

## Minutes of the Bewcastle Parish Council Meeting Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at 8pm in Roadhead Hall

**Present:** Barbara Smith (Chairman), Brian Carruthers, Malcolm Dodd,  
Ann Holt-Thomas, Mary Phillips, Pat Renwick, Frank Waugh  
**Absent:** Steven Pattinson

Item No		Action
18.37	<b>Apologies</b> were received from Andrea Nicholson, City Cllr David Shepherd and County Cllr Val Tarbitt.	
18.38	<b>Requests for Dispensations</b> – none received.	
18.39	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> – none received.	
18.40	<b>Minutes of the AGM held on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018</b> <b>RESOLVED:</b> that the Minutes be received and signed as a true record of the meeting.	
18.41	<b>Matters arising</b> 18.19 PCSO Laura Woods was unable to attend the meeting owing to an incident requiring her presence. The Council agreed that the police detector van should be deployed from 7.30am to 9am and from 3pm to 4.30 pm on school days. This was when most speeding occurred and coincided with school buses arriving and departing. The Clerk would contact PCSO Woods to advise her of these times; she has already promised to pass the information on to the relevant department.  18.20 The Chairman proposed the Heritage Society should take over the Centenary Walk and that two Councillors should be involved in the planning. This was seconded by Ann Holt-Thomas and it was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Chairman would speak to Geoff Price.  18.21 The grant for the Summer Playscheme had been recommended for approval and both Nicholforest and Stapleton & Solport Parish Councils would join with us. We could therefore have two days and the 24 <sup>th</sup> and 31 <sup>st</sup> of August had been booked with the provider who would be sending out posters for display around the parishes.	
18.42	<b>Financial Report</b> – there was no change in the financial situation since the last meeting.	

<p><b>18.43</b></p>	<p><b>Solar Farm</b> The Chairman proposed that the developers of the project, Elgin Energy, should be asked for a donation from the profits to be given to the parish. Pat Renwick seconded the proposal and the Clerk would send a letter to Elgin Energy with the request.</p>	
<p><b>18.44</b></p>	<p><b>Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty</b> The possibility of Bewcastle becoming an AONB was discussed. It was thought that this might prevent the forestry from encroaching even further over the landscape. Pat Renwick proposed that the matter should be investigated further. Brian Carruthers seconded the proposal and it was <b>RESOLVED</b> that Pat and Barbara Smith should find out more about it and that if it proved viable a letter should be sent out inviting all parishioners to a meeting to discuss the proposition.</p>	
<p><b>18.45</b></p>	<p><b>Highways</b> Nothing had been done about the various matters brought up at the last two meetings. The road to the Myre now proved a very real danger to cyclists and the warning signs at Blackpoolgate bridge had still not appeared. There had been two more near misses on the bridge which is even more hazardous now the trees and hedges are in full leaf and the trees growing out of the riverbank are blocking the view across the bridge. The hedges all the way from the bridge to the High Corner are an ever increasing hazard to traffic as they encroach onto the highway. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to write to the landowners concerned to request that they cut the trees and hedges back in the interests of safety.</p> <p>The Council had had a complaint about the early cutting of verges destroying the wild flowers. Cllr Dodd explained that if the grass was allowed to grow and smother the flowers they would die. If verges were topped correctly, leaving 4 to 5 inches of growth, this would allow the flowers to flourish.</p> <p>The road closure at the Lyne Bank bridge was going to cause extreme difficulty for local farmers particularly now at silage time. The Clerk would make further representations to Highways to use the traffic lights installed at present instead of closing the road completely for a month. It was felt that the timing of this work had not been given sufficient thought. It was also noted that Highways had given the address as Newcastleton, according to the prohibition of traffic order, and wondered whether this had any effect on the legality of the road closure.</p> <p>There being no further business the meeting closed at 9pm.</p>	