

# West Rainton & Leamside Parish Council

**Minutes of meeting held on  
Thursday 21 November 2019  
At Arden House, West Rainton**

**Present:** Councillors I Diggory, I Haddick, B Kellett, P Lowrie, P Morson & A Wallage (Chairperson)

**In attendance:**

M Ramshaw, Parish Clerk  
One member of the public

NOTE The meeting was not audio or video recorded.

**1) Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Cllr G Storey (work commitments)

**Parish Council resolved** to approve this absence.

Cllr M Boettcher and Cllr M Gilbank were not in attendance and had not submitted any apologies. **Parish Council resolved** to not approve these absences.

**2) Declarations of interest**

It was agreed that declarations of interest would be dealt with as and when the need arose.

**3) Public Participation**

No comments from the member of public in attendance.

**4) Minutes**

**Parish Council resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019 be approved as a correct record.

**5) Planning Applications**

One Planning Application for the West Rainton Parish had been received via email since the last Parish Council Meeting. There was no feedback.

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Cllr Wallage advised that a recent planning application in relation to 'Medulin' that had been refused had now been passed after an appeal. Parish Council expressed their disappointment with the outcome.

Cllr Wallage also drew members attention to a retrospective change of use application for Linden House from a residential dwelling to a Children's Home. Cllr Haddick declared an interest and took no part in the discussion. In order to consider a potential response, it was agreed that Cllr Wallage would monitor the planning portal for any concerns raised by residents and seek any comments on the proposal from the Village Partnership. Other members were asked to review details of application on the portal and feedback any concerns they receive through Cllr Wallage. If justifiable reasons for an objection, it was agreed that Cllr Wallage would submit a response on behalf of the Parish Council..

## 6) Finance Report

### Part A: For information:

1. **Income:** Cemetery: £153 – Grave Re-open(GM No 40) JM
2. **Expenditure**

#### **Expenditure previously approved by Parish Council due this month**

	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Amount (£)</b>
1	M Ramshaw	Parish Clerk net salary – November 2019	387.86
2	HM Revenue and Customs Only	Combined HMRC liabilities - November 2019	97.00
3	D Lewins	Cemetery Gatekeeper Fee – October 2019	80.00
4	Special Branch Tree Services	Grounds Maintenance Contract – October & November 2019	616.80
5	Anglian Water Business (National) Ltd.	Cemetery Water Bill 2/8/19-1/11/19	11.31
6	Believe Housing	Arden House room hire – 9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2 hrs total and 17 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2 hrs	20.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£ 1212.97</b>

### Part B: Expenditure requiring approval

	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Amount (£)</b>	<b>Budget Provision Y/N</b>
7	M Ramshaw	Reimbursement – British Legion Poppy Wreath £20, Batteries Xmas Tree	52.40	Y

		Lights £24 & 1 <sup>st</sup> Class postage stamps x 12 £8.40		
8	Smith of Derby	Missed VAT amount from previous invoice for service visit additional time (£65 (Paid Oct 19) + £13.00 VAT)	13.00	Y
TOTAL			<b>£ 65.40</b>	

### Part C: Bank Balances – For Information

Total Expenditure included above	<b>£1278.37</b>
Anticipated current a/c bank balance if all paid	<b>£24873.51</b>
Reserve Account Balance	<b>£15102.37</b>

#### Parish Council resolved to:

1. Note income, expenditure and bank balances reported for information.
2. Approve expenditure listed in Part B

#### 7) December Recess: Parish Council to consider authorisation of routine / expected payments due in December

Parish Clerk referred to the previously circulated information. As there Parish Council is in recess during December the Parish Clerk asked if the identified regular payments could be approved. **Parish Council resolved** to approve the payments.

#### 8) Jubilee Hall

Cllr Wallage referred members to the previously circulated report. Quotations have been sought regarding a valuation and building survey. Many of those contacted did not submit a quote. The most complete quotation with the required detail was from Woods Estate Agents.

£5000 AAP grant toward the costs of the valuation/survey is still available from the two County Councillors neighbourhood funding.

Parish Council resolved to approve the quotation from Woods and to finalise the grant submission to DCC with a view, if successful, to go ahead with the required works asap.

#### 9) Church Clock

Parish Clerk advised that information had been received from the PCC Secretary, Annabel Burns regarding some further repairs suggested by Smith of Derby whilst they were servicing the clock.

Annabel advised that a funding bid was being considered to Hargreaves to cover the estimated cost of repair of (£8-10K) as neither the PCC or the Parish Council

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had budget provision for such an expensive repair. However this has not been submitted at this stage to allow Parish Council to consider the matter and for competitive quotations to be obtained. Whilst the Parish Council would support such a bid there are some concerns that if the application was not successful there may be an expectation that the Parish Council funds 50% of the costs. After some discussion parish Council asked the Parish Clerk to obtain a copy of the detailed report submitted by the engineer to the PCC so that the Parish Council could consider the full extent of the repairs identified and the urgency for the repair before agreeing a course of action with the PCC.

### **10) Carols Around Christmas Tree Event**

The date for the event is Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 7.00 p.m. Pittington Brass Band were unable to perform on the date so Peterlee Town Band are going to attend. Members discussed the Parish Council funding the refreshments on the evening. A proposed cost of £230 for refreshments had been received from the Community Association. **Parish Council resolved** to agree the £230 for refreshments and in addition the hire of the Jubilee Hall.

### **11) Village Partnership**

Cllr Wallage advised that the Village Partnership have applied to Hargreaves for funding of two defibrillators for the Village. Cllr Haddick has also submitted another bid for further funding for the planting plan. DAY also gave an update which had been previously circulated to members.

### **12) Field House Open Cast Community Liaison Committee**

Cllr Kellett gave an update and informed members that a number of queries/concerns had been received from a resident and that some questions remain unanswered. **Parish Council resolved** to approve publishing the minutes from the Community Liaison Committee on the Parish Council website.

### **13) Smaller Councils Forum**

No update.

### **14) General correspondence**

The Parish Clerk advised there had been some correspondence regarding the Open Cast mine from a resident however this was discussed in item 12.

### **15) Confidential Item – HR Issues**

Parish Council considered a report prepared by Cllr Wallage regarding a claim submitted by the former project officer. Parish Council resolved to approve part of the claim relating to payment in lieu for additional leave entitlement for 5 years continuous local government service prior to commencement with the Parish Council.

Parish Council considered a report prepared by Cllr Wallage regarding a claim submitted by the Parish Clerk relating to payment in lieu for additional leave entitlement for 5 years continuous local government service prior to commencement with the Parish Council. Parish Council resolved to approve this claim.

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