

Gainford & Langton

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 1st JULY 2019

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS: L. Johnstone (Chair), S. Hannan, R. Roff, S. Platten,
J. Coomer.
Clerk: M. Clark

Visitors:

Public Participation:

No members of the public present

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies were tendered and approved for Cllr's Britton (personal) and Smith (work). No apologies were received from Cllr Charge

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:

None declared

3. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13 MAY & ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 20 MAY 2019:

RESOLVED: The minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on the 13 May 2019 were proposed as a true record by Cllr Roff and seconded by Cllr Coomer
The minutes of the Annual Parish meeting were noted.

4. CHAIRS REPORT:

Attended Gainford Fun & Sports Day (Opened event)
Helped Cllr Britton with the NP table at the Fun Day and spoke to a number of residents
Met with the Clerk in month to keep abreast of any ongoing issues.

5. PROGRESS REPORT:

The Clerk referred to his written report

- Members were informed of the issues with the new bench – badly built and very poor quality. Several conversations in month trying to find a solution resulted in the bench being taken back and the order cancelled. A similar bench type will now be sourced.

- Members were aware of Durham County Council contacting it about an expression of interest made for land at Selaby Court. On behalf of the council I went back to DCC saying the council would not want to see this land sold for possibly housing because of the

importance of the orchard access from that land and more. It has now been confirmed they are happy to consider a disposal of the land to the parish council, subject to the necessary consents obtained. DCC will contact the parish in the next few months to progress matters.

A further update was given on enquiries made to North Star Housing over the recent sale of one parcel of land where the garages were previously so a garden could be extended. The council had asked North Star Housing to consider offering the land to the parish council because it wanted to be able to secure off street parking if possible.

The response was that in the short to medium term as they still have garages on the site they would not consider selling as one parcel of land. When they no longer had use for the garages and access they will speak to the council.

It was noted the area around the area had loose rubble lying about where the garages were. North Star should be asked if they could tidy this up.

RESOLVED: The Clerks report was noted.

6. 2019 BONFIRE EVENT:

The Clerk confirmed the date of the 2019 event would be Saturday 2nd November. In the absence of Cllr Charge the Clerk referred members to incidents with the volunteer bucket collectors around the entrance to the green, down passed the old butchers, and beside the pub. A number of people were unnecessarily rude or aggressive to the collectors. It has been suggested that to better contain access to the event and organising the collectors, this entrance is shut off using Heras fencing, and the rear entry to the pub not used as a cut through. Funnelling spectators to 2 main controlled areas (alleyway and Tees View).

A discussion took place on the idea and ways to obtain the maximum amount of donations. A suggestion was made that all those who made a donation were given a sticker. This would help the collectors not ask people more than once.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Platten the matters are discussed at the September council meeting. Included in the discussions would be the question as to whether the 2019 event goes ahead

7. FINANCE REPORT:

7.1 The July/August Financial Report

RESOLVED: The July/August Financial Report and payments were proposed as a true record by Cllr Coomer and seconded by Cllr Platten.

With the agreement of the Chair item 7.2 was not discussed under exclusion of the press and public.

7.2 Review of the councils sports coaching sessions

Cllr Johnstone informed members that the walking football was now becoming intergenerational and the numbers continue to rise. The circuit training and multi sport sessions are well attended.

It was proposed by Cllr Hannan that the council move £2000 from its reserves to the youth/sports budget to enable the sessions to continue throughout the summer. A review

should take place in September. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Platten.

8. LOCAL MAINTENANCE:

None reported

9. PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY:

Members were informed on Cllr Bayles resignation. The Clerk will notify DCC and the vacancy will be officially advertised.

10. CORRESPONDENCE:

None

11. PLANNING INCLUDING NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING UPDATES:

We are now finalising our final questionnaire regarding policies based on research findings from last questionnaire.

This will go out to all households with a stamped addressed envelope addressed to potential planning for people to respond. We will also continue face to face engagement and policies will be run past council for feedback.

This feedback will then be analysed and then dropped into the NP plan. This will then be sent to DCC for it's mot before going before the parish for its referendum in the autumn.

Feedback from both summer events was positive with parking, road access and volume of traffic and green policies issues that people raised with us.

12. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS:

Monday 2nd September 2019 (Supper Room) Gainford Village Hall

For news and council documents visit:

<https://gainfordandlangtonparishcouncil.org.uk/>

Abbreviations: DCC - Durham County Council
NP – Neighbourhood Plan

Signed.....

Dated.....

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Dated.....

