

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF CASSOP CUM QUARRINGTON  
PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT BOWBURN COMMUNITY CENTRE ON  
WEDNESDAY 21 JULY 2021 AT 6.00pm**

**Present:** Councillors Blackburn, McKeon, Morgan, Prince, Raine, Robinson and Spors.

(Councillor Raine in the Chair)

(County Councillors Blakey and Hutchinson were also in attendance).

**39. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ridley, Richardson, Salisbury and Storey.

**40. MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 16 JUNE 2021**

The Chair asked Members whether they were satisfied that the attached Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 16 June 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 16 June 2021 be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

**41. PLANNING APPLICATIONS 2021**

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Resolved Action</b>
DM/21/02062/TPO Green 7 Kirbys Drive Bowburn Co.Durham DH6 5GA	Prune back to boundary and remove deadwood to 1no. Ash (T1) and 1no. Oak (T2)	No objection

**44. A NEW ARTWORK FOR BOWBURN**

Joanne Ashworth, Groundwork North East was in attendance to provide an update on the new artwork. Joanne explained that she was shortly to leave Groundwork and Camilla Toner would take over the remainder of the project.

Joanne outlined some outstanding matters in relation to the artwork on which the artist was seeking confirmation. The Parish Council agreed that a perforated stainless-steel sheet should be used for the lamp to enable letters to be welded on to

the structure and it was noted that the Parish Clerk had provided the occupation names to be used on the lamp to Andy McKeown. The wording on the base of the lamp had been queried and it was agreed that this would say 'Durham Coalfield'.

In respect of the seats, Andy had revised the design of the token seat and the Parish Council agreed that this design should be used. It was also agreed that there was no need to have 'Bowburn' displayed on the seats and that the token number should be '151'. The seating location and detail was confirmed as follows: -

- Community Centre – Token Seat, Brockwell Seam
- Doorstep Green – Strata Seat, Busty Seam
- Near Sculpture – Strata Seat, Harvey Seam
- Near Sculpture – Strata Seat, Hutton Seam
- Bowburn Park – Token Seat, Low Main Seam
- Bowburn Primary School – Token Seat, Tilley Seam

Joanne undertook to confirm all of the information with Andy and stated that work was underway with the fabricators at the current time. The land on which the sculpture was being placed was to be leased to the Parish Council and had been subject to due process within the relevant departments at the County Council. It had now been agreed that street lighting was not required and the legal team were drawing up the licence agreement. The footpath would be installed according to the County Council's specification.

The Primary School had confirmed that they were happy to have a seat placed in their grounds but the exact location was still to be agreed. Bowburn Community Centre had indicated that they were happy to have a seat outside the centre, however Joanne noted that this had not been confirmed in writing and it would be preferable to have this. The Parish Clerk would ask the Chair of the Community Centre to provide this permission in writing.

Joanne highlighted that the seat locations had been selected based on the response to the community consultation and it would be useful to publicise this via social media as soon as possible.

Andy was aware of the desire to have the sculpture unveiled to coincide with the Fun Day arranged for 25 September and was working towards this, however Joanne felt that it could be the legal process which might cause delay. The sessions with the artist and the school had been delayed to September due to class bubbles bursting but the children would still be involved in activity around the artwork.

The Parish Council thanked Joanne for all of the hard work she had put in to getting the project off the ground and to near completion. Members wished Joanne well for the future and looked forward to working with Camilla.

**RESOLVED that** the update be noted and final details be confirmed with Andy McKeown.

## **45. SUPERMARKET PROVISION IN BOWBURN**

Members had noted that Aldi had announced its intention to open 400 new stores in the UK and was looking for suitable sites and it was felt that the Parish Council should make an approach to them to provide a supermarket in Bowburn.

It was noted that unsuccessful approaches had been made before; the Bowburn and Parkhill Partnership had written to the chief executives of a number of supermarkets in the past to ask them to consider Bowburn as a location for new developments.

Councillor McKeon advised that she had contacted Mary Foy's office to request that Bowburn be prioritised as a potential location for a new store. County Councillor Blakey noted that the existing planning application for a retail food store at Bowburn South Industrial Estate was due for renewal shortly. She noted that the further development of housing on the Integra 61 site would potentially lead to some movement on this long-standing planning approval.

In relation to land behind the sewage works, Councillor Morgan suggested that this would be appropriate for bungalows and this would be a welcome addition to the local housing market. Councillor McKeon stated that around a year ago there had been a plan for bungalows on the school field and supported learning provision in the old school building. Since then there had been various changes and the potential use for the land was unclear but it was understood that the infant school building was to be retained.

County Councillor Blakey undertook to speak to the relevant Cabinet Member regarding future development plans, Councillor McKeon would follow up with Mary Foy MP and County Councillor Hutchinson would raise Bowburn as a potential store location with a contact at Aldi. The Parish Clerk would write to Aldi on behalf of the Parish Council.

**RESOLVED** that approaches be made with a view to getting a retail food store in the Bowburn area.

## **46. CLERK'S REPORT**

### **(i) TurSDale Park**

Councillor Ridley had forwarded correspondence from TurSDale residents which communicated their wish to dedicate the new park to the late Councillor Alan Richardson, possibly with a plaque or stone. The suggested wording for this was "This Park is dedicated to the fond memory of our dear friend and neighbour, Councillor Alan Richardson, who loved this little corner of the parish and whose work here will not be forgotten".

Members had previously discussed the principle of a memorial and, whilst supportive of the community wish, were mindful of any precedent being set for the future. It was agreed that the residents be advised that the Parish Council supported the idea of a

memorial for Alan, however they would need some clarity on who would be providing and installing the plaque or stone. The Parish Clerk was asked to convey this to the residents.

## **(ii) Land at Tursdale**

The Parish Council had previously agreed that an area of unkempt land in Tursdale could be let to a resident who wished to use the land for grazing. An existing tenant of a field let by the Parish Council in Tursdale now claimed that the area in question was part of their tenancy agreement but had not been used for some time.

Unfortunately, a search of historical records had not found any reference to this and neither the tenant, nor the Parish Clerk, had a copy of the original tenancy agreement dating back to circa 1997. The Chair and the Parish Clerk had conducted a site visit and have confirmed that the land was not in good order and required attention. It was confirmed that the sitting tenant had paid rent for the year 2021/2022.

Members proposed that a new agreement be issued to the current tenant and as part of this, they be requested to tidy the unkempt area and repair the broken fencing. The Parish Council would then have the option to take further action if the work was not carried out.

An enquiry had also been received from a resident of Tursdale who had previously enquired about buying or renting a piece of land from the Parish Council which they currently had a licence to access. Recent changes had meant that the land was not now used as an access and Members had asked to consider this again. It was agreed that the current position with the land would be looked into by the Chair and Parish Clerk.

### **RESOLVED that: -**

- (i) the Parish Clerk contact Tursdale residents regarding the proposed memorial for Councillor Alan Richardson;
- (ii) a new tenancy agreement be issued for the Tursdale field to include conditions in relation to the tenant's responsibilities for maintaining all land within the agreement to an acceptable standard; and
- (ii) the position regarding the land at Tursdale be reviewed.

## **47. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Members were informed that the Neighbourhood Plan referendum had been confirmed for 23 September 2021.

The Parish Council placed on record its thanks to Councillor Salisbury, former councillors Mike Syer and Dawn Love and Richard Cowen for their hard work and dedication in getting the Neighbourhood Plan to this stage.

**RESOLVED that** the update be noted.

#### **48. LOCAL YOUTH SERVICES**

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

County Councillor Blakey advised that Joanne had been in touch with Cassop Community Centre regarding possible provision and discussions were taking place about which worker would be most appropriate to provide the service. The community centre were happy to be used for the service depending on the activity taking place.

Spennymoor youth services had provided some activity at Kelloe last year and Councillor McKeon reported that this had been extended to Cassop this year. This was a one-off, outdoor session which had been funded by the AAP through a DfE grant. This had only very recently been confirmed and was being promoted through social media and schools communications networks.

**RESOLVED that** the update be noted.

#### **49. LOCAL FOOTPATHS AND RIGHTS OF WAY**

Councillor McKeon advised that there had been issues with car parking at Cassop opposite The Pub and Kitchen and the County Council was consulting on double yellow lines being installed.

Councillor Robinson highlighted the footpath through the allotments was overgrown and required attention.

**RESOLVED that** the update be noted.

#### **50. ALLOTMENTS, GARAGES AND CEMETERY**

There was nothing to report.

#### **51. COUNTY COUNCILLORS' MONTHLY REPORTS**

County Councillor Hutchinson highlighted a number of issues which he had been involved in during recent weeks including: -

- Reports of fly-tipping
- Graffiti and vandalism

- Missed bins
- Grass and hedge cutting complaints
- Speed monitoring volunteers
- Wasp nests
- Dog complaints
- Abandoned vehicles
- Litter picks

**RESOLVED** that the update be noted.

## 52. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED (SURFACE MAIL)

None received.

## 53. ACCOUNTS (EXPENDITURE)

Name	Description	Other Details	Cheque No.	£ p
Gillian Kelly	Salary (paid net of tax)	1 – 31 July 2021	050172	768.30
“	Mileage/Parking Fees	102 miles @ 45p	“	45.90
“	Printing	Instant Ink Cartridges	“	3.49
HM Revenue & Customs	Monthly Deductions (G Kelly) (July 2021)	Income Tax and NI Deduction	050174 (part)	153.80
HM Revenue & Customs	Monthly Deductions (A Shutt) (June 2021)	Income Tax Deduction	050174 (part)	26.80
Andrew Shutt*	Monthly Fee (June 2021)	Allotment Superintendent (gross)	050173	133.65
D J Evans Youth Club	Local Youth Services	Salary Costs etc. (June 2021)	050175	3306.83
Andrew Shutt	Strimming	Interim Payment 1	050176	100.00
Andrew Shutt	Allotments and Fields	Materials for Repairs	050177	141.85
Zoom	May 2021	Monthly Fee	050178	11.99
“	“	VAT	“	2.40
Bowburn Community Association	Room Hire		050179	60.00

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

## ACCOUNTS (INCOME)

**9 JUNE 2021 – 13 JULY 2021**

Name	Description	Details	£ p
Various Clients	Allotments, Garages	BACS	336.00
Various Clients	Allotments, Garages	Cheques	314.00
Various Clients	Allotment Garages	Cash	66.00

**54. DATE OF NEXT MONTHLY MEETING**

Agreed that the date of the next Monthly Meeting is to be Wednesday 18 August 2021 at 6.00pm at Cassop Community Centre.

I agree these to be a true record of the Meeting held on Wednesday 21 July 2021 at Bowburn Community Centre at 6.00pm.

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