



SACRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 4th September 2024 at 6.30 pm
In The Fulforth Centre**

Present: Cllr H. Dixon (Chair), Cllr G. Ludlow (Vice Chair), Cllr E. Waldock, Cllr S. Wilson, Cllr D. Robson, Cllr L. Claughan, Cllr K. Wilson, Cllr A. Page, Cllr L. Burn, Cllr R. Sharp and Mrs C. Dixon (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr F. Morrell, Cllr D. Forth, and Cllr A.M Johnson

Item No:

1.	Introductions and Apologies for Absence	The Chair opened the meeting at 6.30 pm and welcomed everyone. Apologies received and accepted from Cllr F. Morrell, Cllr D. Forth and Cllr A.M Johnson
2.	Disclosure of Interest from Members	Nothing to report.
3.	Questions from the public	(Questions & Comments from the public in attendance – max 5 mins per item/individual) Helen from the Sacriston Youth Project attended the meeting. She introduced herself as their charity worker, stating that she has been working at SYP for the last 9 months. Councillor Burn informed the meeting that some residents had approached her with the following concerns that they wished to raise: 1) Concerns regarding trees in Valley View. 2) The car park behind Mafeking Terrace - it has been reported that the car park is being used for business purposes. 3) The manager at Tesco has asked if anything is being done about the increased shoplifting within the village. He advised Councillor Burn that they would be having a meeting about increasing security within the store to prevent shoplifting. <u>RESOLVED</u> Cllr Waldock will investigate the car park issue and has advised that there are major problems in this area with car parking. Martin Hollingsworth attended the meeting. He is interested in the Parish Councillor vacancy and was asked to introduce himself. After providing some information regarding his background, Martin left the meeting. Members then discussed his appointment.

		<u>RESOLVED</u> All members agreed, and Martin was co-opted onto the Parish Council.
4.	Previous meeting minutes	Previous minutes from the meeting held on 10 th July 2024 were accepted and signed as a true record by the Chair.
5.	Police Matters	Cllr K Wilson raised concerns and thinks the police need to be aware; • Children riding up the main road of the Front Street on scooters and bikes. • People coming out of the flats and then going into the club which looked suspicious. Members also have concerns about residents in Iveson Terrace. <u>RESOLVED</u> Cllr S Wilson is to raise concerns with DCC. Cllr Waldock discussed the following points from the PACT Meeting: • The speed camera at Congburn caught 27 drivers. 26 drivers have attended the speed awareness course, 1 has received a penalty and fine. • The speed camera at Daisy Hill caught 99 drivers. 87 attended the speed awareness course, 11 received fines and points, and 1 has a court appearance. • Additional volunteers are needed for the community speed watch. If you are interested, please contact local PCSO Sam. • Councillor S Wilson has requested a Dispersal Order in Sacriston and is waiting for confirmation. • Stakeholders are working together to address issues and follow up on concerns. • Shoplifting in the village has decreased this month due to the number of arrests made. • All incidents need to be reported to 111.
6.	Clerks Report	No planning applications to raise. Query from Everyman Club: Can they place an advertisement on the noticeboard? <u>RESOLVED</u> Agreed an advert can be put in the noticeboard. <u>Oakwood Close</u> Residents have expressed concerns about the grassed area at Oakwood Close. The clerk has forwarded the information to the County Councillors. <u>RESOLVED</u>

		Cllr Waldock has contacted the Clean and Green Team regarding this. All other correspondence during July/August has been forwarded via email.
7.	Sacriston in Bloom	Raised beds and planters have been set up. Everything is looking good except for a couple of baskets and raised planters that have died. DCC is watering their planters and has left a few of these planters in the same area. Members questioned why they could not water the planters when they were passing them to prevent them from dying. <u>RESOLVED</u> Cllr Dixon is to speak to Graham Cozens regarding the watering of the planters and baskets. Cllr Burn inquired about the progress of the road resurfacing on the back street. Additionally, residents were not given any notice about the road closure. <u>RESOLVED</u> Cllr S Wilson is to find out further information as to if the work is complete, or when it will be completed. There has been a change to the Crossroads project plan as originally the plan included the highway. Members requested that Cllr Wilson organise a meeting with DCC so the Crossroads projects can progress accordingly.
8.	Parish Assets	Bus Shelters – The bus shelter at Plawsworth Road still requires attention. <u>RESOLVED</u> Cllr Dixon mentioned that he planned to talk to the local blacksmith to see if they could repair or maintain the shelter. The clerk told informed the meeting that she wasn't sure if the blacksmith could handle the repairs because an email from DCC indicated that the bus shelter was structurally damaged and would need to be replaced. Cllr Waldock mentioned that every time she passed by, she noticed that residents were sitting in the shelter and suggested that the seat be put back. <u>RESOLVED</u> Cllr Dixon and Cllr Robson will inspect the bus shelter. Village Clock – Nothing to report. Parish Building – Nothing to report.

		War Memorial – Cllr Ludlow is expecting a call tomorrow from Scott's Memorial. Pit Wheel – Nothing to report.
9.	County Councillor's Reports	Cllr S Wilson; • Feasibility studies are still ongoing at Fyndoune. Durham United has been getting the pitches ready however, mole holes have now appeared. Cllr Ludlow updated members with the status and Durham United thanked Durham County Council and Sacriston Parish Council for their support. • Issues having trees cut back around the village. Clean and Green are resistant to the removal of certain trees. • Supporting with housing issues. • Parking issues at Crossleas. Cllr E Waldock; • Hedges have been cut around the village and there will be a second cut. • Various drains have also been cleaned. Cllr Robson again requested that yellow lines be put down at the entrance to road from the Front Street coming to The Fulforth Centre. <u>RESOLVED</u> Cllr Wilson to investigate the yellow lines.
10.	Group Representative Reports	Fulforth Centre Committee Meeting • Linda has now stepped down completely as Chair and Cllr Dixon has taken on the role. • First aid course to be carried out for Fulforth Centre and Live Well North East staff. • Christmas Market will take place on Sunday 17th November 2024 between 2 pm – 5 pm. This is to free up space for the Christmas Extravaganza. • Santa has been booked for the Christmas Extravaganza. • Litter picking has been completed in August. • Volunteers are required to open and close the centre on a weekend when there are no staff available. • There is a leak in the MP's office, a roofer is attending on Friday. • Volunteers garden party took place and was well attended and very good. • Various other events taking place in the centre and members informed.

		• Cllr Dixon and Cllr Robson attended a meeting regarding funding. Cllr Dixon thanked Live Well North East for their hard work, and also acknowledged other members of staff within the Centre for stepping up in Becca's absence. It was noted that they are taking on additional duties during this time. • Enquiries about funding are ongoing. • Keycode is being changed for the centre. • The MP's office has been painted. The main office requires some refurbishments i.e. decorating and recarpeting and possibly upgrading some of the frontage. Cllr Dixon informed the meeting that the Council donates £1000 annually to the centre as payment for the usage of the hall for our monthly meetings. Could this money be used for the refurbishment works? <u>RESOLVED</u> All members agreed that £1000 could be used for the required works to the Fulforth Centre Development Group • The group has now disbanded. HR & Finance Group • Nothing to report. Allotment Association Meeting • Inspection at Daisy Hill had been carried out and warnings and a notice to leave have been issued. • Orchard has been cut back and the Chair thanked Cllr Robson and Cllr Sharp for their help in carrying this out. New Hill Allotments • Nothing to report.												
11.	Budget & Grant Applications	<u>Bank Account</u> As of the 4th September 2024, the bank balance was £102,651.05. <u>Invoices paid in August</u> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>30/08/2024</td><td>Stationary - ASDA</td><td>£ 22.50</td></tr> <tr> <td>27/08/2024</td><td>Employee Pay</td><td>£ 725.43</td></tr> <tr> <td>27/08/2024</td><td>Beamish Pest Control</td><td>£ 600.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>27/08/2024</td><td>Harry Robson</td><td>£ 200.00</td></tr> </table>	30/08/2024	Stationary - ASDA	£ 22.50	27/08/2024	Employee Pay	£ 725.43	27/08/2024	Beamish Pest Control	£ 600.00	27/08/2024	Harry Robson	£ 200.00
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12.	Date and time of next meeting	Next meeting is to be held Wednesday 2nd October 2024 at 6.30 pm. Meeting closed at 7.26 pm																								

Agreed and signed by Chair of Sacriston Parish Council Date