

# Belsay Parish Council

**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13 March 2013 in the Sir Stephen Middleton Memorial Hall, Belsay First School at 7.00pm**

**Present :** Councillor K. Storey (Vice Chairman)  
Councillors; D. Holmes, F. Neilson, E. McDonnell, and K. Metcalf,

**In Attendance:** I. Humphries - Clerk  
Councillor R. Dodd - NCC  
G. Brown - Resident, Wallridge

Action

**11. Vice Chairman's Opening Remarks**

The Vice Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that the Chairman, Councillor Batchelor was on holiday and unable to attend the meeting.

**12. Apologies for Absence**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Batchelor

**13. Minutes of Meeting held on 11th December 2012**

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Vice Chairman.

**14. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

**14.1 Bus Shelter – minute 4.1 refers**

The Clerk reported back on discussions with Ms Field, NCC regarding the provision of a bus shelter at Wallridge. Having identified the desired location on a plan, Ms Field had provided likely costs for given the need for extensive glass in the structure to ensure highway sight-lines.

Members were not convinced that the sight-lines were as Ms Field suggested and were concerned at the costs compared to the estimates the Paris Council had previously obtained.

Resolved: That Ms Field be invited to meet Parish Councillors on site to discuss the matter Further.

Clerk

**14.2 School Zig-Zag parking restrictions – minute 4.2 refers**

The Clerk reported that the Head Teacher had explained that while the school shared the concern of the Parish Council over the potential of moving the parking problem further into the village, the school had no resources to implement a parking scheme within the school grounds.

Members discussed the advantages of off-road parking for parents dropping off children but accepted that for the present, a scheme was unlikely.

Councillor Dodd suggested that Planning Gain could be used to provide a parking scheme should there be any housing development in the future.

Members agreed to monitor the situation following implementation of the the zig-zag restrictions.

**15. Public Participation**

Concern was expressed regarding dog fouling in the village and it was suggested that signs, available from the County Council be erected to help educate dog owners to pick up the mess created by their dogs.

Clerk

**16. Clerks Report**

The Clerk reported on the process for nominations for the Parish Council Elections in May. He advised that the nomination period was 25th March to 12 noon on 5th April and undertook to take Members and anyone else interested, through the nomination form at the close of the meeting. Leaflets regarding becoming a Councillor were provided for distribution throughout the Parish.

**17. Financial Matters**

**17.1 Grant Applications**

Members were advised that the Parish Council had two grant applications outstanding having previously decided to defer consideration until the end of the financial year. The Clerk reported a financial balance of £1,186 from the precept income for the current year following payment of hall hire, salary and expenses.

Members were aware that the proposed bus shelter had not been funded this year and were minded to retain £500 to support that scheme should it be undertaken in the next financial year. With £686 remaining it was

Resolved: that grants be made as follows –

Great North Air Ambulance - £100  
St Andrew's Bolam churchyard - £200

Clerk

**17.2 Cheques for Payment**

The following payments were authorised –

Hall Hire - £125  
Salary - £300 (inc tax)  
Travel exp. - £41.60

Clerk

**18. Correspondence**

The following correspondence was received –

- NCC – Notice of an application by Ponteland Town Council for the designation of a Neighbourhood Area for the purposes of neighbourhood planning activity in the Parish
- Came & Company – Insurance newsletter

**19. Other Issues raised by Parish Councillors**

- **Signs**

Concern was expressed regarding the new sign erected on the corner on the southern approach into the village. Members questioned whether the sign was authorised.

Clerk

- **Trees**

Members noted that the leyandii and sycamore trees at The Paddock, Whalton Road had been cut back. Members also noted that the felled trees at Saugh House were to be removed and new planting to be undertaken in the near future.

There being no further business, the Vice Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20pm

Chairman .....

Date .....