

**Minutes of the Bewcastle Parish Council AGM  
Monday 13th May 2019 at 7.30 pm in Roadhead Hall**

**Present:** Barbara Smith (Chairman), Brian Carruthers, Pam Copeland, Malcolm Dodd, Ann Holt-Thomas, Steven Pattinson, Pat Renwick, Michelle Thorpe, Frank Waugh

Item No		Action
19.22	<b>Apologies</b> were received from Pam Copeland whose husband was in hospital and it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the reason for absence. Val Tarbitt also sent her apologies.	
19.23	<b>Election of Chairman</b> – Frank Waugh proposed that Barbara Smith be re-elected and it was unanimously seconded.	
19.24	<b>Welcome newly elected Councillors</b> – the Chairman welcomed Michelle Thorpe and looked forward to welcoming Pam Copeland at the next meeting.	
19.25	<b>Requests for Dispensations</b> – none received.	
19.26	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> – none received.	
19.27	<b>Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019</b> were agreed and it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to authorise the Chairman to sign them as a true record.	
19.28	<b>Matters arising</b> 19.18 Highways a) the Clerk had received a reply from Highways promising to make the diversion signs less confusing. b) The Clerk had received a reply from Gareth Scott, Highway Network Manager, to the complaint about the timber and stone wagons. Put simply, he said there was nothing he could or would do.	
19.29	<b>Annual Governance Statement</b> – it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to accept the statement.	
19.30	<b>Annual Statement of Accounts and Internal Audit Report</b> – it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to accept the internally audited statement of accounts.	
19.31	<b>Certificate of Exemption</b> – it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to accept the Certificate.	
19.32	<b>Financial report</b> – the Clerk reported that once all cheques and receipts had been cleared the current balance would stand at £3,782.30 including the deposit account balance of £501.12. The full report is attached.	
19.33	<b>Retention of Documents Policy</b> – it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to accept the policy.	

<p><b>19.34</b></p>	<p><b>Donation of seat/bench for the Cemetery</b> – Mr Holes had expressed a wish to donate a seat in the cemetery next to his wife’s grave. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Holes explaining that the Council was not allowed to place seats on the burial area but that he could always bring a portable seat when visiting the grave as long as nothing was fixed to the ground. If he wished to donate a seat in memory of Mrs Holes then perhaps it could be placed away from the burial area.</p> <p>The benches at the Church and at Sleetbeck were also discussed and it was agreed that repairs could be made to both. The Chairman would look into the matter.</p>	<p>CML</p> <p>BS</p>
<p><b>19.35</b></p>	<p><b>Forestry Investment Zone (FIZ)</b></p> <p>There was much discussion on this item. The Council were unanimous in rejecting the idea of further forestry planting in Bewcastle. The Clerk was asked to write to Jim O’Neill, the Forestry Investment Zone Implementation Officer, with a view to taking up his offer of meeting with interested parishioners. It was agreed this could be publicised on Facebook as well as the Council’s website and noticeboards once a date had been agreed.</p> <p>There being no further business the meeting closed at 9pm.</p>	<p>CML</p>