

**Minutes of the meeting of NEASHAM PARISH COUNCIL held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**December 2016 at 7.00pm**

**Present:** J.W. Weighell (in the chair), P Dunn, E Miller, D Dodwell, K Sandick, C Murray, G Crute and Ward Councillors J Kelley and L Tostevin and R Heward Clerk.

**16/70 APOLOGIES** J Alderson

**16/71 Address by officers of the Environment Agency**

J Weighell and P Dunn declared an interest.

The main part of the presentation was concerned with renewing, repairing or replacing handrails and steps giving public and private access to the floodbank pathway. Photographs showing examples of how similar work had been carried out in other areas were circulated. Although the officers said that they would be happy to wait for views the meeting seemed to favour the renewal of those steps for public access, which were to be retained, to be renewed and for individual negotiations to take place where there was private access. The officers said that a site meeting could take place to discuss safety concerns regarding an area of the floodbank near where Kent beck joins the River Tees.

**16/72 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2016 were confirmed as a true record and signed. Regarding Minute No 16/66 , the matter was noted, not agreed.

**16/73 PACT REPORT**

It was noted that Police had confiscated a car from poachers and that there had been observations on a vehicle ,the occupants of which had been behaving suspiciously.

**16/74 ROADS and FOOTPATHS**

It was agreed that if work to repair the notice board at Dinsdale Park was to cost less than £100 that the work should be arranged to go ahead.

**16/75 VILLAGE GREEN ( Nothing )**

**16/76 Planning**

- a) Planning applications ( two each ) from T Dent`s farm, Spa Wells and Sockburn Hall were agreed.
- b) The terms of the planning objection and response to the proposed New Lane development, previously circulated were agreed.

**16/77 Recruitment of Clerk**

The recruitment procedure and terms of reference for the appointment of the new Clerk, previously circulated, were agreed.

**16/78 FINANCE REPORT**

- a) It was noted that £280 was expected to be received from the Transparency Fund.
- b) It was noted that £100 had been paid to DBC for work relating to deed searches regarding the Village Green.
- c) It was agreed that Darlington Borough Council be requested to set the precept for the 2017/18 financial year at £3,774.
- d) It was agreed that the Clerk's salary for this year should be £630.

**16/79 Arrangements for Parish Annual Meeting**

It was agreed that a date be fixed for this at the next meeting.

**16/80 OTHER MATTERS**

G Crute circulated copies of existing bye laws.

**16/81 OTHER CORRESPONDENCE ( Nothing)****16/82 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next meeting will be held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

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