Belsay Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 23 January 2013 in the Sir Stephen Middleton Memorial Hall, Belsay First School at 7.00pm

Present : Councillor R. Batchelor (Chairman)
Councillors; D. Holmes, F. Neilson, E. McDonnell, K. Metcalf

In Attendance: I. Humphries – Clerk

Action

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed Ian Humphries to the meeting of the Parish Council, introducing him as the new Clerk.

2. Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Cllr Storey

3. Minutes of Meeting held on 11th December 2012

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 11th December 2012 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

4.1 **Bus Shelter –**

Cllr Metcalf advised the Parish Council that he had been informed that Margaret Field at the County Council had experience of the issues surrounding the erection of bus shelters and the removal of telephone kiosks. The Clerk undertook to contact Ms Field and seek advice, and whether planning consent would be required. Clerk

The Clerk also undertook to contact Cllr Dodd to check that his matched funding would still be available should the work not be undertaken in this financial year.

Clerk

Having confirmed the intention to continue with the scheme to provide a bus shelter in Wallridge, it was

Resolved: (a) To approve the provision of a bus shelter in Wallridge as previously discussed, on or near the site of the telephone kiosk subject to any necessary permissions being obtained from the County Council, and

(b) The quote of G Hodgson and Son in the sum of £1008 be accepted subject to the quote

remaining valid at the time the work being commissioned.

4.2 **School zig zag parking restriction road markings –**
A consultation letter had been received from the County Council regarding the intension to provide zig zag parking restrictions outside the gates to the school. Members welcomed the proposals as a step forward but acknowledged it was likely to move the problem further into the village. Members asked the Clerk to contact the school to see what actions the school may promote to help resolve the problem of cars parking at school drop-off and pick-up times. Clerk

Resolved: That the County Council be advised of the Parish Council's support for the proposed traffic management scheme. Clerk

5. Precept 2013/14
Members were notified of advice from the County Council to individually seek dispensation under section 33 of the Localism Act 2011 to enable them to participate in the discussion and any vote on the setting of the Precept for 2013/14.

Each Member present having done so, the Clerk advised Members that the County Council needed to be informed of the level of Precept the Parish Council required to be levied in the next financial year. Members considered the draft budget presented by the Clerk, noting the modest anticipated increases in expenditure estimated for the year.

Resolved: That the Precept for the year 2013/14 be set at £3,000 and the Clerk advise the County Council accordingly. Clerk

6. Schedule of meetings of the Parish Council
Members agreed to set dates and times for meetings for the coming year.

Resolved: That the Parish Council meet on the second Wednesday; May, July, September, November, January and March at 7.00pm. Clerk

7. Financial Matters
The Clerk confirmed that he would accept payment of salary on an annual basis, in March each year. Other expenses would be claimed as appropriate.

8. Correspondence

The Clerk provided a schedule of correspondence received by the Parish Council since the previous meeting. Consideration was given to a method of dealing with the potentially high volume of information being sent to the Parish Council, predominantly from the County Council. It was agreed that the Clerk and Chairman explore the use of "Dropbox" as an electronic document management system. — Chair / Clerk

9. Planning Matters

- **Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 53: Northumberland County Council (Public Rights of Way) Modification Order (No. 9) 2009**
  The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from the Planning Inspectorate advising the Inspector's final decision on the Order. The Order was confirmed subject to modifications previously proposed and subject to further modification as set out in the Decision document.

Members noted the decision.

10. Other Issues raised by Parish Councillors

- **Northumbria Police Community Messaging**
  Members noted an initiative to encourage residents to join the scheme which would provide updates from the local Neighbourhood Policing Team. While individual Members agreed to submit a completed form, it was agreed that the Clerk submit a form in order to receive updates on behalf of the Parish council. — Cllrs / Clerk

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.23pm

Chairman .....

Date .....