

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF CASSOP CUM QUARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT BOWBURN COMMUNITY CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 19 JULY 2023 AT 6.30pm

Present: Councillors Johnson, McKeon, Morgan, Parker, Prince, Raine, Richardson, Robinson, Shutt and Spoons.

(Councillor Raine in the Chair)

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

32. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dolan, Henderson, Ridley and Storey.

33. CO-OPTION TO VACANCY ON THE PARISH COUNCIL

A vacancy had previously been advertised in the West ward of the parish and the Parish Council was in a position to be able to co-opt to the vacancy. Paul Bradley had expressed an interest in the vacant position and had put himself forward as a candidate for consideration by the Parish Council.

Members therefore **RESOLVED that** Paul Bradley be co-opted to the West Ward of Cassop-cum-Quarrington Parish Council.

34. MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 21 JUNE 2023

The Chair asked Members whether they were satisfied that the attached Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council held on 21 June 2023 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 21 June 2023 be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

35. PLANNING APPLICATIONS 2023

Applicant	Details	Resolved Action
DM/23/01999/TPO Brierley-Jones 4 Kirbys Drive Bowburn Durham DH6 5GA	Crown reduce overhang by 2m and crown raise 2.4m on Northern side (severing limbs up to 100mm diameter) of T1 (Oak tree) to balance crown.	No objection.

RESOLVED that the action be noted.

36. CLERK'S REPORT

(i) Budget Planning 2024/2025

The Parish Clerk advised that Durham County Council had provided the indicative tax base for the parish for 2024/2025 to assist with budget planning. This was forecast to be 1903.9, an increase of 44.7 from 2023/2024. This would give a projected increase in Council Tax yield of £1,792.92.

The final tax base forecast would be set by the County Council in November 2023 and then notified to parish councils to enable precept demands to be submitted by 20 January 2024.

(ii) Shincliffe Parish Council – Road Safety

Shincliffe Parish Council had contacted the Parish Clerk in reference to their campaign 'Safer in Shincliffe' which aimed to improve safety on the A177 with a speed reduction campaign and traffic calming measures. Shincliffe wished to know if Cassop-cum-Quarrington had concerns about the traffic speed through Bowburn and whether it planned to campaign for traffic calming measures.

Members noted that there was already a 30mph zone through the village and felt that Shincliffe may find it difficult to reduce their speed limit from 40mph to 30mph due to the distance between the road and residential properties. The Parish Council was naturally supportive of all road safety programmes but was not intending to mount any campaigns for additional measures in the near future.

RESOLVED that: -

- (i) the indicative council tax base for 2024/2025 be noted; and
- (ii) Shincliffe Parish Council be advised that Cassop-cum-Quarrington acknowledged their road safety campaign but was not planning any sort of campaign of their own at the current time.

37. LOCAL YOUTH SERVICES

The Youth Services report for July 2023 had been submitted to the Parish Council. The youth clubs had again been busy and this month's sessions had focused on alcohol awareness, sport and fitness, healthy eating and lifestyles.

Youth clubs would be running over the summer holidays as well as two weeks of kids' clubs for children in current years 3, 4 and 5. There was a trip to South Shields planned in August for 40 young people to take part in surfing, paddle boarding and exploring rock pools.

Councillor Spoons queried the gym opening times and it was highlighted that it was open on mornings between 9.00am and 11.00am and that the up-to-date opening times were publicised on the Bowburn Gym Facebook page.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

38. LOCAL FOOTPATHS AND RIGHTS OF WAY

The Parish Council had previously considered the proposal to divert Public Footpath No. 5 as a planned new fence would interfere with the alignment of the existing route. The proposed diversion was intended to formalise the 'on the ground' route which was currently walked.

Members had the opportunity to review the Footpath map as there was little information available on the documentation provided. The Parish Clerk was requested to contact the Rights of Way Officer for clarification on where the diversion would go and how it would impact on people walking the route.

Councillor Robinson reported fly tipping of building materials on Bridleway 36 and potential identification of the vehicle concerned. This would be picked up by the county councillors.

Councillor Morgan updated Members on a recent meeting with the owners of the quarry, Durham County Council planning and minerals officers and the Rights of Way Officer regarding the Quarrington Heights switchback route. The company had undertaken to consult their sub-contractors with regard to bull dozing alongside the escarpment and there would be a further meeting in September.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

39. ALLOTMENTS, GARAGES AND CEMETERY

The Parish Clerk reported that the five yearly monument inspection had been carried out in Bowburn Cemetery and seven headstones had been found to require repair. None of the headstones were judged to be unsafe but were loose and needed to be re-set. The Parish Clerk would endeavour to contact family members in the first instance to advise that the grave markers required attention.

A request had been received regarding paddock land rented out by the Parish Council in Turisdale. A field at Turisdale was currently let for grazing land and this tenancy included a paddock area, separated from the field by a public footpath. The tenant of the field was aware that several residents had indicated a wish to have an allotment plot in Turisdale and had suggested that the paddock area could be split into a number of allotments. The tenant had undertaken to maintain the paddock as part of his tenancy of the field, however circumstances had meant that they had been unable to fulfil this requirement of the tenancy agreement.

Members considered this proposal, however it was evident that a considerable amount of resource would be required to convert this area, which was designated as grazing land, into allotment plots and this was not something which the Parish Council could undertake within its current budget.

It was agreed that the tenant would be reminded of their responsibilities with regard to the paddock and that the Parish Council would seek to enforce the provisions of the tenancy agreement.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

40. COUNTY COUNCILLORS' MONTHLY REPORTS

Councillor Blakey provided updates on the following: -

- Clean and Green walkabout
- Housing Strategy
- Bread and Butter Thing
- Cassop Play Park
- Cassop youth work funding
- Believe Housing walkabout
- Litter pick
- Co-op parking complaints
- Park Hill village sign
- Anti-social behaviour

County Councillor McKeon reported that a second site visit had been requested for the old Co-op building and had also requested a site visit for the bus stops at the top of Durham Road. She also advised that the Police and Crime Commissioner had accepted an invitation to attend the Parish Council meeting in September.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

41. ACCOUNTS (EXPENDITURE)

Name	Description	Other Details	Cheque No.	£ p
Gillian Kelly	Salary (paid net of tax)	1 – 31 July 2023	050376	882.74
"	Mileage/Parking Fees	68 miles @ 45p	"	30.60
"	Printing	Instant Ink Cartridges	"	4.49
"	OneDrive	Subscription	"	1.99
"	Stationery	Stamps, Card	"	8.25
"	Postage	Underpayment	"	1.50
HM Revenue & Customs	Monthly Deductions (G Kelly) (July 2023)	Income Tax and NI Deduction	050378 (part)	176.40
HM Revenue & Customs	Monthly Deductions (A Shutt) (June 2023)	Income Tax Deduction	050378 (part)	31.40
HM Revenue & Customs	Employers NIC	Parish Clerk	050378 (part)	17.21

Andrew Shutt*	Monthly Fee (June 2023)	Allotment Superintendent (gross)	050377	156.30
D J Evans Youth Club	Local Youth Services	Salary Costs etc. (June 2023)	050379	3496.68
Bowburn Village Celebration	Bowburn Interchange	Issue 102	050380	400.00
Information Commissioner	Data Protection	Annual Fee	050381	40.00
Max Recycle	Bowburn Cemetery	Excess Waste	050382	2.52
"	"	VAT	"	0.50
Gardenling Ltd	War Memorial Maintenance	Miner's Gala	050383	105.00
Cassop Community Centre	Room Hire	June 2023	050384	30.00

*Cllr Shutt declared an interest in the item above.

RESOLVED that these items of expenditure be noted.

ACCOUNTS (INCOME)

16 JUNE 2023 – 12 JULY 2023

Name	Description	Details	£ p
Various Clients	Allotments, Garages	BACS	17.00
Davies	Bowburn Cemetery	Exclusive Rights	78.00

42. DATE OF NEXT MONTHLY MEETING

Agreed that the date of the next Monthly Meeting is to be Wednesday 16 August 2023 at 6.30pm at Cassop Community Centre.

I agree these to be a true record of the Monthly Meeting held on Wednesday 19 July 2023 at 6.30pm at Bowburn Community Centre.

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