

West Rainton & Leamside Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held

at 19:00 on 15th June 2023

At St Mary's Church Meeting Room, West Rainton

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

In Attendance:
M Ramshaw (Parish Clerk)

NOTE The meeting was not audio or video recorded.

1) Apologies

No apologies were received from Cllrs Kellett and Morson. **Parish Council resolved** to not approve these absences.

2) Appointment of Representative to Smaller Council Forum

Cllr Boettcher advised members that she wished to continue as the representative. Cllr Boettcher advised that she would welcome other members attending alongside her. Cllr Wood confirmed his interest and that he would attend with Cllr Boettcher.

3) Co-Option to Parish Councillor Vacancies

The Parish Clerk advised that despite adverts on Facebook and the website there continues to be no interest in the current vacancies.

Cllr Diggory suggested that perhaps the Parish Council should have a presence at the monthly Village Market which is well attended. Cllr Boettcher advised she would attend on 24th June.

Members also discussed creating a poster/leaflet which could be displayed in prominent places such as Jubilee Hall.

Parish Council resolved to agree the next deadline for applications to be 13th September 2023.

4) Declarations of interest

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

Signature.....

Date.....

5) Public Participation

No members of the public were in attendance.

6) Minutes

Parish Council resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18th May2023 be approved as a correct record.

7) Finance Report

PART A: FOR INFORMATION					
1. INCOME		Memorial Leaf (HT)	£167.00		
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 - June 23	441.39	303393	
2	HM Revenue and Customs Only 465PD00171320	HMRC Liability - June 23	110.20	303394	
3	Special Branch Tree Services NE Ltd	Village Green Maintenance - May 23	336.00	303395	
4	Special Branch Tree Services NE Ltd	Cemetery Maintenance - May 23	373.16	303396	
		TOTAL	1260.75		
B) Expenditure requiring approval					
ITEM	PAYEE	PURPOSE	AMOUNT (£)	BUDGET PROVISION	CHEQUE NO.
5	M Ramshaw	Reimbursement 1 x HP Black Printer Cartridge	38.87	Y	303397
6	M Ramshaw	Reimbursement for Cemetery Water Supply (2/2-1/5/23) Paid online by MR due to timescales	16.52	Y	303398
7	G Coates	Maintenance - Heritage Garden shrubs and hedges, cemetery beds, painted woodwork in HG, cut grass at war memorial, topped up planters with compost.	266.00	Y	303399
8	M Ramshaw	Reimbursement - Bedding Plants (Shincliffe Mill Nursery)	490.00		303400
9	Odlings Ltd	Mulberry Leaf (HT)	97.80	Y	303401
10	West Rainton and Leamside Village Partnership	Grant extension application - Because We Care West Rainton	300.00	Y	303402
		TOTAL	1209.19		
Total Expenditure A + B			2469.94		

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 one application that had been received in the weekly updates. Parish Council did not feel it necessary to comment. Cllr Wallage advised that the Football Centre application was going to Planning Committee on July 4th 2023. She advised that Nick Rippon had been in touch on behalf of Mary Foy MP, and they wished to hold a public meeting on the afternoon of Friday 23rd June 2023. Members were asked to attend if they were available.

9) County Durham Division Boundary Changes

Cllr Wallage referred to the second round of consultation information circulated by the Parish Clerk. The closure date for this consultation exercise was 12 July. Parish Council noted that in response to objections submitted during the first consultation round, (where it was proposed that West Rainton be joined with Framwellgate Moor and Newton Hall,) a revised proposal had now been made. This new proposal was to add West Rainton to the existing Lumley Division as the proposal of joining West Rainton with Belmont, as had been suggested by the Parish Council, was not supported within the defined criteria. Parish Council discussed the potential impact of a new Lumley and West Rainton electoral division and other potential options.

Parish Council resolved to delegate the response to this second consultation round to Cllrs Diggory and Wallage after they discussed the revised proposal with Cllr Kellett.

10) School Avenue Park Project

Cllr Wallage advised members that the shortfall in funding for the Parish Council's agreed GYM scheme of £6000, reported at the last meeting, had been discussed further with DCC officers. Additional S106 monies were now available and subsequently a revised application for S106 monies has been submitted by the Outdoor Facilities manager for the full amount required. A decision on this grant application and the AAP grant application is still awaited.

11) Arden House

Cllr Diggory advised that he had a reply from Believe Housing which confirmed the requirements should the Parish Council wish to enter into a lease agreement to run the community elements of the building. Discussions took place around possible uses and the fact no one had been in touch regarding trying to reopen the building. In view of the limited community need and the level of resources required, Parish Council considered it was unable to justify taking the potential project any further. Cllr Diggory agreed to write to Believe Housing to advise them that any interest was now ended.

Signature.....

Date.....

12) West Rainton & Leamside Village Partnership update

No meeting has taken place.

13) Smaller Councils Forum Update

Cllr Boettcher advised that there had been a presentation explaining the current DCC Consultation exercise on Public Rights of Way. Cllr Boettcher advised that she had been elected as vice-chair.

14) General Correspondence

The Parish Clerk advised that there was to be a briefing on The Governments Anti-Social Behaviour Action Plan for Parish and Town Councils by Police and Crime Commissioner's Chief of Staff, Andrea Petty on Tues 20th June at 6 – 6.45pm. This is to be held on Microsoft Teams – online.

Cllr Diggory advised he would attend.

Cllr Wallage advised members that it been a busy period getting the new planters put in situ and planted up and asked that if they noticed any needing watering could they please help out.

15) Date and Time of Next Meeting

Parish Council noted the date and time of next meeting: Thursday 13th July 2023 at 19:00 in St Marys Church Meeting Room.

Signature.....

Date.....