

# Piercebridge Parish Council

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON

**MONDAY 8 MAY 2017**

**COUNCILLORS:** S. Chalmers                      C. Steel  
                         R. Blamire                                      D. Taylor McDonald  
                         C. Hodgson  
                         Clerk: Martin Clark  
**Visitors:** DBC Cllr G Lee & 2 residents

**1. ELECTION OF CHAIR FOR 2017/18:**

Cllr Steel proposed Cllr Chalmers for Chair for 2017/18. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Taylor McDonald.

**RESOLVED:** Cllr Chalmers accepted the nomination.

**2. DECLARATION OF OFFICE FORM SIGNED BY THE CHAIR:**

Cllr Chalmers signed the Declaration of Office form. Witness by the Clerk

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

None declared

**4. PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS FOR 2017/18:**

10 July 2017	8 January 2018
11 September 2017	12 March 2018
13 November 2017	14 May 2018

**RESOLVED:** The programme of meetings for the next year was agreed

**5. MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD 13 MARCH:**

**RESOLVED:** The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on the 13 March 2017 were proposed as a true record by Cllr Taylor McDonald and seconded by Cllr Blamire

**6. LOCAL MAINTENANCE/VILLAGE ISSUES:**

**6.1 Four villages community party**

Cllr Steel spoke on the plans for another four villages party in the summer. The party is open to all residents of the 4 villages (Piercebridge, Low and High Coniscliffe and Merrybent) and is free. Each village is looking to contribute something toward the event.

Members agreed the event was a good one and residents of the village should be encouraged to go along once it is advertised.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed by Cllr Taylor McDonald the council donate £100 towards the event. Seconded by Cllr Blamire.

6.2 Report from DBC highways on vehicle activated signage options (VAS)

The Clerk informed members of a meeting with Ken Majors of the highways department to see if a VAS was possible and cost effected for Piercebridge. It is possible to have a visor and mains powered rather than battery or solar was possible as DBC would fund the installation of holding post and the cost of the electricity.

Cllr Taylor McDonald and Cllr Blamire did feel the speeding issue had reduced of late due to more vehicles parking on the highway.

**RESOLVED:** Following a discussion on the merits and costs it was proposed by Cllr Hodgson the council investigate, with a view to purchase, the Westotec fixed speed sign as they offered a 6 year warranty. Seconded by Cllr Hodgson.

The Clerk will speak to Westotec about the sign (can it swivel) and also look at possible funding streams.

**7. FINANCE/ACCOUNTS:**

7.1 Annual Governance Statement

**RESOLVED:** The accuracy of the Annual Governance Statement was proposed by Cllr Taylor McDonald and seconded by Cllr Steel

7.2 To approve the End of Year accounts 2016/17 (subject to audit)

**RESOLVED:** The end of year accounts (subject to audit) were proposed as a true record by Cllr Taylor McDonald and seconded by Cllr Hodgson.

7.3 Effectiveness of internal audit & appointment of internal auditor for 2016/17

It was agreed the internal controls were appropriate and the internal auditor should be reappointed for the 2016/17 accounts.

**8. CORESPONDENCE:**

Mr Alan Couttas – Raising the issue of broadband speeds. DBC Cllr Lee had spoken on the issue during the Annual Parish Meeting and reiterated it was expected the fibre cabinet in the village is due to upgraded in June 2017.

**9. PLANNING NOTIFICATIONS:**

None

**10. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING & AGENDA ITEMS:**

Monday 10 July 2017, 7.00pm, St Mary's Church

DBC – Darlington Borough Council



















