



## **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 15<sup>th</sup> March 2016

04-03-01 **Present** Cllrs EN Coulson (Chairman), DRB Burn, A Lowes, SW Crone, J Robson and WG White. Clerk: Robert Macfarlane and one member of the public

04-03-02 **Apologies** County Cllr RM Gibson

04-03-03 **Declaration of Interest** None

04-03-04 **Minutes** The Minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015 were agreed and signed.

04-03-05 **Matters Arising**

- No matters arising

04-03-06 **Correspondence**

Active Northumberland Residents' Festival, Donation request from The Children's Foundation. CAN Newsletter and Nalc communications

- A letter from a resident about dog fouling was discussed.

04-03-07 **Roads**

The Council has been notified of temporary changes to Neighbourhood Services – Interim replacement Greg Gavin (01670622278) A member of the public has highlighted drainage problems at the top of the village; Clerk to liaise with NCC highways.

04-03-08 **Planning Applications**

**15/03321/FUL** Proposed single storey rear extension Broadbank Cottage Wark NE48 3HE  
Granted permission 25<sup>th</sup> 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.

04-03-09 **Reports**

- **Village Hall** At present the committee is raising money for interior projects.
- **NCC** No report.

04-03-10 **Ray Wind Farm**

CAN has issued a formal invitation to Birtley Parish Council to nominate a representative of the parish council to join the steering group for the Ray Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund. It was RESOLVED the Cllr Burn would be nominated.

04-03-11 **Council Website and Transparency Code**

The Audit Commission ceased to exist on the 1 April 2015 and the Council will have to comply to new legislation set by the Transparency Code. The Council were successful in a funding bid to create a new website that has to conform to CV3 standards and be mobile friendly. TWDA Ltd has designed the website and other contractual and formal arrangements will be required to maintain and regularly update the information on the site. The Council received information from Nalc concerning the future of External Audits for parish councils.

04-03-12 **Finances**

**Payments** The following were agreed: Clerk’s salary £200, HMRC £50, Clerk’s expenses £30.37 (vat £1.67), Zurich Municipal Mower Insurances £511.91, OneandOne Website (£11.99 plus £2.40 vat) £14.39, Computer & Scanner £450, Website hours £540, TWDA Website set-up and design £750. **NB** Chollerford Car Sales Petrol £60 (vat ) next year’s accounts (cheque 000401)

**Grant - s137 payment** Children’s Foundation £20.

**Queen’s Birthday Celebration 15<sup>th</sup> April** - s137 payment £49.75 - next year’s accounts (cheque 000406)

04-03-13 **Exclusion of Public and Press**

The Chairman proposed in accordance with Section 100a (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public and press were excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business because of the likelihood that otherwise exempt information would be disclosed. This was unanimously agreed. A member of the public left the room and the meeting continued in closed session. The Council discussed the Clerk’s Pay and Conditions of Employment.

04-03-14 **Next Meeting**

The Annual Meeting of the Parish will be followed by the Council Annual Meeting - Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2016 at 8pm in the Supper Room of Birtley Parish Hall  
There being no other business the meeting was closed at 9.30 pm.

Signed Chairman.....

Date.....3<sup>rd</sup> May 2016 .....