

WINSTER COUNCIL
Clerk & Financial Officer: Trisha Dale
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clerk@winsterCouncil.gov.uk

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING: 4th November 2024, 7:00pm, held at the Jubilee Room,
Burton Institute, Winster.

These minutes are hereby approved as a true and accurate record of the above meeting following Resolution of the Council at its monthly Council meeting on 2nd December 2024

Signed Chair of meeting

In attendance: Cllr. Hatfield (Chair), Cllr. Brown, Cllr. Cooper, Cllr Randles, Cllr Stone.

Also Present: Trisha Dale (Clerk), 5 members of the public, Representative from Bakewell and Eyam Community Transport.

No.	Item	AP						
11/01/24	Apologies Apologies received from Cllr. Frederickson, Cllr. Geddes							
11/02/24	Declaration of Interests None declared.							
11/03/24	Reports: A: County Councillor's Report: None this month. B: Borough Councillor's: None this month. C: Police Report: None this month. D: Chair Report: None this month.							
11/04/24	Public Participation Resident 1: Raised the ongoing issue of cars parking on pavements. Again, recently on taking a partner in a wheelchair to attend an appointment at the Doctor's surgery there were difficulties with cars parked on the pavement at Leacroft, which resulted in having to bounce the wheelchair down onto the road to bypass. There were also six cars parked on the crescent which caused problems when trying to pass. The Chair believes he is aware of the resident/s that are parking there and will speak to them, alerting them to the issues that are being caused. Resident 2: Raised the issues of potholes on the lower side of the common and was pleased to report that this has now been repaired. Others at the meeting also confirmed that potholes in Burma Road and on the flat had also been repaired. Cllr Randles confirmed that she had photographed the potholes and reported them alongside reporting some blocked drains that she is aware of. The resident advised the Parish Council that the recently mown grass pathway on the common was pleasing and asked if the whole of the common was to be mowed. Cllr Randle confirmed that the contractor had been contacted to complete the mow and will chase for the date that this is being done. No other residents raised any issues/concerns.	 MH MR						
11/05/24	Members Questions to the Chair There were no questions raised to the Chair. However, Cllr Randle on behalf of the Parish Council wished to thank Simon Wood for putting up the Remembrance Day poppies throughout the village.							
11/06/24	Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Relating Thereto A: The minutes of the previous Council meeting held on 7 th October 2024 were considered and approved. (Prop: MH 2 nd : MR; Unan)							
11/07/24	Finance A: To note the Council's monetary assets: Royal Bank of Scotland, and for the Chair of the meeting to examine, approve and arrange to sign the bank reconciliation and latest current account statements when available.							
		<table border="1"><thead><tr><th></th><th>As at 7th October 2024</th><th>As at 7th October 2024</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Balance brought forward 1st April 2024</td><td>£44,730.52</td><td>£44,730.52</td></tr></tbody></table>		As at 7th October 2024	As at 7th October 2024	Balance brought forward 1st April 2024	£44,730.52	£44,730.52
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Total Income	£25,473.05	£25,208.45
Total Expenditure	£14,715.37	£13,451.52
Balance	£55,488.20	£56,487.45
Last Statement Balance as at 1 st October 2024	£56,776.61	£58,798.20
Less un-presented cheques	£1,329.85	£2,440.60
Add uncleared deposits	£41.44	£129.85
Available Balance 4 th November 2024	£55,488.20	£56,487.45

B: To approve and instruct the payment by cheque, of presented invoiced items, including the following:

- i) T. Dale – Salary - £385.03
- ii) F. Purslow – Salary - £338.89
- iii) HMRC – Employer contribution - £114.36
- iv) S. Wood – Cleaning - £100.00

In addition, late submissions:

- v) A. Stone– Reimbursement for Memorial Wreath - £24.99

Clerk advised the Parish Council that the strimmer was being repaired at a cost of c£41.00. On receipt the Clerk will pay as they no longer accept cheques and will put the claim through at the next meeting.

C: To note the income and receipts of the Council.

- i) Honesty Box - £41.44

(Prop: AC 2nd: MH; Unan)

D: An update on 2023/24 Audit was given by the Clerk. The external Auditors have now been in touch setting out next steps, of which there are three. It is understood that steps 1 and 2 being confirmation that objections were proper to the 2023/24 audit and confirmation that the objector was/is an electorate of the Parish Council etc have been completed, now moving on to step 3, the investigation. The external auditors also advised the objector of the costs that would be incurred, depending on time taken to investigate, and that the costs would need to be covered by the Parish Council ergo the tax payer and that they can at any point retract their objections, reducing the costs. Costs are £355.00 plus VAT per hour, £2,485 plus VAT per day. Therefore, 5 days would equate to just under £12.5K plus VAT, 10 days just under £25K plus VAT and so on. The auditors were unable to provide an estimate of how long the investigation would take.

Following the Clerks update a discussion took place on notifying/making residents aware of the situation. Cllr Randles requested that a public meeting should be arranged as soon as possible, to raise awareness of the matter and the impact on the Parish, as the costs could be greater than the precept, could impact on reserves such as the expansion of the burial ground, impact on the ability to pay for village activities such as grass mowing. Overall cost the Parish a great deal of money. A meeting would allow for feedback and gain support that could be sent to the auditor to hopefully cap the costs. Clerk advised to be mindful that any actions with the auditor could prolong the exercise and add to costs. Cllr Stone, whilst not averse to a meeting was not sure what it would gain as the Parish Council/Residents could not alter the process as it was “out of our hands”, and the Clerk confirmed that this was the case. Cllr Brown whilst agreeing raised concerns about setting expectations, mirroring Cllr Stones comments. It was asked if an article in the village magazine or if a meeting was to be held it should be a presentation of the facts only. It was agreed that a presentation would be the best approach. It was proposed that Cllr Hatfield as Chair of the Finance Committee should deliver the presentation whilst Cllr Randle will organise the meeting.

E: The Clerk advised the Parish Council that due to the above 2023/24 audit advice was being sought on possible delays with setting the 2025/26 budget/precept as costs incurred are not available. The Clerk will update Councillors on receipt of advice received.

MR,
MH

Clerk

11/08/24	<p>Council Matters</p> <p>A: The Community Development Officer from Bakewell and Eyam Community Transport attended the meeting to provide a presentation/overview of the organisation. Bakewell & Eyam Community Transport is a not-for-profit charity, based in Great Longstone. They provide an accessible transport service to the rural communities throughout the northern Derbyshire Dales and Hope Valley. Their services include group trips such as shopping trips, lunch outings etc allowing those that are isolated the opportunity to meet others and visit various locations. They also provide a volunteer led car scheme providing individual, tailor-made journeys to health care appointments including hospitals, opticians and dentists. Allowing those who do not have access to public transport or where timetables are restrictive to access essential healthcare appointments.</p> <p>There are fifteen residents within Winster that have registered and use their services, they would like to encourage/welcome others that would benefit. They use various mediums to advertise their services, Winster News Group, Facebook etc. It was suggested that a visit to Luncheon Club might be an idea and also to contact the Community Group to advertise services.</p> <p>As a charity they are reliant on volunteers and funding and would be grateful for more volunteers. It was advised that a resident is also doing a similar thing and that the Parish Council would contact the resident to ask if she was happy for her details to be passed to the organisation.</p> <p>The Parish Council thanked the Community Development Officer for attending the meeting.</p> <p>B: An application for the Casual vacancy was received, Cllr Cooper proposed, Cllr Randle seconded the candidate Simon Wood, it was unanimous to co-opt onto the Parish Council. Therefore, Simon Wood was duly elected. Acceptance form and register of pecuniary interest form to be completed, and provided to the clerk. Clerk to notify the Returning Officer, DDDC of appointments.</p> <p>C: Cllr Brown requested that the Parish Council agree to ask the Secret Garden Committee for funding for the previously agreed purchase of toy games to be used at various events that take place within the village. It was agreed to ask for funding.</p> <p>D: A discussion on Leacroft, following the petition took place. Following the considerable objection to the conditions at Leacroft Cllr Brown suggested that the Parish Council should take on board the resident's objection and proposed that the area should be mowed with the possibility of a metre strip in the centre only to be used for flowering, possibly with spring and autumn bulbs such as crocuses. That before a decision was made residents living facing the area in Leacroft be leafleted with the idea to seek their views. It was questioned about funding, Cllr Randle confirmed that there is a separate environment fund set aside for the flowering project but any changes to the existing plan would need to be agreed with the District Council. The Parish Council agreed with this approach and that rather than Leacroft be included in the overall management plan it would be separate and lead by Cllr Brown.</p> <p>No agreement was reached on the lead Councillor for the management plan, Cllr Hatfield to discuss with Cllr Frederickson post meeting.</p> <p>E: There was no update on the request under Freedom of Information regarding housing within Winster. Clerk asked if this item can be removed from the agenda until there is an update, at this point it would be added to the next available agenda. This was agreed.</p> <p>F: An update on repairs to Woodhouse Lane was given following a site visit. Following the visit by Cllr Randle and Cllr Cooper some remedial work has taken place, drains that were blocked have been reported. It was suggested that further work to repair the damage caused by heavy rain and rainwater flowing down from Pump House Lane is</p>	<p>DB</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>DB</p> <p>DB</p> <p>MH</p>
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	<p>needed. The water flow has caused scarring to the path and will require replacing some stones, tarmacking a small area and installing a small sleeping policeman. The Clerk asked if this was a deviation from discussing and agreeing to either a short-term fix and long-term solution. It was thought that a long-term solution was not viable as would be extremely costly and possibly not appropriate.</p> <p>It was asked if the repairs could be covered by the PROW scheme, Clerk advised that only the replacement of the stones would be covered, tarmacking and sleeping policeman would need to be funded separately. A quote on both to be provided for the next meeting.</p> <p>G: There was not much to update on various traffic issues within the Village. The article for the village magazine agreed at the last meeting has been completed to include contact details for Ecobat and will be included in the next edition. In addition, the “20’s plenty” signage has been placed near the school.</p> <p>Cllr Stone advised the Parish Council that new road closure signs have been placed at Wensley. It is understood this is due to work being completed by Gigaclear.</p> <p>H: An update on the extension of the Burial Ground was given at the last Finance Committee meeting, identifying the costs of a path etc. There was no further update.</p> <p>I: A tender for Village toilets contract cleaning was received from Simon Wood at a cost of £20.00 per visit with the expectation that cleaning will take place once a week with additional attendances at busy periods. The tender application was agreed. (Prop: DB 2nd: AC; Unan)</p> <p>J: An update on the PROW repairs was discussed earlier in the meeting under item F Council Matters.</p> <p>K: Following a notice being placed on the Winster Public Call Box (PCB) giving notice of 90 days of intention to withdraw the payphone service the Parish Council were provided an overview of the current situation by Cllr Stone on behalf of Cllr Geddes.</p> <p>An appeal has been put to PDNP as it is vital in providing the only reliable way of talking to the emergency services in a power cut.</p> <p>It is understood that the last box in any location can be removed only if ALL of the following apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) all UK-wide mobile network operators have coverage at the Site; b) the Site is not a high frequency accident or suicide location; c) fewer than 52 calls were made from the last PCB in the 12 months prior to the start of the relevant Representation Period; and d) there is no other evidence of a reasonable user need for that PCB. <p>In relation to the above there is no evidence to support a challenge against criteria b and the fact that BT are proposing closure strongly suggests that the box has had fewer than 52 calls in the last year rules out criteria c.</p> <p>However, it is believed that criteria a and d could be challenged.</p> <p>Mobile Cover, the coverage has been checked at the following sites using the Ofcom Indoor Checker which confirms patchy mobile phone coverage, particularly along Main Street. There are several locations in the village from which mobile phone calls to the emergency services will fail:</p> <p>Winster Village Shop, Market Cottage, Hefford House, Old Bowling Green and The Burton Institute.</p> <p>And d no other evidence of a reasonable user needs for that Public Call Box, retention of the box is providing essential access to emergency services.</p> <p>The Parish Council was asked for formal approval to support Cllr Geddes on this matter. The Parish Council approved the request.</p> <p>L: There was nothing to note and, if urgently required, to discuss any other issues which merit the Council’s attention. However, Cllr Cooper confirmed that the grit under the Snow Warden Scheme had been received and all Winster Parish Council grit bins have been filled.</p>	<p>AC</p> <p>JG</p>
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	<p>Cllr Brown asked if the Parish Council would object to an article being produced on behalf of Marches Energy Agency who will be providing free of charge retro fit/energy saving advice, and a survey on energy efficiency to residents residing in listed or historical buildings. This had not been raised before due to Cllr Browns involvement with the organisation as it could be deemed as a pecuniary interest, but this is no longer the case. No objections were raised.</p>	
11/09/24	<p>Planning: A: The following were discussed, considered and instruction reporting the Council's views on applications received are available to view on www.peakdistrict.gov.uk, including the following: i) NP/DDD/0724/0771- Tite Cottage, Main Street, Winster. Install an EV charger on the façade to allow the owners to charge their hybrid electric car. Application is now considered to have been withdrawn, as Listed building consent is not required. No objections raised. ii) NP/DDD/1024/1109- Tite Cottage, Main Street, Winster. Install an EV charger on the façade to allow the owners to charge their hybrid electric car. No objections raised. iii) NP/DDD/0924/1022 - Bank House, West Bank, Winster. Installation of an OHME Epod EV charger to the side of a grade 2 listed residence. No objections raised. iv) NP/DDD/0924/1023 - Bank House, West Bank, Winster. Listed Building consent - Installation of an OHME Epod EV charger to the side of a grade 2 listed residence. No objections raised. B: To note any planning decisions as notified by the Peak District National Park Authority: - None this month.</p>	
11/10/24	<p>Correspondence & Circulars: Noted and discussed, correspondence received and pre-circulated to Members by email, unless otherwise indicated, including the following: i) DCC – Community News, Flood Risk Management. ii) DDDC– Feel Good Walk, Mobile Library. iii) Public Sector Executive – various. iv) PDNPA – Have Your Say in Future PDNP Plans, Local Plan Review, Parishes Bulletins. v) DALC – Newsletters, DALC Day Agenda, Local Government Services Pay Award. vi) Peak Park Parishes – AGM Agenda/Minutes. vii) Peak Park Foundation – Community Nature Fund. viii) Derbyshire Wildlife Trust – Funding. Regarding item iv a discussion concerning a meeting scheduled for the 11th November with attendance by Councillors and Residents took place. There was some confusion over who had arranged the meeting. Cllr Brown was under the impression that this was arranged by the Parish Council to discuss and conclude the Parish Councils response to future PDNP plans, whilst the Clerk understood it to be arranged by PDNP to provide an overview of the plans. Either way it was strongly recommended that the Parish Councillors attend. Post the meeting it was confirmed that the meeting had been arranged by PDNP.</p>	Clerk
11/11/24	<p>Items for the Village Magazine: Traffic Issue reporting. (see item Council Matters G) Marches Energy Agency free survey. (see item Council Matters L)</p>	MR DB
	<p>The next Council Meeting will take place at 7.00pm on Monday 2nd December 2024, at the Jubilee Room, Burton Institute, Winster. Meeting closed at 8.02pm.</p>	