



Birtley Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Birtley Parish Council held in the Supper Room of Birtley Village Hall starting at 8.00 pm. on 1st December 2015

03-12-01 **Present** Cllrs EN Coulson (Chairman), DRB Burn, SW Crone, J Robson and WG White. Clerk: Robert Macfarlane, County Cllr RM Gibson and one member of the public

03-12-02 **Apologies** A Lowes

03-12-03 **Declaration of Interest** None

03-12-04 **Minutes** The Minutes of the meeting held on 4th August were agreed and signed.

03-12-05 **Matters Arising**

- No matters arising

03-12-06 **Correspondence**

NCC Electronic Permit and Pay as You Throw, War Memorial Trust Bulletin, DVLA askMID, Tynedale Hospice at Home, Fibre Broadband –Garry Winship, Roger Albert Clark Rally, Dawn Citizens Advice Bureau, Northumbrian Citizens Advice Bureau, GNAA, Tynedale Sport, NCC Area Committee West meeting, CAN Newsletter and CAN.

03-12-07 **Budget and Precept**

The clerk provided an outline budget for the ensuing year. Looking at next year's spending the Council considered grant aid to support the village projects, website (Transparency Code) cost of repairing the playingfield wall and repairs, running and maintenance of the two grass mowers. It was RESOLVED that the precept should remain at £2,900 for the financial year 2016-2017

03-12-08 **Roads**

The Council discussed the bad state of repair, potholes and usual flooding issues.

03-12-09 **Council Website and Transparency Code**

The Clerk was asked to apply to NALC for grant aid in order for the Council to comply with the new Transparency Code.

03-12-10 **Planning Applications**

15/03321/FUL Proposed single storey rear extension Broadbank Cottage Wark NE48 3HE
Granted permission 25th November 2015

15/03563/VARCCM Specialist Planning Team Variation of conditions 2 (approved phasing plan) and 15 (depth of excavation) of application 13/01665/CCM
Milknock Quarry Bellingham NE498 3JN BPC has no objections to this application.

03-12-11 **Reports**

- **Village Hall** At present the committee is raising money for interior projects.
- **NCC** Cllr Gibson gave a verbal report.

03-12-12 **Ray Wind Farm**

When the wind turbines at Green Rigg were connected to the electric substation at Warden the parish experienced disruption and inconvenience over a long period of time. The Council believes it was given assurances (NCC and contractors etc) that in the event of any such road works happening again then there would be prior consultation. Councillors are concerned that the route of the connecting cables has already been decided. More alarming still is the knowledge that part of the cable route will block the main access road in and out of Birtley for a period of 35 weeks. The Council strongly objects to this planned route and asked the Clerk to write and urge Vattenfall (NCC and others involved) to reconsider this route. In particular “Section 9 Steward’s House to south Cowden” which is totally along carriage way and verge. (There is an alternative route through the adjoining land.)

03-12-13 **Fibre broadband**

Fibre broadband is now available in parts of North Tyne & Redesdale. The Clerk was asked to establish what costings had been calculated in this Northumberland project. Also what alternatives had been investigated or considered (satellite, wireless etc).

03-12-14 **Finances**

Payments The following were agreed: Clerk’s salary £200, HMRC £50, SLCC £20, Mower Fuel £39.78 (vat £1.89), Council Expenses £54.08 (vat £5.83)

Grants CAB £25, Sport Tynedale £25

s137 payments GNAA £25, CAN £15, Hospice £25

03-12-15 **Next Meeting**

Tuesday 15th March 2016 at 8pm in the Supper Room of Birtley Parish Hall

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 9.30 pm.