



## 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 Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2015.

04-03-01 **Present** Messrs EN Coulson (Chairman), J Robson, SW Crone, A Lowes and WG White. Clerk: Robert Macfarlane and County Cllr RM Gibson and one member of the public.

04-03-02 **Apologies** Cllr DRB Burn.

04-03-03 **Declaration of Interest** SW Crone – item 04-03-11 the move of County Hall from Morpeth to Ashington.

04-03-04 **Minutes** Minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014 were agreed and signed.

### 04-03-05 **Matters Arising**

- **Play Area** An invoice and receipt was received from Boyd Sport and Play Ltd for the sum of £480 (including £80 vat)
- **Secure Storage for Grass Mower** The storage cabin is now in situ on the playing field and it blends in well with the environment.
- **Playing Field Boundary Wall** The wall is in need of pointing and other repair. Cllr White will liaise with the builder (Mick Robson) when the weather improves.

04-03-06 **Correspondence** All councillors were circulated with a full list of correspondence. NCC Area Committee Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> March, Northumbrian CAB, CPRE, Age UK, Northumberland Local Plan Core Strategy consultation & Northumberland Residents' Festival.

- **Insurance Quotes** Quote for the parish insurance from Zurich Municipal - (cheaper and also giving better cover) renewal date - 1st June.
- **Letters of thanks** (for Grant Aid) were received from CAN, Tynedale Hospice, Sport Tynedale and Air Ambulance.

### 04-03-07 **Assets Register**

With the addition of the new Grass Mower and the Secure Lock-up Unit, the Council's assets amount to £27,155

#### 04-03-08 **Roads**

The Council are very pleased with the road maintenance and repairs carried out on the road to A68. However it was noted that some additional work is imminent (white marks on the road). Road works on u5035 Piper Lane have vastly improved the surface conditions and more work is expected. The C213 road down to Wark requires carriageway patching and repair works.

**Rubbish/Dog Bin** The Council considered if there was a need of extra provision for Birtley residents. There is a bin at the Bridge End and a dog bin past the Creel on the Blindburn Road.

04-03-09 **Footpaths** No issues.

#### 04-03-10 **Planning**

##### **Northumberland County Council Planning Applications**

Application **14/03384/FUL** Proposed sub-station to house electrical switchgear within existing site. BAE Systems The Steel Bellingham NE48 2EZ Granted 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014

#### 04-03-11 **Reports**

**Wark Bridge** - Most of the work (£3.1m) has been completed and the bridge is open now. However the painting needs finishing and scaffolding may take up to six weeks to dismantle and remove. Cllr Gibson also reported on NCC Planning Review, RVS service, VCS voluntary groups and Public Protection. He told members that he will forward details of these via e-mail.

##### **Straw Poll**

The Council RESOLVED to oppose the move of County Hall from Morpeth to Ashington.

#### 04-03-12 **Grass Mower Insurance**

The Clerk has obtained quotes from, NFU, Zurich, Border Counties, Towergate and BJP Ltd. Zurich Municipal has given the most competitive. Clerk was also asked to check with Lycetts.

#### 04-03-13 **FINANCES**

**Bank Statements** 1<sup>st</sup> December Treasurer's Account £871.44, BMM £2745.74

**Approved Payments** Clerk's salary £250, Clerk's expenses £38.27 (vat £3.33), Mower Fuel £59.65 (£9.94 vat), Mower Insurance £450.50, Mowers Service £310.14 (vat £51.69)

#### 04-03-14 **Next Meeting**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at 8pm in the Supper Room of Birtley Village Hall

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 9.15 pm.