

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF CASSOP CUM QUARRINGTON  
PARISH COUNCIL HELD REMOTELY VIA ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 17 MARCH  
2021 AT 6.00pm**

**Present:** Councillors Blackburn, McKeon, Morgan, Raine, Richardson, Ridley,  
Robinson, Salisbury, Spoor, Storey, Shutt and Syer.

(County Councillors Blakey and Dunn were also in attendance).  
(Councillor Shutt was in the Chair)

**250 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Johnson and Leake.

**251 MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 17 FEBRUARY 2021**

The Chair asked Members whether they were satisfied that the attached Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council held remotely on 17 February 2021 should be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council held on 17 February 2021 be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

**252 PLANNING APPLICATIONS 2021**

There were no planning applications to consider.

**253 NEW PREMISES LICENCE**

Mr William K Walker Cassop Post Office, Front Street South, Cassop, Durham, DH7 8RS	New premises licence application. Supply of alcohol (off the premises) Monday to Sunday 10.00am to 8.00pm	No objection
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**254 A NEW ARTWORK FOR BOWBURN**

The planning application for the artwork had been submitted and a decision was due on 18 March 2021.

The sub-group had met with Andy McKeown and Joanne Ashworth to discuss the materials to be used for the sculpture and the seating designs. Andy had sought

some quotations on the fabrication of the sculpture and seating and was hopeful that six seats would be able to be provided. The proposed seating locations were to be mapped based on the suggestions received from the consultation and the Parish Council would then have to consider the preferred six locations.

At this point in time, it was felt possible that the artwork could be installed in time for 10 July 2021, which was Miner's Gala day. Councillor Syer advised that the Banner Group would like to organise something to mark the day with a performance by a brass band culminating in the unveiling of the sculpture. Members were supportive of an event of this kind and for the Banner Group to liaise with the band regarding their attendance.

**RESOLVED that** the update be noted and that the Bowburn Banner Group\* be authorised to begin the planning process for the unveiling event.

\* Councillors McKeon, Morgan, Ridley, Robinson and Syer declared an interest as members of the Bowburn Banner Group.

## **253 CLERK'S REPORT**

### **(i) Bowburn and Parkhill Community Partnership – Donation to Parish Council**

Bowburn and Parkhill Community Partnership had unspent funds which had been allocated for the purchase of Christmas lights and associated works for installation. The Partnership had determined at their meeting on 23 February that the funds should be donated to the Parish Council and earmarked for upgrading the existing Christmas lights. The funding totalled £2,495.94 and it had been suggested that it could be used to purchase lights which had previously been chosen by Bowburn schoolchildren.

The Parish Council expressed their thanks to the Partnership for their donation and Councillor McKeon undertook to obtain the details of the lighting which had been selected by local children in 2019.

County Councillor Dunn advised that it might be possible to trade in some of the existing lighting to reduce the purchase price of the new lights.

### **(ii) The Future of Remote and Face to Face Meetings**

Members were advised that regulations remained in force to allow councils to meet remotely until 6 May 2021 but that these had not been extended beyond that. There was an overwhelming consensus amongst local government that the option to continue with remote meetings should remain. CDALC, along with SLCC, had lobbied MPs and Grahame Morris MP had tabled a question in Parliament asking for the remote meetings regulations to be extended.

CDALC remained cautiously optimistic that the regulations would be extended, however NALC had developed guidance in the event of a return to face-to-face meetings and Members would continue to receive updates when further information was available.

RESOLVED that: -

- (i) the donation from Bowburn and Parkhill Community Partnership be noted and the Parish Council investigate the purchase of replacement Christmas lights; and
- (ii) the uncertainty with regard to future meetings be noted.

## **254 TURSDALE PLAY AREA**

Members were aware that an application had been made for £40,038 of Section 106 funding from the Keepmoat development at Bowburn to develop new play space at TurSDale.

County Councillor Dunn had circulated three proposed designs for the play area. It was highlighted that the local residents had expressed a preference for the first design with the addition of an additional swing rather than replacing the fence around the play area. It was felt that the existing fencing could be retained and enhanced with a coat of paint or wood stain.

Councillor Ridley advised that he had been approached by the family of the late Councillor Alan Richardson and they had raised funds to provide a seat in the play area in his memory.

Members discussed where the seat might be located as the designs for the new play area showed a lot of equipment and potentially little space for additional seating. It was also noted that there were two picnic tables currently in the play area and it was queried whether these would be retained.

It was felt that it might be better for the memorial seat to be located outside of the play area, looking inwards, in a similar arrangement to Bowburn Park. Councillor Ridley understood that the Richardson family would be happy with the seat being located either inside or outside of the play area and suggested that they be asked to supply the specification of the proposed seat.

**RESOLVED that** the Parish Council support the wishes of the residents of TurSDale for their preferred play area design and that this be communicated to Barrie Alderson, Play Parks Officer at Durham County Council.

## **255 BUS STOP OUTSIDE BOWBURN CO-OP**

Councillor Raine reported that issues had been raised regarding access when buses were stationary at the stop outside of Bowburn Co-op. Access and visibility for cars leaving the car park was blocked and the rear of any bus standing at that location was right up against the T-junction for drivers turning right.

It was noted that the bus stop had previously been located outside Anderson's Bakery which Members felt had been a better location. However, it was acknowledged that it was very difficult to have a bus stop moved as a new site could often have any many issues as the existing location. The forthcoming relocation of the infant school would reduce the amount of traffic on Crow Trees Lane. Councillor McKeon noted that it was likely that the reason for the location of the stop currently was due to its closeness to amenities but she would raise the matter with Highways Officers at Durham County Council.

**RESOLVED that** the information be noted.

## **256 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Councillor Salisbury reported that the public consultation would end on Friday 19 March 2021 at 5.00pm. There had been an objection from the same parties as had previously objected to the Plan at the draft stage.

The Inspector had now been appointed and would take up their appointment at the end of March. The simplicity of the Plan meant that they may be able to make some comments by mid-April and following their report, Durham County Council would move to the referendum stage.

**RESOLVED that** the update be noted.

## **257 LOCAL YOUTH SERVICES**

The Youth Services report for March 2021 had been submitted to the Parish Council.

Once again, the Parish Council thanked the Youth Services team for the excellent work they were doing in difficult circumstances.

**RESOLVED that** the Youth Services report be noted.

## **258 LOCAL FOOTPATHS AND RIGHTS OF WAY**

Councillor Robinson reported that a trench had been dug across Bridleway 36 which had then been filled but not packed and there had been a number of complaints about the condition of the bridleway. He suggested that the Rights of Way Officer should be asked to look at this.

County Councillor Dunn advised that Filomena Solan, Rights of Way Officer had proposed that a remote meeting be held to discuss the proposals for Footpaths No. 1 and 10. Councillor Syer shared an illustration of how the proposals for the footpaths had changed since 2015 and it was felt that the Parish Council needed to come to a common view about where the footpaths should be.

It was agreed that a socially distanced site visit would take place prior to a remote meeting with Filomena and James Taylor. Parish Councillors would meet on Tuesday 23 March at 1.00pm at Wellsprings Business Centre to walk round the area in question.

**RESOLVED that: -**

- (a) a site visit of Footpaths 1 and 10 be held on Tuesday 23 March 2021 at 1.00pm; and
- (b) a remote meeting be held with the Rights of Way Officer and James Taylor from Citrus following the site visit.

**259 ALLOTMENTS, GARAGES AND CEMETERY**

Councillor Blackburn queried whether anyone had been in touch regarding some overhanging branches from one of the allotments. Councillor Robinson stated that snow had brought down some of the hedging down on the public footpath through the allotments and the leaseholder of the allotment concerned was going to be asked to address the issue.

Councillor Shutt commented that there had been a complaint about the general state of some of the allotments. Now that the weather was improving, allotment holders would be given the opportunity to tidy up their allotments and the Clean and Green Team were going to carry out a general clean of footpaths etc.

**RESOLVED that** the information be noted.

**260 COUNTY COUNCILLORS' MONTHLY REPORTS**

County Councillor McKeon submitted a report covering the following matters: -

- TurSDale Lay-By
- Vaccinations
- Re-opening
- Planning Committee – Cochrane's Funeral Directors
- Cabinet Reports

**RESOLVED that** the update be noted.

## 261 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED (SURFACE MAIL)

None received.

## 262 ACCOUNTS (EXPENDITURE)

Name	Description	Other Details	Cheque No.	£ p
Gillian Kelly	Salary (paid net of tax)	1 – 31 March 2021	050142	753.20
“	Mileage/Parking Fees	68 miles @ 45p	“	30.60
“	Stationery	Envelopes	“	2.00
“	Printing	Instant Ink Cartridges	“	3.49
“	Office Allowance	Quarterly	“	95.00
“	Telephone Allowance	Quarterly	“	41.00
HM Revenue & Customs	Monthly Deductions (G Kelly) (March 2021)	Income Tax and NI Deduction	050144 (part)	150.60
HM Revenue & Customs	Monthly Deductions (A Shutt) (February 2021)	Income Tax Deduction	050144 (part)	17.40
Andrew Shutt*	Monthly Fee (February 2021)	Allotment Superintendent (after tax)	050143	69.80
D J Evans Youth Club	Local Youth Services	Salary Costs etc. (February 2021)	050145	2988.86
Bowburn Community Association*	Room Hire	January and February 2021	050146	38.00
Zoom	March 2021	Monthly Fee	050147	11.99
“	“	VAT	“	2.40

\*Councillor Shutt declared an Interest in the items shown above.

**RESOLVED** that these items of expenditure be noted.

## ACCOUNTS (INCOME)

### 10 FEBRUARY 2021 – 9 MARCH 2021

Name	Description	Details	£ p
Cochrane's Funeral Directors	Bowburn Cemetery	Burial Plot and Exclusive Rights - Tange	53.00
Speckman's Funeral Directors	Bowburn Cemetery	Burial Plot - Sokell	100.00
Bowburn and Parkhill Community Partnership	Donation	Christmas Lights	2495.94

## 263 DATE OF NEXT MONTHLY MEETING

Agreed that the date of the next Monthly Meeting is to be Wednesday 21 April 2021 at 6.00pm via Zoom.

I agree these to be a true record of the Meeting held remotely via Zoom on  
Wednesday 17 March 2021.

.....Chairman..... Date