

COTHERSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council held in Cotherstone Village Hall on Wednesday 6 June 2018 at 7.30pm

In attendance:	Cllr John Birkett (Chair), Cllr Alan Thorn, Cllr Richard Hunter, Cllr Jenny Watson, Cllr Richard Green and Cllr Tim Sabey
Absent:	None
Public:	None
Clerk:	Judith Mashiter
Cllr Birkett welcomed two newly co-opted councillors and they duly signed their acceptance of office forms.	
1. Approval of apologies for absence	None
2. Declarations of interest	None
3. Requests for dispensations	No requests had been received.
4. Minutes	<p>Draft minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 9 May 2018 had been circulated. <i>It was resolved that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 9 May 2018 are an accurate record.</i></p> <p>Draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 9 May 2018 had been circulated. <i>It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 9 May 2018 are an accurate record.</i></p>
5. Parish Councillor vacancy	A statement of expression of interest had been received from Mr Robin Quick and circulated to councillors. <i>Following the agreed selection criteria and process it was resolved that Robin Quick be co-opted to the Parish Council.</i>
6. Public participation	No public were present.
7. Update on progress of actions and resolutions	<p>An action log updated 31 May 2018 had been circulated. Further discussion on highways issues took place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>It was resolved that Clerk contact Durham County Council concerning the following highways/footpath issues</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>Wall leading up to humped-back Briscoe Bridge repair still pending</i>○ <i>Split ash tree on Briscoe lane end – split is getting bigger and fungal growth is showing – danger of falling on highway</i>○ <i>Ash saplings adjacent to Balder bridge are blocking visibility for traffic</i>○ <i>Could the County Council reconsider a request for a 20mph limit outside Cotherstone School (noting that the previous reason for refusing this – of the road being a B-class road – seems not to apply to recent changes in Barnard Castle</i>○ <i>When is the next resurfacing of the highway through Cotherstone village scheduled?</i>○ <i>There are significant amounts of driftwood gathered by Balder footbridge which need removing.</i>○ <i>The need for the footpath between Hawcroft Lane and the demesnes lane to be trimmed/cut back.</i> <p>Noted that shocking amounts of dog dirt are seen on the lanes, footpaths and railway line near the village – much worse than in recent years. Cllr Sabey suggested that the Parish Council in future consider addressing this through innovative signage, leafleting, and/or involving the local school in a campaign.</p>
8. Planning matters	<p>A paper had been circulated.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. <i>It was resolved to note parish council decisions made prior to the meeting due to the response deadlines for: DM/18/01137/FPA (Haggworm Hall, Baldersdale DL12 9UP) and DM/18/01380/FPA (Fox Hall, Cotherstone DL12 9NL).</i>

- b. Councillors had listened to the views of a local resident concerning application DM/18/01548/FPA during the annual 'walkabout' prior to the meeting.

It was resolved that no submission be made on DM/18/01548/FPA (land to the north east of Latheholme, Cotherstone DL12 9PQ).

9. Correspondence

A list of correspondence received had been circulated and was noted.

- Further correspondence between a local resident and Durham County Council, copied to the Parish Council, regarding a barn conversion was noted.

10. Grass cutting – The Hagg

It was resolved that Clerk request that J&JG Gill cut The Hagg football pitch, as they do annually, prior to the Cotherstone Fun Weekend.

11. Review of Cemetery and Allotment sites

Following the annual 'walkabout' prior to the meeting:

It was resolved that Clerk remind the grass cutting contractor to keep cemetery paths, seats and gravestones clear of grass cuttings and request that the east green stream be trimmed prior to the Fun Weekend duckrace.

It was resolved that Cllrs Green, Sabey and Hunter together organise the removal of a fallen tree in the cemetery.

It was resolved that Cllr Hunter review the gravestone/number alignments for rows 43/44.

It was resolved that Clerk write to the tenant of Klondike allotment plot 8a, bringing to their attention the need for the plot to be used for cultivation.

It was resolved that an allotment rent review be initiated in November 2018.

12. Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Hunter reported that the Durham County Plan has today been issued for consultation and for this reason, the planning policy officers have been focussed on this and have not yet responded to the Cotherstone Plan policies. Once a response from Durham County Council is received in the next few weeks, the five Neighbourhood Plan policies, specific to Cotherstone — Housing, Heritage Assets, Green Spaces and Village Setting, Design of New Development and Business and Employment — will be subject to a second consultation event, in the Autumn, which will be widely publicised through a variety of methods.

13. Finance

A paper had been circulated.

- It was resolved to receive a report of receipts and payments from 1 May to 31 May and a bank reconciliation at 31 May 2018.*
- It was resolved to authorise payments due.* Three further payments which had fallen due since the report was prepared were approved and will be recorded in the July finance report.

14. To receive reports from representatives to external meetings

There were no reports to receive.

Meeting closed: 20.25pm