

Minutes of the Meeting of Bowes Parish Council held at Bowes School on 7th March 2023

The meeting commenced at 7.30

Present

Cllr Carlisle, Cllr Hughes, Cllr Tipping, Cllr White, Cllr Redfern and Mrs H Overfield.

1. Apologies

2.

Minutes of the Meeting

held Tuesday 7th February 2023 agreed to be a true record, approved by Cllr Hughes, seconded by Cllr Redfern.

3. Matters arising (unless dealt with later in the agenda

A parishioner has asked if we have had any work completed by Durham County Council on the roadside kerbs on the road outside of the allotments? They have been trying since the beginning of November with no joy. Clerk registered it with “Do it online” case FS-484087756 using what 3 words. briefing.obstinate.retail. Cllr Redfern has seen the area and it has been cleared. Clerk to contact the Parishioner saying that it has been completed and no further reports will be made.

4. Finance & Accounts – See summary below

Receipts since last meeting £

Expenses since last meeting £500.00 H Overfield wages £125.00 HMRC

Summary Bowes Parish Accounts & Balance sheet			As at 26/02/2023	
Year to 31st March 2023				
Budget	Income		Cumulative Total	
108.00	Allotments	245.00	Bank as at 31st March 2022	£12,218.15
1.00	Bank Interest	41.78	Income y/e 31st March 2023	£7,079.86
450.00	Cemetery & Village	690.04	Expenses y/e 31st March 2023	-£8,764.32
0.00	Footpaths	0.00	Total	£10,533.69
0.00	General Income	50.00	Represented by	
200.00	Grants	0.00	Nat West a/c - 21543798	£10,333.69
5611.20	Precept D.C.C.	5584.00	Nat West a/c - 015102553	£200.00
0.00	Playground	0.00	Uncleared movements	
0.00	Publications	0.00	Total	£10,533.69
600.00	Vat Refund	469.04		
170.00	West Clint Field	0.00		
7140.20	Total Income	7079.86		
	Expenses			
300.00	Allotments	350.00	Petty Cash	£0.00
1700.00	Cemetery & Village	3450.00	Total	£10,533.69
0.00	Footpaths	0.00		
250.00	General Expenses	1076.35		
1400.00	Grass Cutting	1255.00		
550.00	Insurance	546.60		
1600.00	Clerks salary	1593.00		
400.00	PAYE	398.25		
200.00	Playground	65.10		
600.00	VAT	30.02		
7000.00	Total Expenses	8764.32		
140.20	Actual Surplus/Deficiet	-1684.46		

Cllr Carlisle checked bank statements against the balances above and confirmed that they were correct.

Finances approved by Cllr Carlisle, seconded by Cllr Hughes.

5 **Planning**

DM/23/00219/FPA Cross Keys Farm – Erection of polytunnel- no objections

DM/23/00017/FPA Land & Buildings North of High Barn, - Change of use of land and buildings from agricultural and commercial for parking/storage of commercial vehicles and equipment (B8 Use) – no objections

6. **Correspondence**

Information regarding Durham County Councils Big Spring Clean has been added to the website in the news section.

Cllr Richard Bell e-mailed to let us know that there is a small pot of money for community commemorations of the Coronation. I e-mailed to ask if our commemorative mugs could come from this pot.

Jonathan Wallis has replied regarding the purchase of the land, he has asked if we still want him to proceed with negotiations. Jonathan doesn't think they would consider paying Bowes Parish Council to maintain/take care of the land as a nature reserve, in his experience they are likely to reject this on the basis that they want to have an outright purchase as they would enjoy under compulsory purchase powers. Clerk to reply – Please carry on with your negotiations. We don't think that an outright purchase debars us from taking care of the land. We are willing to sign a declaration to say that we have no rights to the land but we would like to keep it tidy.

National highways have sent a land use questionnaire to complete regarding the land they are interested in purchasing.

7 **Cemetery & Village maintenance**

Paul Simpson has completed the remaining phases of the yew tree trimming to the parish council's satisfaction.

The annual trimming of the avenue has been completed, thanks to Cllr Hughes for the use of his equipment and Cllr Carlisle for all his hard work.

8 **Allotments –**

Amended rules were sent to all allotment holders for observations, we received 3 replies, none of which were objections therefore the new rules will be introduced. Clerk to send out for signature when the new pricing structure has been calculated.

Councillor Hughes took no part in the next decision as he declared an interest, being an allotment holder. We currently receive £290.00 per year for Clint field and the allotments, our new rules state that we must collect enough to cover the cost from the Lords in Trust. It was decided to change the rent to cover £400.00, so that the rent won't have to go up for several years. It was agreed to increase the rent on the field as well as the allotments and to offer Linda a further 3 year rental agreement as it is expensive to advertise in the Mercury.

9 **Play Park**

No issues

10 **Parish Paths**

The 3P's have sent Cllr White an application form. The Councillors will have a walk around the village to see if there are any projects to be completed.

11 **AOB**

Meeting closed at 20.45 It was felt the above would have a positive effect.