

WALDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Waldridge
Parish Council held on
9 April 2019 at 7.00pm**



Present: Councillors - Bell, Davies, Foster, Harding, Howie, Moist, Sexton and Warren.

Also in attendance – Sarah Wilson - Parish Clerk, Brian Laidler - Caretaker, Allan Bainbridge – County Councillor and 2 members of the public

1. **Welcome:**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. **Apologies for Absence:**

Cllr Corner submitted her apologies.

3. **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

Cllr Davies declared an interest in respect of item 6 (r).

4. **Police Report:**

The Chairman read out the Police Report – two incidents of anti-social behaviour (group of youths vandalising play equipment and off-road motorbikes in Congburn Plantation). One incident of burglary (forced entry into house on Meadow Drive – investigation ongoing). Two incidents of theft (property taken from address in Waldridge, and theft of vehicle on Waldridge Road – investigations still ongoing).

5. **Minutes of Council meeting – 12 March 2019:**

Resolved: *The minutes of the meeting held on 12th March 2019 were approved as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.*

6. Parish matters and ongoing items

a) **County Councillors report**

Cllr Bainbridge gave an update on Birch View, matter still ongoing and he is awaiting a reply. Cllr Sexton gave an update on attempted burglaries in the area – two individuals now in prison, investigations still ongoing, will discuss further when meeting Inspector Dave Coxon.

Resolved: *Report noted.*

b) **Waldridge Parish in Bloom Working Group**

The Working Group gave an update – Northumbria in Bloom Spring judging taking place on Thursday 11th April, Cllr Howie will lead, and will be accompanied by Cllr Moist and Brian Laidler. Summer planting to take place in May/June. Community Groups who will be involved in planting will be contacted to arrange dates, with the Caretaker and DCC being present to supervise. DCC will not charge for the planting of the Community beds. Brenda to prepare refreshments for the judges.

Resolved: *Update noted.*

c) **Events Working Group**

The Working Group gave an update – Big Spring Clean has now taken place and was a success. Easter event to take place on Sunday 14th April - Cllr Corner leading. Cllr Corner has checked Easter craft materials and may need to purchase some additional items. Facepainter and children's ride booked. Cllrs Bell, Moist and Sexton to help on the day. Cllr Foster is leading the Beat the Bounds event.

Resolved: *Update noted.*

d) **Updates from Facebook**

Cllr Harding gave an update – several posts thanking everyone for doing the litter pick, a complaint about chewing gum on the path, a suggestion of using an app which records areas with a high amount of dog mess, a complaint about glass bottles on the Millennium Green (these have now been picked up during litter pick), and lots of positive comments about the new children's play area. Cllr Harding mentioned that some users are using the Parish group to sell items, the Clerk suggested a review of the Facebook rules at the next meeting.

Resolved: *Updated noted.*

e) **Kindness Campaign**

Cllr Harding provided suggestions for possible Kindness Campaign activities. It was suggested that books are once again left around the Parish for residents to pick up, and after a request from a resident that more environmentally friendly wrapping be used, the Council discussed using brown paper. A plan to create a Parish lemonade stand was proposed, to be used to give away free lemonade to residents on warm days. The possibility of having a Kindness tree on the Millennium Green was also discussed, with residents being able to add positive notes and messages.

Resolved: *The plan for the Kindness Campaign was noted. It was agreed that brown paper should be purchased for wrapping the books, with a budget of £10. It was agreed that a Parish lemonade stand should be created, with a budget of £20 – subject to the Clerk checking licencing/hygiene regulations. It was agreed to create a Kindness tree on the Millennium Green. All votes unanimous.*

f) **Quarterly Accounts**

The Clerk distributed the quarterly accounts for approval.

Resolved: *The Council approved the quarterly accounts. Cllr Harding signed the bank reconciliation, year end reconciliation, bank statements, petty cash and budget.*

g) **Play Area**

The Council discussed whether a sign was required for the new play area, and it was decided that a sign should be installed. Potential wording for the sign was considered. The possibility of installing a bin at the play area was discussed, along with possible locations for a new seat.

Resolved: *It was agreed that a sign should be installed at the play area, and the wording was agreed upon. It was agreed that a bin should not be installed at the play area at this stage. The location of the new seat was agreed. All votes unanimous.*

h) **Clothes Swap**

Cllr Harding suggested holding a Clothes Swap at the Parish Rooms.

Resolved: *It was agreed that a Clothes Swap should be organised, on any day where the Parish Rooms is available (unanimous).*

i) **Publishing Addresses**

The Clerk informed the Council that the publishing of Councillor's addresses is no longer a legal requirement.

Resolved: *The change in requirement was noted.*

j) **Roles, Responsibilities and Visions**

The roles, responsibilities and visions of Councillors was discussed. Cllr Sexton mentioned that when Councillors take on a project, it is recommended that they 'buddy up', so that there is always a backup should someone not be able to attend. Ideas for future plans was discussed, and it was noted that these can sometimes be forgotten. It was suggested that the Council hold a specific meeting to share and record project ideas, with the aim of developing three and five year plans.

Resolved: *It was agreed that an informal idea sharing meeting would be held, and that potential project idea arising from this would be brought to a full Council meeting for discussion/approval (all in favour, Cllr Davies abstained).*

k) **Star Council Awards**

The Council discussed the possibility of entering NALC's Star Council Awards.

Resolved: *It as agreed that the Council should enter the awards (unanimous).*

l) **WW1 Silhouette**

The Council discussed how the WW1 Silhouette should be installed, and it was agreed that a quote should be sought from a contractor, and if this is under £100, that installation should go ahead. The Council agreed to hold a site visit to the Poppyfields roundabout, to finalise the exact location.

Resolved: *It was agreed that a quote for installation should be sought from an installer, and that if this is below £100, installation should be arranged (unanimous).*

m) **Policy Review**

- Hall Letting
- Health & Safety
- Public Filming

Resolved: *It was agreed to adopt the updated Hall Letting, Health & Safety and Public Filming policies (unanimous).*

n) **Timetable of training events**

- SLCC Charitable Trusts webinar

Resolved: *It was agreed that the Clerk should complete the SLCC Charitable Trusts training at a cost of £60 + VAT (unanimous).*

o) **Grants / fundraising**

No new opportunities identified.

Resolved: *None needed.*

p) **Planning Applications**

DM/19/00851/FPA	43 Falstone Drive Chester-le-Street DH2 3ST	Replace existing conservatory with a pitched roof sunroom.
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Resolved: *To recommend approval (unanimous).*

q) **To consider any planning applications received after the agenda was published.**

- None received.

Resolved: *None needed.*

r) **Correspondence received**

- Letter from Citizen's Advice requesting a donation.

Resolved: *It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Citizen's Advice to inform them of the Council's grant application procedure (all in favour – as Cllr Davies had declared an interest in this item, he did not vote, or take part in the discussion).*

s) **Correspondence received after agenda published (to note only)**

- Complaint from a resident regarding an abandoned caravan in Waldrige Village.

t) **Clerks Report / Action Log**

The Clerk gave an update on all items on the Action Log not already covered during the meeting.

Resolved: *Update noted.*

y) **Urgent issues for noting (Clerk to use delegated powers in necessary) and any items Councillors wish to agenda for next meeting**

No issues to note.

7. **Financial Matters**

	(a)	<u>Payments</u>
<u>Resolved:</u> That the following payments be agreed:		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) That the sum of £880.82 be paid to S Wilson (March 2019 wage) (2) That the sum of £244.37 be paid to B Laidler (March 2019 wage) (3) That the sum of £5,126.90 be paid to DCC (election) (4) That the sum of £20.00 be paid to P Watson (Easter face painting deposit) (5) That the sum of £32.34 be paid to XLN (broadband) (6) That the sum of £1,025.69 be paid to DCC (street lighting RA70) (7) That the sum of £1,000.00 be paid to L Mitcheson (Durham Arb – MG maintenance) (8) That the sum of £92.00 be paid to E.ON (gas & electricity) (9) That the sum of £35.00 be paid to ICO (data protection annual fee) (10) That the sum of £95.00 be paid to TFS Plumbing (boiler parts) (11) That the sum of £3,045.60 be paid to Kompan (play area balance) (12) That the sum of £583.46 be paid to CDALC (annual subscription) (13) That the sum of £1,359.60 be paid to Josh Unsworth (Inflatable Flix cinema) (14) That the sum of £7.99 be paid to S Wilson (printing monthly plan) (15) That the sum of £100.00 be paid to F Smith (easter event ride) 	
	(b)	<u>Receipts</u>
<u>Resolved:</u> That the following receipts be noted:		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) That the sum of £40.00 was received from Jana Uhlirova – yoga (room hire Mar). (2) That the sum of £70.00 was received from Riverside Musical Theatre Company (room hire – Mar). (3) That the sum of £60.00 was received from Tranquil Treatments (room hire – Mar) (4) That the sum of £64,039.67 was received from DCC (precept and LCTRS grant) 	
<p>9. <u>Date of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>14 May to commence at 7.00pm.</p> <p>The meeting terminated at 9.00 pm</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Chairman Date</p>		