services had reached agreement on the 2014/2016 two year pay award. Members were advised that the pay award consisted of three elements.

- Payment in December 2014 of a non-consolidated lump sum payment.
- With effect from 1 January 2015 all salaries would be increased by 2.2% and these would be payable until 31 March 2016.
- A further lump sum payment would be paid to employees on Spinal Column Points 26 – 49 on 1 April.

In addition Spinal Column Point 5 would be deleted from 1 October 2015 and staff on this point would move up to SCP 6.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(4) Ex-Gratia Christmas Payments

The Chair suggested that an ex-gratia Christmas payment of £175.00 be made to J Davies, D Lamb and J Thompson.

RESOLVED that approval be granted for an ex-gratia payment of £175.00 to J Davies, D Lamb and J Thompson from the Chair's Account.

10 PAYMENTS

The Clerk presented Members with a report of all payments and receipts made since the last meeting.

Members were also provided with details of the financial position of the Parish Council in comparison with the annual budget.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted and the payments endorsed.

11 RISK M ANAGEMENT

The Clerk advised there was nothing to report.

12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) St Godrics RC School - Drama Club Performance

Councillors Mrs Carr and Mrs Stogdale reported they attended St Godrics RC School Drama Club performance about World War 1 on 12 November 2014. Both Councillors enjoyed the performance and asked that a letter of thanks be sent from the Parish Council.

RESOLVED that a letter of thanks be sent to St Godrics RC School.

(ii) Potholes

Councillors reported potholes to the rear of South View and Gable Terrace.

RESOLVED that the potholes be reported to Durham County Council.

..... Signed

.....Dated