

WINDLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held 7th December 2023 at Hutton House, Chilton

Present:	Councillor Dave Willshaw (DW) (Chair) Councillor Derek Cattell (DC) Councillor Phil Woods (PAW) Councillor Allison Morris (AM) Karen Youngusband, Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer (KY) 2 Members of the Public were also in attendance.	ACTION
27/23-24	Apologies No Apologies had been received.	
28/23-24	Declarations of Interest No Declarations of Interest were received.	
29/23-24	Minutes Members agreed to approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Windlestone Parish Council held 31 st August 2023	
30/23-24	Matters Arising from the Minutes (Item 22/23-24) Councillor Cattell explained that due to illness and lack of availability, himself and Councillor Woods had not yet managed to meet to review the public footpaths in the Parish. The meeting would be re-arranged at the earliest opportunity.	DC/PAW
31/23-24	Public Participation Two Members of the public were present at the meeting. It was agreed to bring members of the public into discussions under the relevant Agenda Items.	
32/23-24	Finance 1. Expenditure was approved and cheques signed accordingly. 2. Members agreed to raise the Parish Precept by 8% to £7,020. This would equate to an approximate increase on a Band D house of 63p per month. The Precept forms would be brought to the next Meeting of the Council in January for signing.	KY/DW
33/23-24	Planning There were no Planning Applications to discuss. Residents present at the meeting queried whether the Parish Council knew of any change of use being made to Clare Lodge?	KY

<p>Members had not been notified of any changes to the property, however as the property was situated within the parish of Chilton, Members may not have picked up on any applications submitted. The Clerk agreed to make enquiries.</p>	
<p>34/23-24 Eden Arms</p> <p>KY reported that she had once again asked the relevant authorities if they had any further updates regarding the Eden Arms. No further information had been received, although the Police had confirmed that they were keeping an eye on the premises. Residents present at the meeting reported that the lights were still on in the building on an evening and there were signs that people were residing at the property, despite there being little evidence of any works taking place at the premises. It was agreed that the Eden Arms be kept on the Agenda for future meetings.</p>	<p>KY</p>
<p>35/23-24 Update from the Chair/Clerk</p> <p>1. Rushyford Roundabout Residents present at the meeting reported that Durham County Council had published details of road works they intended to carry out in the New Year, on their website. Works included increasing the number of lanes from two to three, in the approach to Rushyford Roundabout from the new housing estate coming from Aycliffe. KY reported that she had been liaising with the Local Authority, who had agreed to take the Parish Council's request for improved access for pedestrians trying to cross the busy road into Chilton into account when designing the improvement scheme for the area. The Local Authority had also agreed to consult with the Parish Council about its plans.</p> <p>Members agreed that KY contact officers at Durham County Council to determine what was happening with the proposed development. It was also suggested that KY enquire with County Councillor Julie Cairns about the proposed developments and also to invite her to the next meeting of the Parish Council.</p> <p>2. Windlestone Park No further information had been received regarding developments at the Hall. KY offered to contact the Estates Manager to request an update, and specifically to enquire if works on the enabling development were any closer to commencing.</p> <p>3. Parish Boundary DW referred to an email that he had circulated regarding Durham County Council's Parish Boundaries. DW highlighted the Map included in the email and suggested that Members look at the Map in more detail as it included details of the Parish Boundaries in the County.</p>	<p>KY</p> <p>KY</p> <p>KY</p> <p>ALL</p>

	<p>4. Invitation to the Royal Garden Party DW informed Members that CDALC had issued an invite to Parish and Town Councils, inviting up to two nominations per Parish, from former Chairs, to put their names forward, to attend the Royal Garden Party. PAW was the only Member of Windlestone Parish Council eligible to attend the event however, as PAW had kindly declined the invitation, no nomination would be entered this year.</p> <p>5. Parish Council Facebook Page KY informed everyone that she had now set up a Facebook Page for the Parish Council and invited everyone present at the meeting to submit friend requests to the site.</p>	ALL
36/23-24	<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting</p> <p>KY to book Hutton House (Chilton Town Hall) for the next meeting of the Parish Council as follows:</p> <p><u>Ordinary Parish Council Meeting – 6.00pm Tuesday, 9th January 2024 – later moved to 6.00pm Tuesday, 16th January 2024</u></p> <p>Members requested that the following items be added to the Agenda for the next meeting in January:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Rushyford Roundabout Improvement Works (KY to contact the Local Authority for an update) • Update on Windlestone Hall Developments (KY to ask Stephen Robertson for an update) • Potential Projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Potential for Floral Tubs and/or Hanging Baskets to be installed around the Parish (KY to look at costs) ➤ Sponsorship for new Parish Website ➤ Noticeboards in the Parish – potential for one additional noticeboard to be installed at Mill Cottages ➤ Provision of a Grit Bin at Windlestone Park (KY to look at options) 	<p>KY</p> <p>KY</p> <p>KY</p> <p>KY</p>

With no further business to discuss the Chair declared the meeting officially closed at 7.20pm.

SIGNED: (Chair)

DATE: