

Bearpark Parish Council

At a meeting of **Bearpark Parish Council** held on **Wednesday 15 March 2023** at **7.00 p.m.** held at **Beaurepaire Community Hub.**

Present: **Councillor M Wilson in the Chair**

Councillors I Cummings, R Kemp and J Peart.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors O Edwards and P Wilson and County Councillor D Nicholls.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest in relation to any items of business on the agenda.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

4. Police Report

Councillor M Wilson informed the Council that a PACT meeting had been held at the Hub where low levels of crime had been reported. There had been a few incidents of vandalism at the Play Area. Many of the issues related to youths congregating in neighboring villages but those involved were from other areas including Consett, Spennymoor and Stanley.

5. Representations from the Public

There were no representations from the public.

6. County Council Report

Councillor M Wilson provided a brief report to the Council as follows:

- A new children's strategy launched – growing up in County Durham;
- Free on-street parking in Durham after 2pm would come to an end from 1 April 2023;
- Durham City Run Festival would return this year with 5k and 10k at Durham Cathedral and Castle between 13 and 15 July.

7. Coronation Event

The Clerk updated the Council in relation to the Coronation Event taking place at the Hub on Bank Holiday Monday 8 May. This would be planned in conjunction with

Beaurepaire Community Hub, with financial contributions from the Parish Council for the Facepainter and other attractions such as the tea cups. Kings and queens fancy dress through the ages had been discussed with vouchers for the winners. The time of the event was to be confirmed.

Resolved

That the update be noted in terms of bookings.

8. Request for Financial Assistance

The Clerk informed the Council that one request had been received for financial assistance. A copy of the request was attached. The Council had noted that repairs were required for the roof of the Community Hub and new appliances were being acquired to further provision for attracting new user groups and activities to the hub. The Parish Council were encouraged by some the activities taking place, particularly those sessions designed to giving young mothers confidence, employment training and so.

In discussing the application, Parish Councillors remarked that the spread of use the hub was good and it was currently one of the main facilities in the village to be able to offer certain types of activities. Financial assistance from Bearpark Parish Council was vital for the village resource which residents used in a variety of different ways.

Resolved

The Parish Council agree to support the project and make a contribution of £1000.

9. Report of the Clerk

The Clerk provided the Council with an update, which included:

- Launch of the Big Spring Clean
- Launch of the Devolution consultation

Resolved

That the Clerks report be noted and actions agreed, where appropriate. It was agreed to hold the first litterpick of the Spring on Sunday 2 April at 10.30 a.m. Participants to meet at Beaurepaire Community Hub.

10. Planning Applications

There were no planning applications for consideration.

Resolved

That the application be noted.

11. Community Emergency plan update

Councillor I Cummings informed the Council that the drop-in had been organised to take place on Monday 20 March 2023 between 5pm and 7pm. It was important that other Parish Councillors supported the event where they were able to and spread the word amongst residents.

Resolved

That the update be noted.

12. Village Matters**(i) Bookmarks**

Councillor R Kemp updated the Council of the bookmarks project funded at the previous meeting. The printing would be collected and handed to the school in the coming week.

Resolved

That the update be noted.

(ii) Community Centre

Councillor M Wilson informed the Council that there had been no progress regarding the Community Centre, although the centre had been vandalised externally, which was the responsibility of Durham County Council. Councillor I Cummings explained that the Parish Council periodically get upstirring of folks complaining about the Community Centre being closed and encouraged residents to lobby Durham County Council on the matter.

Resolved

That the information be noted.

14. Date of next meeting

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 19 April 2023.