

West Rainton & Leamside Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held on

At 19:00 on Thursday 18th February 2021

(Remote Meeting Via Zoom Technology –

Permissible under Sec 78 of the Corona Virus Act 2020)

Present: Councillors I Diggory, I Haddick (Chairperson), P Lowrie & A Wallage

In attendance:

M Ramshaw, Parish Clerk

NOTE The meeting was not audio or video recorded.

1) Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllr Kellett (another meeting) and Cllr Boettcher (appointment). **Parish Council resolved** to approve these absences.

Cllr Gilbank was not in attendance and had not submitted any apologies. **Parish Council resolved** to not approve this absence.

Parish Clerk Note – Cllr Morson submitted apologies due to work commitments at 18:50 prior to commencement of the meeting but these had not been picked up.

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 members of the public were present.

4) Minutes

Parish Council resolved to approve the previously circulated amended minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 21st January 2021.

Signature.....

Date.....

5) Finance Report

PART

A: FOR INFORMATION

1. INCOME Nil

2. EXPENDITURE

A)

Expenditure
previously
agreed by
Parish
Council due
this month

ITEM	PAYEE	PURPOSE	AMOUNT (£)	CHEQUE NO.
1	M Ramshaw	Parish Clerk Net Salary - February	398.70	303139
2	HM Revenue and Customs Only 465PD00171320	HMRC Liability - February	99.60	303140
3	Special Branch Tree Services	Cemetery Maintenance Contract - Jan 21	308.40	303141
4	Special Branch Tree Services	Removal of 2 x Trees and grind stumps	336.00	303142
5	West Rainton & Leamside Community Association	Grant - Running Costs (Pandemic)	1360.82	303144
TOTAL			2503.52	

B) Expenditure requiring approval

ITEM	PAYEE	PURPOSE	AMOUNT (£)	BUDGET PROVISION	CHEQUE NO.
6	Anglian Water Business (National) Ltd.	Cemetery water supply 2/11/20-1/2/21	14.21	Y	303136
7	M Ramshaw - Zoom Reimbursement	Zoom Monthly Subscription 14/2-13/3/21	14.39	Y	303137
8	County Durham Association of Local Councils	Parish Clerk training - Elections	10.00	Y	303138
9	Came & Company	Parish Council Annual Insurance	468.77	Y	303143
TOTAL			507.37		

Total Expenditure A + B 3010.89

Parish Council resolved to:

1. Note expenditure information.
2. Approve expenditure listed in Part B.

6) 2021/22 Insurance Renewal

The Parish Clerk advised members of the Insurance renewal premium due 15th March 2021. The Parish Council is in the second year of a three year agreement it entered into. This year's premium is £418.77 which is a rise £12.20 in line with the agreement.

Parish Council resolved to note the insurance renewal.

7) Planning Applications

Cllr Haddick referred members to the one planning application that had been submitted to DCC within the West Rainton & Leamside Parish area. Parish Council had no comments on the proposal.

8) Application for a Premises Licence

Cllr Haddick referred members to the email that had been circulated regarding a New Premises licence application for The Three Horse Shoes in Pit house Lane, Leamside. Concerns were raised regarding some of the proposed licensing activities which include:
Live music (indoors) Monday to Sunday 10.00am to midnight, New Year's Eve 10.00am to 3.00am.

Recorded music (indoors and outdoors) Monday to Sunday 7.00am to midnight, New Year's Eve 7.00am to 3.00am.

Anything of a similar description to live, recorded music or dancing (indoors) Monday to Sunday 10.00am to midnight, New Year's Eve 10.00am to 3.00am.

Late night refreshment (indoors) Monday to Sunday 11.00pm to midnight, New Year's Eve 11.00pm to 3.00am.

Supply of alcohol (on and off the premises) Monday to Sunday 10.00am to 12.30am, New Year's Eve 10.00am to 3.30am.

Parish Council discussed concerns around whether this licence application differs from the previous licence and what consultation will take place with local residents. Parish Council felt opening times were excessive commencing at 7.00am with music also being permitted from 7.00am both indoors and outdoors.

Cllr Wallage offered to contact DCC for further information and **Parish Council resolved** that delegated power be given to Cllrs Wallage and Haddick to develop a response, based on the discussions, for the Parish Clerk to submit by the deadline of 5th March 2021.

9) Asset Register

The Parish Clerk referred members to the updated Asset Register which now includes the Village Planters. **Parish Council resolved** to note the amended Asset Register.

10) Review of Policies and Regulations

The Parish Clerk advised of the requirement to review existing policies and explained to members that he hoped to bring any proposed amendments for Parish Council consideration over the coming months.

- a) Financial Regulations – Parish Council deferred reviewing this policy to enable it to be considered alongside the Standing Orders Policy to which it has some links.

Signature.....

Date.....

- b) Grants and Donations Policy – The Parish Clerk referred members to the previously circulated document showing proposed amendments to the existing Policy. Amendments were approved by Parish Council and **Parish Council resolved** to approve the reviewed Policy.

11) Parish Council Vacancies

a) Two Current Vacancies

The Parish Clerk advised that he had sought advice with regards to co-option for the 2 longstanding vacancies in light of the forthcoming May elections. Advice was that we should continue to try and co-opt to the vacancies. The vacancies are advertised.

c) New Vacancy

The Parish Clerk advised members that Gary Storey has now been absent for 6 consecutive months during which time no apologies had been approved by Parish Council. As a result of this situation Gary is automatically disqualified from being a Parish Councillor in line with Sec 85 of the Local Government Act 1972.

It was noted that Gary had struggled to balance work and Parish Councillor commitments and had actually tendered his resignation to this affect however this could not be accepted due to the automatic disqualification.

The ruling does allow subsequent election nomination/co-option application to become a Parish Councillor in the future and Parish Council wished to record their thanks to Gary for stepping forward for co-option into a Parish Council vacancy and the input he had during his time as a Parish Councillor.

12) West Rainton & Leamside Village Partnership

Cllr Wallage advised no meeting had taken place and therefore nothing to report.

13) Smaller Councils Forum

No information had been received and Cllr Boettcher was not in attendance.

14) General Correspondence

No general correspondence to table.

15) Date and Time of Next Meeting

Parish Council noted the next Parish Meeting to be held 18th March 2021 at 19:00. The Meeting will be held with due regard to Government guidance regarding the Covid 19 pandemic.