

Lartington Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held on May 10th 2016

Present

Mr. Campion, Mrs Parsons Munn, Mrs Cross, Mrs Stephenson, Mr Whetstone, Mrs Hinchliffe. Mr Jerred (Clerk).

Election of Officers

Chair : Mrs Parsons Munn was elected unanimously

Vice-Chair : Mr Whetstone was elected unanimously.

Bank Mandate : It was agreed that Mr Campion, Mrs Cross and Mrs Parsons Munn should continue to be signatories to the bank account.

Acceptance of office forms were then signed.

01. Recording of the meeting

The Chair opened the meeting by enquiring whether anyone present intended to make a recording of the meeting. No one had such an intention.

02. Apologies

The clerk reported that Mr. Crawford had submitted an apology due to important personal commitments. It was unanimously resolved that this be accepted and approved.

03. Disclosures of Interest

There were none.

04. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on March 8th were read and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the proceedings of that meeting.

05. Matters Arising

- a. The clerk stated that he had reported the problem with overhanging branches on the B6277 but that since nothing appeared to have been done, he would follow this up. The condition of the trees on the south side of the road was queried, one having fallen earlier in the year, and the clerk agreed to include this in his report to DCC.
- b. Lartington Mausoleum - it was reported that the post had now been removed but that it appeared that visitors to the mausoleum were not permitted vehicular access. The clerk was instructed to contact Rev. Warren for an update on discussions between the Diocese and the Hall.

06. Items of Urgent Business

There were none.

07. Principal Correspondence

- a. Various emails routinely circulated
- b. Heart of Teesdale – newsletters
- c. Helen Goodman - the clerk reported that no reply had been received regarding our response to her FOI request but that he was concerned that a postcode error might explain this.
- d. Pensions - the clerk reported that although the salary of the clerk was such that a pension provision was not required, the council was still required to register with the Pensions Regulator.
- e. Transparency Code Funding - the clerk reported that the council was able to claim for software and clerk's time to continue to develop the website to meet obligations under the code.
- f. Sheepwatch - a new initiative has been launched to try to reduce incidents of dog attacks on sheep. It was agreed this could be a topic for a future newsletter.

08. Statement of Accounts/Precept

The clerk reported that there was £2289.77 in the current account and £368.29 in the Deposit Account.

09. Annual Governance Statement/Annual Return

The council considered the Annual Governance Statement required by the Annual Return and was able to agree all points. The Annual Return was considered and signed by the clerk, as Responsible Financial Officer and the Chair. The clerk reported that he had completed the Fixed Asset Register and the Bank Reconciliation for the year end and that these would be placed on the website in due course.

10. Accounts to be paid

Hall Hire	£15
HMRC	£40
Clerks Salary	£160
Stamps	£17.38
Zurich Municipal	£212.20

11. PACT and Speedwatch

The clerk reported that a speed watch exercise had been conducted with the help of Mr Campion. This had taken place early in the afternoon and only minor transgressions had been recorded. It was agreed that Mr Crawford be contacted in order to arrange for an exercise to be carried out at peak times.

12. Highway Issues

The problem of drainage on Lartington Green Lane was raised. Mrs Parsons Munn reported on problems at Grove Cottage and that it was evident that drainage ditches needed clearing, that drains were blocked and that a conduit in the area of the Rigg appeared either damaged or inadequate. It was agreed that the clerk raise the matter with DCC.

13 Footpath Issues inc. Relocation of Footpath at Lartington Hall

The proposal to re-route the footpath in the area of Stable Lodge had been well advertised and it was agreed that no objection should be raised.

The re-surfacing of the private road leading to Grey Close/Dairy Cottage, which had involved the establishment of several substantial "speed bumps" was discussed but it was agreed that this was a matter for those with rights of vehicular access.

Blocked paths in Deepdale were again discussed and it was agreed that Mrs Parsons Munn would contact Mike Murden.

Mrs Parsons Munn raised the misuse of dog "poo bags", commenting that it was now quite common to see these hanging off trees or in hedgerows. It was agreed that some form of campaign was needed to educate the public in the proper disposal of these and it was agreed that the clerk would seek to raise this with other councils at the forthcoming CDALC meeting.

14. Planning Matters

The clerk reported that there were no new planning applications. Previous applications relating to Station House and Stable Lodge had now been approved.

15. Date of Future Meetings

July 12th September 13th November 8th