

Gainford & Langton

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 4 OCTOBER 2023

COUNCILLORS: Jackson, Hannan, Platten & Van Mourik

Clerk: Martin Clark

Visitors: Teesdale Mercury

Public Participation: None

In the absence of the Chair Cllr Jackson took the meeting.

1. Acceptance, or otherwise of apologies

Cllr Wilkinson submitted his apologies.

Resolved – That the submitted apologies be approved.

2. Declarations of Interest:

Members are asked to consider whether they might have a personal or a pecuniary interest

in any matter included on the agenda for this meeting. If so, it is requested that any such interest be declared now. If subsequently during the consideration of any matter, it becomes apparent to any member that he/she does, indeed, have an interest, it should then be declared immediately.

Resolved – No personal or pecuniary declarations were made.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the ordinary Council meeting held on 13 September 2023.

Resolved - That the minutes of the ordinary Council Meeting of the 13 September 2023 be approved.

4. Clerks Report

Received – Clerks report (Appendix A).

Resolved – That the Clerk's Report be received and noted .

5. Finance

5.1 October reconciliation and invoices for approval (submitted).

Resolved – That the October reconciliation and payments be approved.

5.2 To consider a request to financially support a competition for the best village floral front garden/window box in summer 2024.

Resolved – Members agreed that in principle it agrees to support but requires the group making the request to quantify what they are considering – what categories; children's category; are the schools to be involved; is it vouchers or cash prizes etc.

5.3 Completion of the 2022/23 Audit.

The 2022/23 external audit has been completed with no qualifications.

Resolved – That the information be received and noted.

6. Village Issues/Maintenance

6.1 Bus Shelter repainted – noted during Clerk's report.

6.2 Santa's Sleigh

(Minute 7.3/December/22 refers) - That the council donate £250 this year and each year for the next 5 years (on review) toward the upkeep of the sleigh and ensuring this tradition continues.

Cllr Jackson referred that in December 22 the council did not donate the agreed amount due to no invoice being received.

Resolved – That the council donate £500, being the award from 2022 and 2023 toward the upkeep of the village Santa's Sleigh on receipt of an appropriate invoice.

6.3 A note of thanks to the volunteers who autumn cleaned the area around School Lane. The whole area has been much improved.

6.4 Cllr Hannan raised concerns of the speed of traffic going West to East through the village following another accident recently. Could DCC be requested to carry out a traffic survey.

7. Bonfire Event

7.1 Message placed on website and Facebook seeking volunteer bucket collectors. The Clerk referred to difficulties in securing both fire engine and medical cover but these are being worked on.

A call out will go out for those bucket collectors and assistance on the Sunday for clear up.

7.2 Members to nominate someone to secure the bucket collections following the event and to arrange counting, and banking.

This item was deferred until the November meeting.

7.3 To consider nominations for September 2024 firework training course.

This item was deferred until the November meeting.

8. GAP Development

The Clerk informed members the grant application was now in its final stages going forward.

Resolved – That the information be received and noted.

9. Correspondence

Submitted – Details of correspondence received.

DCC	St Peter's
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Resolved – That the information be noted.

10. Planning

None

11. Date & time of next meeting

Wednesday 1 November 2023, 7pm

Minutes 04 October 2023

Meeting closed.

Appendix A

Clerk Report

Bus shelter at Lord Nelson Island has been repainted and cleaned of graffiti.

Buddleia at Piggy Lane cut back as requested by a resident.

Bonfire event issues being actioned – on agenda.

Facebook call out posted for bucket collectors on the bonfire evening.

Graffiti on the building owned by Northumbrian water was discussed as the parish council should not be cleaning buildings/property it doesn't have responsibility for but should contact the owners to take action.

Christmas tree on the island – the problem is the same as in 2022 with erecting the tree and lights. A company called Christmas Plus that erect Christmas light displays has been contacted with a view to possibly being contracted for 2024 should the council consider lighting the large trees on the island rather than erecting a tree.