

**Lartington Parish Council**  
**Minutes of Meeting held on July 14th 2015**

**Present**

Mr. Campion, Mrs Cross, Mrs Stephenson, Mr Whetstone. Mr Jerred (Clerk).  
Apologies had been received from Mrs Hinchliffe and Mrs Parsons Munn.

**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 Mrs. Hinchliffe and Mrs Parsons Munn had submitted apologies because they had important personal commitments. It was unanimously resolved that these apologies be accepted and approved

**03. Disclosures of Interest**

There were none.

**04. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on May 5th were read and signed by the Vice-Chairman as a true record of the proceedings of that meeting.

**05. Matters Arising**

- a. Highways – the clerk reported that he had agreed with Mr Whetstone that it was best to monitor the road outside Gresham Cottage at this stage. To ascertain whether recent work undertaken by DCC had resolved problems of drainage.
- b. Tree felling in Deepdale – the clerk reported that he had received a note from Jum Jones, a newly appointed Tree Officer, asking for more detailed information and that Mrs Parsons Munn had agreed to follow this up.
- c. PP3 grant for repairs to footpaths in the Cat Castle area – the clerk reported that Craig Gibson had been instructed to proceed with this work.
- d. Vacancy for Councillor – the clerk reported that there was no call for an election and that the council could now co-opt in the usual manner. A notice was being placed in the noticeboard to invite anyone who might be interested to put their name forward. He reported that a written expression of interest had already been received from Mr Crawford.
- e. Insurance – the clerk reported that all items identified on Asset Register are now named and covered on the policy. A small increase in premium had been waived by Zurich
- f. Auditing of accounts – the clerk reported that the internal audit was now complete, and that documents were documents now with the external auditor.

## **06. Items of Urgent Business**

a. Footpath outside The Thatch – it was reported that the property hedge was overhanging the pavement. The clerk explained that DCC would pursue this on our behalf but it was agreed that a quiet word with the property owner was all that was needed at this stage. It was also agreed that a notice be prepared for the noticeboard requesting that residents endeavour to keep hedges trimmed to allow the passage of pushchairs and other foot traffic.

## **07. Principal Correspondence**

- a. Various emails - routinely circulated
- b. CDALC – Annual General Meeting is 22<sup>nd</sup> June
- c. New pension arrangements – the clerk reported that we were likely to be exempt from these but that he was required to register with the Pensions Regulator.
- d. Durham Community Action “Wellbeing for Life” Project – the clerk reported that he had registered our interest in this project but had not had any response from the project co-ordinator.

## **08. Statement of Accounts/Precept**

The clerk reported that there was £1590.10 in the current account and £366.05 in the Deposit Account.

## **09. Accounts to be paid**

Hall Hire	£15	Clerks Salary	£160
HMRC	£40		

## **10. PACT and Speedwatch**

The clerk reported that some Speedwatch exercises had taken place but that he was unable to report the facts and figures because Liz Finn was on holiday. Disappointment was expressed that promises made by the Police Officer to conduct speed gun exercises and to seek publicity for this through the local press had not been followed up, although it was agreed that PCSO Finn was doing her best to support us.

The clerk reported that Chief Constable Mike Barton was due to attend a forthcoming CDALC Meeting and it was agreed that the matter be raised directly with him on this occasion. The clerk believed that other councils shared our frustrations with Speedwatch.

## **11. Highway Issues**

- a. Drainage – it was again mentioned that when DCC had recently cleaned the drains, much of the rubbish removed had simply been left on the roadside. The clerk reported that he had raised this matter with DCC but it was unclear whether the rubbish had been removed. It was agreed to monitor this.
- b. The bin adjacent to the noticeboard – Mr Campion again reported that this had not been replaced despite repeated requests. The clerk agreed to report this once more.

## **12. Planning Matters**

The clerk reported that applications had been made to remove Leylandii trees at Hallgarth and Marian Cottages.

**13. Date of Future Meetings**

Sept 8<sup>th</sup>

November 10<sup>th</sup>

January 12<sup>th</sup>