



SACRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 5th March 2025 at 6.30 pm In The Fulforth Centre

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

Apologies: Cllr L. Claughan, 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 L. Claughan, Cllr D. Forth, and Cllr A-M Johnson.
2.	Disclosure of Interest from Members	Cllr S Wilson declared an interest in any planning applications to be discussed.
3.	Questions from the public	(Questions & Comments from the public in attendance – max 5 mins per item/individual) There were 6 members of the public in attendance. The rats were still an issue at Charlaw Terrace, and residents would like to know the next steps. The Clerk advised that Beamish Pest Control had reported that one resident had been in touch. It was advised that further residents had now spoken with Beamish Pest Control. <u>RESOLVED</u> Cllr Dixon advised residents that the Parish Council had done all they could to help by asking residents to contact Beamish Pest Control so he could attend. We will contact him to ask if he could provide a report which could be submitted to Northumbrian Water. The Clerk will also contact the Neighbourhood Warden.
4.	Previous meeting minutes	Previous minutes from the meeting held on 19th February 2025 were accepted and signed as a true record.
5.	Police Matters	Cllr Waldock reported that she needs to arrange a catch up with the new PC but they have been on annual leave. Cllr S Wilson reported that the police he was aware of police presence in Davison Terrace surrounding concerns. Cllr Dixon advised he has written to the Chief Constable regarding CCTV in the village and has received a reply to say they are looking into the matter.

6.	Clerks Report	<u>Planning Application</u> DM/25/00123/FPA 1 Crossleas, Sacriston, DH7 6BF - Single storey side extension <u>Telephone Pole Erections</u> Openreach has given the council as planning and highway authorities notification to install 2x telegraph poles at: 17 Charlaw Close, Sacriston 26 Acorn Close, Sacriston 21 Parkside 2, 26 and 27 Brookside <u>Election</u> Nomination packs are available from County Hall or can be posted. Contact electoralservices@durham.gov.uk or tel 03000 261212. The emphasis remains with each councillor to secure their nomination form, complete it, and return it to the returning officer. The pre-election period commences on 20th March. <u>RESOLVED</u> No comments were made regarding the planning applications or the telephone pole erections. All members are aware of the election process. Cllr Waldock will confirm if we can hold a full council meeting next month.
7.	Sacriston in Bloom	<u>Crossroads Project</u> We need to determine when the contractor can begin the work. A meeting was held with Graham Cousins regarding this year's floral displays, during which concerns were raised about the watering of plants in the village. Graham assured us that this issue would be addressed this year. We also discussed the possibility of planting more bulbs and involving local schools in the planting process. After completing the initial phase of the project, we should consider Phase 2. This phase could involve creating hard-standing areas and some artificial turf behind the seating areas for planters. We will discuss this topic in a future meeting. Briefly discussed employing someone to help with the maintenance around the village.

8.	Parish Assets	Bus Shelters – Nothing to report. Village Clock – Nothing to report. Parish Building – Cllr Page submitted a request for the Sacriston Cubs to use the car park area in front of the building for cycling. <u>RESOLVED</u> Members agreed to the request. War Memorial – Nothing to report. Pit Wheel – Nothing to report. Cllr K Wilson has had a request from a MOP about getting a memorial bench at the top of Blackett's Bank. <u>RESOLVED</u> Cllr Waldock is to check as she is unsure where the Sacriston boundary lies.
9.	County Councillor's Reports	Cllr S Wilson; - A complete audit of the yellow lines in the village will be conducted. - Jim Murray has informed us that the site at Fyndoune is being looked at being developed into a special educational needs (SEN) school in partnership with Trinity School. Cllr E Waldock; - Fyndoune playing pitches - Newsletter ongoing - Attended AAP board event
10.	Group Representative Reports	Fulforth Centre Committee Meeting • Bernie has raised £1600 with a further £216 still to come from a charity event. • Further fundraiser planned for June on behalf of Children's Cancer. • Sophie's new contract is ready to be signed. • Becca (PDW) requires a new contract. • An overview of staff tasks/current roles and responsibilities to identify and analyse what will be needed over the next few months of staffing changes. • Timeline of staffing: ○ Sophie's maternity leave starts on 21st March. ○ Becca's role ends 28th March. ○ Becca returns from maternity leave 28th April.

		• Have now started a trial of Xero accounting instead of Sage providing a greatly reduced cost. • Kay from “Accounting for Good” is happy to arrange a meeting which will include the Trustees of the centre. • With regards to the merger, EMG has advised that Coalfields need to submit further documentation to Land Registry. • Need to be aware that Linda Surtees is still shown as a Trustee of the Old Charity. • Currently in the process of creating a Risk Register and Policy Tracker template. HR & Finance Group • Nothing to report. Allotment Association Meeting • Nothing to report. New Hill Allotments • Nothing to report.																		
11.	Budget & Grant Applications	<u>Bank Account</u> As of the 5th March 2025, the bank balance was £71,478.29. <u>Invoices paid in February</u> <table><tr><td>Peoples Partnership</td><td>£61.74</td></tr><tr><td>Scribe</td><td>£21.60</td></tr><tr><td>Smarty</td><td>£6.00</td></tr><tr><td>Spanish City Funfair</td><td>£1,500.00</td></tr><tr><td>Mcafee Security</td><td>£119.99</td></tr><tr><td>Curry's iCloud Storage</td><td>£60.00</td></tr><tr><td>ICO.Org</td><td>£52.00</td></tr><tr><td>Employee Pay</td><td>£744.96</td></tr><tr><td>HMRC</td><td>£186.00</td></tr></table> <u>Invoices to Pay</u> Nothing to pay.	Peoples Partnership	£61.74	Scribe	£21.60	Smarty	£6.00	Spanish City Funfair	£1,500.00	Mcafee Security	£119.99	Curry's iCloud Storage	£60.00	ICO.Org	£52.00	Employee Pay	£744.96	HMRC	£186.00
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12.	Date and time of next meeting	The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 2nd April 2025 at 6.30 pm. The meeting closed at 7.14 pm																		

Agreed and signed by Chair of Sacriston Parish Council Date