

# WINSTON PARISH COUNCIL

**NOTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF WINSTON PARISH COUNCIL  
THURSDAY 9<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2018 AT 7PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL  
Notice of the meeting had been given in accordance with the Local  
Government Act 1972**

**Present: Cllrs Taylor (Chair), Pattison, Fenwick, Cook, Race, Smith and Clark.**

**1. Apologies for Absence**

None.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Fenwick declared an interest in the proposed large-scale planning application on the field adjacent to the Bridgewater Arms. No other Cllrs made any declarations.

**3. Minutes of the Previous Meetings held 12<sup>th</sup> July 2018:**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2018 were proposed by Cllr Race as being a true record and seconded by Cllr Cook. They were then duly signed by the Chair.

Cllr Fenwick expressed her thanks to Cllr Cook for the work he had done in preparing the Parish Council's most recent letter of objections to the proposed planning application in the field adjacent to the Bridgewater Arms. Fellow Cllrs echoed these thanks.

The Clerk reported that as requested at the last meeting she had reported to Mr Jonathan Cardy of DCC the Council's concerns regarding the new tarmac recently laid by DCC on the footpath adjoining the newly installed footpath at the West end of the village which was starting to lift up with grass growing through. Mr Cardy has now forwarded this issue to his Highways Operations Team who will undertake remedial works. The Clerk had also asked Mr Cardy to inspect the state of the footpath adjacent to the Bridgewater Arms which connects to the footpath next to the A67. A response is now awaited on that matter.

**4. Consideration of Current Planning Applications**

The Clerk reported that since the Council's last meeting DCC there had been no planning applications published within the Parish of Winston.

Cllr Fenwick reported that she had recently liaised with Mr John Anderson of Northumbrian Water (NWL) who had confirmed that NWL's entire focus with regards to matters relating to the proposed large scale housing development at the field adjacent to the Bridgewater Arms was upon the impact that such a development would have on that location and not upon the surrounding area. Mr Anderson had stated that infrastructure proposed on the site would mean that rainfall coming off that site into the

existing culvert would be 60-70% less than at present and therefore he did not have any concern with regards the development. Cllr Cook stated that the Parish Council's concerns regarding this development did focus upon the much wider impacts upon the locality and immediately surrounding area and Cllrs AGREED that it was important for the Parish Council to continue to ensure those concerns were expressed. Cllr Fenwick reported that Mr Brian Featherstone of DCC was due to visit the site very soon and she had requested to be present at such a meeting and would share details of this meeting when known with other Cllrs. Cllr Fenwick had noted from DCC's planning portal that there have been lots of other objections submitted regarding this site with particular concerns regarding the proposed acoustic barriers and their ability to reduce noise as well as their visual impact. From the objections submitted it was clear that there were differing views as to where and how such barriers would be created between the proposed development and the A67. It was AGREED that clarification regarding this matter be obtained from Mr Tim Burnham, DCC's Planning Officer.

**ACTION: The Clerk to liaise with Mr Tim Burnham, DCC Planning Officer, to request clarification regarding the proposed acoustic barriers relating to this proposed application, i.e. what is the barrier, what is the height and location of any proposed fencing, are existing trees to be retained or cut down, is the barrier to be located in front of the trees or behind the trees adjacent to the A67. The Clerk to also ask if there are any diagrams relating to proposed acoustic barriers which could be sent to the Parish Council for consideration. The Clerk to keep Cllrs updated on this matter.**

Cllr Clark asked if there had been any determination from DCC as to whether or not a TPO be placed on the tree near to the entrance of the field adjacent to the Bridgewater Arms as he understood that a resident had undertaken a petition in the village to request such. Cllr Taylor reported that whilst DCC's Tree Officer has verbally given his support to a TPO being placed on the tree the decision would be down to DCC's Chief Planning Officer.

**5. Teesdale Residents' and Travellers' Forum Update:**

Cllr Taylor reported that there has not been any further meeting of the Teesdale Residents' and Travellers' Forum since the last Parish Council meeting. The next meeting will take place later in the year. Cllr Taylor reported that the next South West Durham Forum meeting will take place the week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> August 2018 and will review the recent Appleby Fair migration periods with a view to determining what went well and what can be improved for next year's event. The Forum is particularly concerned about horses being tethered adjacent to the West Auckland bypass.

**ACTION: Cllr Taylor to keep Cllrs updated.**

**6. Consideration of Draft County Durham Strategic Cycling and Walking Delivery Plan 2018-2028:**

Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated to all an email from Mr Steve Ragg of CDALC in which he requested Town and Parish Council's consider the Draft County Durham Strategic Cycling and Walking Delivery Plan for 2018-2028 now being proposed by DCC. Cllr Clark reported that it had been in the local press recently the TAP have expressed concern that the old railway line footpath between West Auckland and Barnard Castle had been omitted from this Plan. **Cllr Clark proposed that this objection also be submitted by the Parish Council and this was AGREED.**

**ACTION: The Clerk to request that the old railway line footpath between West Auckland and Barnard Castle be included in the County Durham Strategic Cycling and Walking Delivery Plan 2018-2028.**

**7. Public Attendance:**

No members of the public were in attendance.

Cllr Cook reported that several residents had informed him of uncovered trailers being towed by tractors through the village carrying what appeared to be rubble. Cllr Cook believed that such trailers should be covered and suggested the Parish Council make an approach to DCC asking if they could issue appropriate advisory information. The Clerk said that such matters were for the Police and members of the public should report such directly to the Police if they witness any incidents of concern.

**8. VAT Reclaim Update 2017/18:**

The Clerk reported that no further information has been received from HMRC in relation to the Parish Councils VAT Reclaim for 2017/18 totalling £647.66. The Clerk thanked Cllr Race for the information she had sent regarding HMRC's responsibility to pay interest on any late payment of reclaimed VAT. The Clerk proposed that she sent a letter to HMRC asking for an update on this matter. It was AGREED that the Clerk send a letter to HMRC.

**ACTION: The Clerk to write to HMRC and to keep Cllrs updated on this matter.**

**9. Approval of Payment of Accounts:**

The Clerk reported the following account required payment:

- Design365 (website updates) £31.52

**AGREED: Cllr Taylor and Pattison signed the cheque.**

**ACTION: The Clerk to post cheque.**

The Clerk reported that a letter had been received from Mr John Hewitt, Corporate Director – Resources, Durham County Council dated 12<sup>th</sup> July 2018 providing information regarding the Council's tax base to enable the Council to set its 2019/20 precept later in the current financial year.

**10. Smaller Local Councils Forum:**

Cllr Taylor reported that he had attended the Smaller Local Councils Forum meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at Newton Aycliffe. This meeting had included a detailed presentation by DCC Planners regarding the County Durham Preferred Options public consultation exercise element of the County Durham Plan's progression. The Clerk confirmed that she had submitted the Parish Council's comments on this matter prior to DCC's deadline of 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2018. Cllr Taylor reported the only other matter of note from the meeting had been a discussion as to whether or not the job title "Clerk" was appropriate.

**11. NALC Revision to Model Standing Orders:**

The Clerk reported that in July 2018 NALC had issued revised Model Standing Orders and encouraged all Town and Parish Councils to consider making the proposed changes. The Clerk confirmed she had reviewed all changes and the only change required to Winston Parish Council's Standing Orders related to Section 21 "Responsibilities Under Data Protection Legislation". **It was AGREED to amend section 21 a to read "The council may appoint a Data Protection Officer".**

**ACTION: The Clerk to update the Standing Orders on the Council's website.**

**12. Date and Time of Next Two Meetings:**

**AGREED as Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2018 and Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018.**

Meeting closed at 7.40p.m.

Dr Jane Ayre (Parish Clerk)