

Piercebridge Parish Council

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2016

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS: Cllr S Chalmers (Chair) Cllr C Steel
 Cllr D McDonald Taylor Cllr C Hodgson
 Cllr R Blamire
 Clerk: Martin Clark

Visitors: *DBC Ward Cllr G. Lee

Public Participation:

No members of the public present

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

DBC Ward Councillor Crudass submitted his apologies

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:

None

3. MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETINGS HELD ON 11 JULY 2016 AND THE ON THE 9 MAY 2016:

RESOLVED: The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on the 11 July 2016 were proposed as a true record by Cllr Taylor McDonald and seconded by Cllr Steel.

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on the 9 May 2016 were proposed as a true record by Cllr Taylor McDonald and seconded by Cllr Hodgson

4. PROGRESS REPORT:

The Clerk informed members the council website was now being constructed. A request was made for any photographs for the gallery page.

The issue concerning a resident cutting the grass on part of the green without permission, the hole in his wall being used as access (no planning permission) was raised. Cllr Steel informed members the resident had been written too and subsequently spoken too directly. Following this the council have been informed the hole in the wall will be closed in due course and DBC planners have been informed.

The resident was verbally made aware he cannot cut the grass on the green as he does not have permission or the required Public Liability insurance. **RESOLVED:** The Clerk will confirm this in writing to the resident.

Cllr Steel reported the resident had said he would make a significant contribution to the Speed Visor fund.

RESOLVED: The Progress Report was noted

5. LOCAL MAINTENANCE/VILLAGE ISSUES:

Cllr Taylor McDonald reported problems with owners not picking up after their dogs. The Lane is particularly bad at present. The village would benefit from visits from Dog Wardens and signage to remind people to pick up. Responsible dog owners and other residents should be encouraged to report anyone seen allowing dog fouling in the village and surrounds. **RESOLVED:** The Clerk will look at posters, leaflets and the cost of signage.

6. FINANCE REPORT:

6.1 The Clerk reported the conclusion of the 2015/16 external audit – only a minor issue raised due to an error by the internal auditor.

6.2 Cllr Steel requested the issue of the speed visor be progressed. The council have funds set aside and with the promise of contributions the matter should be explored further. Ward Cllr Lee explained DBC would pay for the installation and carry out the required risk assessments. The visor unit is approximately £3000.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will speak to both High and Low Coniscliffe and Merrybent council's regarding their visor(s) to ascertain costs, contact details in order to progress matters.

7. CORRESPONDANCE:

None

8. PLANNING:

No planning applications.

DBC Ward Cllr Lee informed the meeting of the increasing number of planning appeals being allowed as the Darlington Plan is not in place. This has given rise to an increased number of speculative housing applications.

Broadband speed within the village was generally poor unless you live near the 'box'. Money has been allocated elsewhere for improvement but he will continue to try and find funding to improve this area.

9. REVIEW OF COUNCIL FINANCIAL REGULATIONS & STANDING ORDERS:

Financial Regulations

RESOLVED: Cllr Taylor McDonald proposed the Financial Regulations are adopted by Piercebridge Parish Council. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Blamire.

Standing Orders

RESOLVED: Cllr Hodgson proposed the Standing Orders are adopted by Piercebridge Parish Council. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Taylor McDonald.

The Clerk informed members the Financial Regulations will be reviewed each year.

10. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 14 November 2016, 7.15pm, St Mary's Church

*DBC – Darlington Borough Council

Signed.....

Dated.....

