MINUTES OF ELDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 17th SEPTEMBER 2024

Attendance: **Councillors: Gibson, Pennington & Troup**
County Councillor: Quinn &Townsend
Public Participation: 3
Clerk: J Linsley

Item No.		Ref
1.	**Welcome & Introductions, including Filming & Audio Recording Statement** It was noted that at this meeting the Clerk made written notes for the purpose of producing an accurate account of the minutes **Resolved:** Noted	D097/24
2.	**Apologies, acceptance or otherwise** Apologies received from Cllr. Henry & Cllr. Anderson **Resolved:** Apologies accepted	D098/24
3.	**Disclosure of Interests, pecuniary or personnel** **Resolved:** See D111/24	D099/24
4.	**Any Applications for Dispensations** **Resolved:** See D111/24	D100/24
5.	**Minutes** The minutes of the Meeting held on 23rd July 2024 were approved by Cllr's Gibson & Pennington. **Resolved:** Noted	D101/24
6.	**Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour** There were no reports received from the Police. Cllr's Gibson & Pennington advised that there had been an incident with the theft of a handbag at the recreation area and that footage was captured on a local residents CCTV and Social Media posts helped to identify the people involved and the handbag was duly returned to its owner. **Resolved:** Noted	D102/24

	Cllr. Pennington advised that the number of catapult incidents had reduced significantly. **Resolved:** Noted Cllr's Gibson & Troup advised that the gated entrance to Blackies Wood had been damaged again, this time the fixing post had been lifted out of the ground, which meant that access to the wood is unrestricted and there had been a number of vehicles parked in the area with a significant increase in the presence of quads and motorcycles. **Resolved:** The Clerk to send an email to Aiden McCabe, Kate Ward and Rebecca Ebdon, to highlight the matter. Cllr Gibson advised that the HMO in New Row, had been boarded up and they reported that the work had stopped. **Resolved:** Noted	
7.	**Questions – to deal with any issues raised by member of the public** **a. Hedgerows and footpaths** Cllr. Gibson advised that the bench on Eldon Bank was covered in Brambles and the branches were making it difficult to stay on the footpath, with a potential for a pedestrian accident **Resolved:** The Clerk to put on the DCC Portal. **b. Blackie Woods** The Chair of Dene Valley Parish Council, Jayne Nicholson attended the meeting to discuss the prospect of a joint project to have Blackie Woods regenerated to encourage wildlife, replanting of trees, restoration of the pond and to have a community woodland. Also to work with various agencies to continue with Target Hardening and driving down the level of ASB, it was a very positive discussion and both Parish Councils agreed to work together, **Resolved:** The clerk to send an email to Kate Ward, Rebecca Ebdon & Aiden Mcabe with copy to Jayne to arrange a site meeting.	D103/24
8.	**Reports** **a. From representatives on Outside Bodies or attending Outside Bodies** There were no reports received. **b. From County Councillors** Cllr Townsend commented that there was a new online portal for residents to put incidents and report crimes to the local Police Authority, whilst it had not been widely advertised, the portal was working well.	D104/24

	Resolved: Noted	
9.	**Eldon Community Partnership Updates** **a. Summer Fayre 2025** The event is planned for Saturday 19th July and Carnival Funfair and Mr Twister were available on this date **Resolved:** Noted **b. Room Bookings** There were bookings for 2 baby showers, cobweb orchestra and a Halloween disco **Resolved:** Noted	D105/24
10.	**Bishop Auckland & Shildon Area Action Partnership Issues** **a.** Discuss any future projects and funding available **Resolved:** Nothing to discuss	D106/24
11.	**Correspondence/Documents Received** Invitations to the Mayors Charity Ball and Carol Service had been received and circulated to all councillors **Resolved:** Noted	D107/24
12.	**Planning Matters** **a.** Eldon Bank Farm – Agricultural Building Retrospective Planning Application DM/24/01777/FPA A comment of No Objection was put on the planning portal, at this stage there was no decision, Cllr. Shirley Quinn advised that the Planning Committee scrutinised all retrospective applications. **b.** Bungalows opposite Office Row - Appeal APP/X1355/W/24/3344800 Mr Beale attended the meeting to advise that the Planning Inspectorate had upheld the Planning Departments decision and that if he wished to pursue the matter, he could take the case to the hight court. We discussed the matter with Mr Beale and said that whilst the council were not qualified in planning matters, that he could apply for full planning permission at a future date and we would support the application and ask for it to be heard at a Planning Committee meeting. Cllr Shirley Quinn arrived at the meeting after Mr Beale had left and heard the views of the council and the comments from the Chair of Dene Valley Parish Council about the strategic development of the area and that there inevitably be a joining up of housing developments and	D108/24

	perhaps the application should be submitted in the next couple of years, if and when the speculated developments came to fruition. **Resolved:** Noted	
13.	**Update On Town & Villages Project** **a.** Project update There are two stone and the metal posts still to be installed. The CCTV is yet to be installed, a lengthy discussion was held again to discuss the delays to get the CCTV up and running. Joanne Nicholson, advised that she was now appointed on the AAP as a Public Member and suggested that we attend the meeting on the 19th November and address the AAP Board to highlight the problems being encountered and to suggest that the Council is reimbursed £6600 until such time as the CCTV is installed **Resolved:** The clerk to send an email to Kate Ward, Aiden Mcabe and Peter Garrod and state that it is the Parish Councils attention to raise the matter at the November meeting,	D109/24
14.	**Land and Environmental Issues** **a.** Solar Panels Cllr Gibson advised that Tom Bolton was preparing to resubmit an application for Solar Panels, and had been collating the updated quotes **Resolved:** Noted	D110/24
15.	**Application for Grants & Donations** To consider any applications for grants or donations. ECP will be looking for a donation of £250 towards the Christmas meal for pensioners **Resolved:** EPC to put in a formal request	D111/24
16.	**Annual Accounts** The accounts were audited in full by Mazars and were accepted as a true account of the financial transactions in 2023/24. **Resolved:** The clerk to publish the Notice of Conclusion on the Parish Website and Noticeboard	D112/24
17.	**Any questions from members for the Clerk or Chairman** To be discussed at the Chairman's discretion. **Resolved:** Nothing Discussed	D113/24

18.	**Date of next meeting** Tuesday 19th November 2024 at 7pm	D114/24
19.	**Vouchers/Invoices & Income/Expenditure** Cllr. Gibson & the Clerk signed the cheque for the clerk's salary **Resolved:** Cheques were signed by two authorised signatories	D115/24

The meeting closed at 8.47pm

Signed by the Chairman……date……..