

West Rainton & Leamside Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held

at 19:00 on 20th April 2023

At St Mary's Church Meeting Room, West Rainton

Present: Councillors M Boettcher, I Diggory, B Kellett, M Massey, P Morson, K Wood & A Wallage (Chairperson)

In Attendance:

M Ramshaw (Parish Clerk)

Michael Ball – Durham County Council Safer Communities Team

NOTE The meeting was not audio or video recorded.

1) Apologies

No apologies were received.

2) Declarations of interest

It was agreed that declarations of interest would be dealt with as and when the need arose.

3) Public Participation

There were no members of the public in attendance.

4) Anti-Social Behaviour Update

Michael Ball advised members of his role in working within communities around anti-social behaviour. He advised that he had been speaking to residents and was currently building a picture of ASB within West Rainton and Leamside. He advised that there wasn't a great deal of information recorded and that it may be the case that people weren't reporting ASB to the Police, but he did advise this is a common theme across the County.

Michael advised that he would co-ordinate an awareness raising event within the parish, with organisations such as fire, police, neighbourhood wardens, county councillors and the ASB dedicated team all in attendance. He hoped this would be in the next few months. It will target how to report incidents and give members of the public an opportunity to speak to the services in person.

Michael advised members that a MAPS meeting is held on a monthly basis with representatives from police, fire, education and health services. He agreed to take the issues within the parish to this meeting to agree an approach moving forward.

Signature.....

Date.....

Michael also advised members of the Community Action Team (CAT) who carry out intensive work in an area for 6 weeks. They do various things such as check empty properties, check vehicles and hold surgeries. Due to their workload their involvement could not happen this year but Michael agreed to put forward the parish to the CAT.

5) Minutes

Parish Council resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th March 2023 be approved as a correct record.

6) Parish Councillor Vacancies

The Parish Clerk advised that there had been no applicants for the current vacancies. The Parish Clerk suggested a new deadline date of 8th June 2023 for applications to be considered under the co-option process. **Parish Council resolved** to approve the next deadline for applications.

Signature.....

Date.....

7) Finance Report

PART A: FOR INFORMATION					
1. INCOME		DCC	£39,271.94		
		Memorial Leaf (VP)	£150.00		
		Memorial Leaf (AH)	£150.00		
2. EXPENDITURE					
A) Expenditure previously agreed by Parish Council due this month					
ITEM	PAYEE	PURPOSE	AMOUNT (£)	CHEQUE NO.	
1	M Ramshaw	Parish Clerk Net Salary - April 23	441.39	303371	
2	HM Revenue and Customs Only 465PD00171320	HMRC Liability - April 23	110.20	303372	
3	Special Branch Tree Services Ltd	Cemetery grounds maintenance Mar 23	373.16	303373	
4	Severn C Products Limited	King Charles Coin for Coronation x 185	644.70	303374	
5	Gallagher	Annual Insurance 15/3/23-14/3/24	763.53	303375	
		TOTAL	2332.98		
B) Expenditure requiring approval					
ITEM	PAYEE	PURPOSE	AMOUNT (£)	BUDGET PROVISION	CHEQUE NO.
6	Odlings Ltd	Supply of Memorial Leaf (SB)	85.20	Y	303376
7	Odlings Ltd	Supply of Memorial Leaf (VP)	85.20	Y	303377
8	M Ramshaw	Reimbursement - 1st class stamps (£11.40) & 2 x reams of A4 paper (£8.00)	19.40	Y	303378
9	M Ramshaw	Reimbursement Printer Cartridge x 1 Black	21.53	Y	303379
10	CDALC	Annual Membership 2023/24	326.93	Y	303380
11	G Coates	General maintenance Heritage Garden and War Memorial	90.00	Y	303381
12	Institute of Cemetery & Crematorium Management	Annual Subs 2023/24	95.00	Y	303382
		TOTAL	723.26		
Total Expenditure A + B			3056.24		

Parish Council resolved to:

- 1) Note income and expenditure reported for information in Part A
- 2) Approve expenditure listed in Part B

Signature.....

Date.....

8) Planning Applications

The Parish Clerk referred members to four applications within the Parish which had been circulated by Durham County Council on the weekly updates. After consideration there were no comments to note on either application. Cllr Wallage advised members that the application for the fishing ponds at Ryehill Farm had been withdrawn and that the application for the Football Centre was expected to be considered by DCC Planning Committee 6th June 2023.

9) 2022/23 Budget – Q4 Bank Reconciliation

The Parish Clerk referred members to the Q4 bank reconciliation. Cllr Diggory agreed to check the reconciliation against the bank statement and sign off for accuracy.

10) Budget Position Q4 2022/23

The Parish Clerk referred members to the previously circulate Q4 budget update. The Parish Clerk advised members on the information and there were no questions. Parish Council noted the Report.

11) New Telegraph Pole Installations

Cllr Wallage referred members to the information circulated regarding the proposal for two new telegraph poles within the Village which will be used to support the broadband infrastructure. Parish Council are unable to appeal against the installation as the Companies have legal powers to carry out the work. After some discussion Parish Council agreed that the installation would help improve the broadband infrastructure within the Parish.

12) Community Emergency Plan

Cllr Wallage referred members to an update report. A session was held in Jubilee Hall facilitated by the Community Emergency Group (CEG) in a bid to engage the community and hopefully get some support for the project. Four residents attended. Despite this disappointing turnout, the Group do however feel there are enough people to help put a plan together and will continue to work on the project.

13) Arden House

Cllr Diggory advised that he spoke to Believe Housing and is awaiting a response to the queries. He advised that he would bring a report to the next Parish Council meeting.

14) West Rainton & Leamside Village Partnership update

Cllr Wallage advised that a meeting had not taken place. The AGM is to be held next week.

15) Smaller Councils Forum Update

Signature.....

Date.....

Cllr Boettcher advised that training for parish councillors is to come online in September.

16) General Correspondence

Cllr Wood asked if members would review the email regarding the AAP and comment on the consultation link with any views they have.

Cllr Wallage advised members that parish councillors are invited to a walkabout organised by the PCSO at 10.30 am on 26th April. Cllr Massey advised he would try and attend.

17) Annual Parish Meeting

The Parish Clerk reminded members that the annual parish meeting is to be held 18:30 on 25th May 2023. Dave Clarke, the Inspector for the Durham Neighbourhoods Policing Team, will be in attendance.

18) Date and Time of Next Meeting

Parish Council noted the date and time of next meeting: Thursday 18th May 2023 at 19:00 in St Marys Church Meeting Room.

Signature.....

Date.....