

WINSTON PARISH COUNCIL

**NOTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF WINSTON PARISH COUNCIL
THURSDAY 14th JUNE 2018 AT 7PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL
Notice of the meeting had been given in accordance with the Local
Government Act 1972**

Present: Cllrs Cook (Chair), Fenwick and Race.

As the meeting was not quorate it was agreed to discuss the agenda but to defer any decisions until the July 2018 Parish Council meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Taylor, Pattison, Smith and Clark.

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meetings (AGM and Ordinary Meeting)

The minutes of the previous meetings, AGM and Ordinary Parish meeting, held on 10th May 2018 are to be considered at the Council's July 2018 meeting.

The Clerk reported that as requested at the last meeting she had forwarded photographs of the advertising sign for Gainford Fish and Chip shop in the field adjacent to the A67 and asked DCC if such a sign adjacent to the highway was legal. On 12th June 2018 Mr Neil Fawcett of DCC had confirmed that the sign had been erected without authorisation and following discussions with the owner had now been removed.

4. Consideration of Current Planning Applications

The Clerk reported that since the Council's last meeting DCC had published one planning application within the Parish of Winston the week commencing 25th May 2018. This application of DM/18/01520/FPA for a two storey rear extension, The Gables, Front Street, Winston. Details of this application had been shared with all Cllrs prior to the meeting and there had been no objections submitted.

Cllrs noted that there had been no further information regarding the proposed large scale development on the field next to The Bridgewater Arms.

ACTION: The Clerk to request from Mr Tim Burnham, DCC Planning Officer an update prior to the Council's July 2018 meeting.

5. Teesdale Local Councils Forum Update:

The Clerk reported that no further information has been received from Mr David Kinch regarding the next meeting of the Teesdale Local Councils Forum.

6. Smaller Local Councils Forum Update:

The Clerk reported that Cllr Taylor had attended the last Smaller Local Councils Forum meeting on 24th May 2018 at Bishop Auckland. Cllr Taylor had been elected as Chair of the Forum. The main points of discussion were the General Data Protection Regulations and the excessive amount of work being given to Parish Clerks.

7. Teesdale Residents' and Travellers' Forum Update:

Cllr Cook reminded all that travellers had arrived at the village's temporary stop-over site well before the official date of 24th May 2018. He expressed disappointment that despite numerous requests from himself and Cllr Taylor to DCC for them to provide toilets earlier than planned to the site these were not provided. This has highlighted that if it is not possible for DCC to provide such facilities earlier than planned they need to have in place a suitable contingency plan. This matter will be raised at the next Teesdale Residents' and Travellers' Forum meeting.

The Clerk reported that Cllr Taylor had informed her that the travellers in-situ currently at the site have requested from DCC a dedicated water bowser. This request has been turned down as it is felt that such a facility at this location would not be appropriate.

Cllrs noted that caravans and horses have been at the village's 'temporary' stop-over since since 8th May 2018 and been present throughout the entire time with some appearing to travel daily to Appleby by motor vehicle. At the time of the Parish Council meeting many travellers are still present on the site and concern was expressed regarding the close proximity of the travellers horses to the A67 as well as regular bonfires being lit. For the duration of the travellers attendance at the site the nearby playing field has had to be locked meaning that this facility is unavailable to residents and visitors. It was agreed that this matter should be raised with DCC Officers to request that they investigate the length of time which the site has been inhabited by the same travellers.

ACTION: The Clerk to inform Cllr Taylor of the points of discussion from the meeting to ensure these are fed back into the next Forum meeting.

ACTION: Cllr Race to contact Ms Louise Stokoe of DCC to make her aware of the situation with the long-staying travellers at what is a temporary stop-over site in Winston.

8. General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) Update:

The Clerk circulated to all an 8 step action plan for the Parish Council becoming fully compliant with GDPR. Actions 1 and 2 have been fully completed and were approved by the Council in March 2018. The Clerk reported that actions 3 to 8 related to policies and procedures which needed to be prepared. The Clerk has now drafted such policies and procedures and issued them electronically to all Cllrs for consideration.

ACTION: All draft GDPR policies and procedures to be placed onto the Council's July 2018 meeting agenda for discussion and adoption.

9. Consideration of Durham County Council's Consultation Exercise Regarding the Gambling Act 1995:

Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated to all Cllrs details of DCC's current consultation exercise regarding the Gambling Act 1995. Cllrs did not have any comments on this consultation as this was not a matter which impacted upon the Parish.

10. Consideration of Potential Request For Tree Protection Orders:

Cllr Clark had informed the Clerk that a member of the public had approached him with the suggestion that a Tree Protection Order be placed on the horse chestnut outside The Bridgewater Arms. The Clerk reported that Cllr Taylor had also been contacted by the same member of the public who had wished to make the Parish Council aware that he (the resident) had had an on-site meeting with DCC's Tree Officer who agreed that such an Order should be placed and would recommend such, however, the final decision would be made by the Chief Planning Officer. The resident concerned said he would keep the Parish Council updated on any further developments.

11. Northumbrian Water Inspection Cover Update:

The Clerk reported that since the last Parish Council meeting Cllr Pattison had made her aware that the Northumbrian Water Inspection Cover located in the middle of the footpath opposite the Village Hall had started to rise again and posed a tripping hazard. The Clerk had duly reported this to Northumbrian Water and received confirmation on 13th June 2018 that appropriate repair work had been carried out. Cllr Race confirm that work had been carried out and had forwarded to the Clerk for the records a photograph of the cover following repair.

12. Public Attendance:

No members of the public were in attendance.

13. VAT Reclaim 2017/18 Update:

The Clerk reported that HMRC have confirmed they are now processing the Parish Councils VAT Reclaim for 2017/18 totalling £647.66. Cllr Race pointed out that if HMRC do not pay reclaims within a stipulated time period then they are obliged to an interest charge.

ACTION: The Clerk to keep Cllrs updated on this matter.

ACTION: Cllr Race to investigate the matter of interest payments for non-payment of VAT reclaims within a stipulated time period.

14. Approval of Payment of Accounts:

The Clerk reported that the following accounts required payment:

- Information Commissioner (annual fees) £35.00
- Design365 (website updates) £110.26
- C A Stamp (grass cutting) £348.00

- County Durham Association of Local Councils (2018/19 subscription fees) £77.86

AGREED: Cllr Cook and Fenwick signed the cheques.

ACTION: The Clerk to post cheques.

15. Date and Time of Next Two Meetings:

AGREED as Thursday 12th July 2018 and Thursday 9th August 2018.

Meeting closed at 7.40p.m.

Dr Jane Ayre (Parish Clerk)