

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF CASSOP CUM QUARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT BOWBURN COMMUNITY CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2024 AT 6.30pm

Present: Councillors Dolan, Henderson, Johnson, Morgan, Prince, Raine, Richardson, Ridley, Robinson, Shutt, Spoor and Storey.

(Councillor Raine in the Chair)

(County Councillors Blakey and Hutchinson were also in attendance).

108. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Parker.

109. MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 17 JANUARY 2024

The Chair asked Members whether they were satisfied that the attached Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council held on 17 January 2024 should be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council held on 17 January 2024 be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

110. PLANNING APPLICATIONS 2024

Applicant	Details	Resolved Action
DM/24/00334/FPA Juniper Care and Support LTD 131 Grange Way Bowburn Durham DH6 5PL	Temporary change of use of the property from a C3 Residential dwelling to C2 Children's Home for a period of up to 3 years.	Parish Council to express concern about the application in the light of reports from local residents.

The Parish Council were advised that a Neighbour Notification Letter had been received in relation to a previous application for a property at Grey Gables to be converted into holiday accommodation. The proposal had now been amended and the resulting changes to the application appeared to have made alterations in relation to site access. The Parish Clerk had responded to the Planning department to indicate that the original objections to the development being in a 'protected rural setting' still stood and the Parish Council continued to oppose the application.

RESOLVED that the action be noted.

111. UPDATE FROM THE AAP

The Chair advised Members that Richard Cowen had asked the Police representative on the Area Action Partnership to look at the speed limit through Parkhill and also that the railings on the roundabout were sufficient to protect cars in the light of the recent incident where a car went through these and on to the A1. Subsequently Jane Bellis had been out to look at the roundabout and also around Integra 61 and she had expressed concern about the safety of the roundabout, including the pedestrian crossings and had also highlighted the lack of litter and dog bins between there and Integra 61.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

112. PARKHILL NOTICEBOARD

Plans were moving forward to have a noticeboard installed at Parkhill. It had been confirmed that this would within Parish Council permitted development and it would be included within the Parish Council insurance policy once installed.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

113. CLERK'S REPORT

The Parish Clerk reported that the precept request agreed at the last meeting had now been submitted to Durham County Council.

Members were advised that Parkhill Residents' Association had planned to purchase a defibrillator to be installed outside of the Italian Farmhouse. It had been asked whether the Parish Council could include the defibrillator within its insurance as the pub was unable to insure it. Advice had been received to suggest this was not possible if the defibrillator was not a Parish Council asset. It was proposed that Parkhill Residents' Association give consideration to alternative options for how this might work.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

114. LOCAL YOUTH SERVICES

The Local Youth Services report for February 2024 had been submitted to the Parish Council.

Youth clubs had been steady since the Christmas break and each session had been focusing on food and cooking along with sports, gym, arts and crafts.

Holiday clubs were taking place during February half term for children in school years 3, 4 and 5 and the youth club session for older children would continue to run over half term.

The Prince's Trust had painted the sports hall and there were three young volunteers also supporting the clubs.

Councillor Storey reported that there continued to be over 20 young people at each session at Cassop and AAP funding had been received for Easter for three days of activities.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

115. LOCAL FOOTPATHS AND RIGHTS OF WAY

It was noted that there was a derelict seat at Grange Park Crescent and it was confirmed that this was a County Council matter.

Councillor Morgan raised that matter of footpaths around Integra 61 and proposed that enquiries be made regarding their plans for closures, reopening and recommissioning of diversions.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

116. ALLOTMENTS, GARAGES AND CEMETERY

(Councillor Shutt declared an interest in this item.)

Repairs to the cemetery wall had been authorised and the contractor would undertake these when the ground was sufficiently dry. Councillor Prince highlighted that there was a tree growing into the wall at the cemetery and suggested that this could be looked at when the other repair was carried out.

Following discussion at the last Parish Council meeting, enquiries had been made about the cost of using metpost for fencing repairs at the allotments and it was quoted that this would be an additional £200; the preliminary quote had been £850. It was felt that this was an acceptable cost to enhance the longevity of the fence.

There had been ongoing conversations about the maintenance of Bowburn Cemetery and quotations for an annual programme of works had been sought from local contractors. Councillor Ridley suggested that an alternative option might be for the Parish Council to purchase its own lawn mower and to engage the Allotment Supervisor to work additional hours to maintain the cemetery grounds. This proposal would involve initial capital outlay in year one for the lawn mower but would cost a lot less in following years.

Members were minded to move forward with the proposed arrangement for an initial 12-month period with a review point in January when the annual budget was considered. The Parish Clerk was asked to draft an agreement on this basis.

RESOLVED that: -

- (i) fencing repairs at the allotments using metpost at a cost of £1,050 be approved; and
- (ii) a formal arrangement be drawn up engaging the Allotment Supervisor to carry out cemetery maintenance for an initial 12-month period.

117. COUNTY COUNCILLORS' MONTHLY REPORTS

County Councillor Hutchinson provided updates on the following: -

- Cassop Primary School
- Mary Terrace
- Pot holes
- Bowburn Park drainage
- Bowburn Fun Day
- Parkhill gardens
- Police and Believe Housing walkabout
- Litter in Bee Garden
- PACT meeting
- Dog fouling and loose dogs at Doorstep Green

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

118. ACCOUNTS (EXPENDITURE)

Name	Description	Other Details	Cheque No.	£ p
Gillian Kelly	Salary (gross)	1 – 29 February 2024	050441	945.55
“	Mileage/Parking Fees	34 miles @ 45p	“	15.30
“	Printing	Instant Ink Cartridges	“	4.49
“	OneDrive	Subscription	“	1.99
“	Stamps	1 x First Class	“	1.25
HM Revenue & Customs	Monthly Deductions (G Kelly) (February 2024)	Income Tax and NI Deduction	050443 (part)	189.20
HM Revenue & Customs	Monthly Deductions (A Shutt) (January 2024)	Income Tax Deduction	050443 (part)	20.80
HM Revenue & Customs	Employers NIC	Parish Clerk	050443 (part)	25.88
Andrew Shutt*	Monthly Fee (January 2024)	Allotment Superintendent (gross)	050442	104.20

Bowburn Youth Project	Local Youth Services	Salary Costs etc. (January 2024)	050444	3433.17
McAfee Live Safe	Parish Laptop	Annual Fee	050445	87.98
Bowburn Community Centre	Room Hire	January – February 2024	050446	60.00

*Cllr Shutt declared an interest in the item above.

RESOLVED that these items of expenditure be noted.

ACCOUNTS (INCOME)

12 JANUARY 2024 – 15 FEBRUARY 2024

Name	Description	Details	£ p
B Jackson	Land Sale	Tursdale	500.00

119. DATE OF NEXT MONTHLY MEETING

Agreed that the date of the next Monthly Meeting is to be Wednesday 20 March 2024 at 6.30pm at Bowburn Community Centre.

I agree these to be a true record of the Monthly Meeting held on Wednesday 21 February 2024 at 6.30pm at Bowburn Community Centre.

.....Chairman..... Date