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Our ref: PDH/SG
Ask for: Peter Hughes
Date: 17th February, 2023

Dear Councillor,

Your attendance is invited at the meeting of **BURNHOPE PARISH COUNCIL** for consideration of the undernoted agenda. The meeting will be held in Burnhope Community Centre on **Thursday, 2nd March, 2023** at 6.00 p.m.

Yours faithfully,

PETER HUGHES
Clerk

A G E N D A

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **POLICE REPORT**
3. **PARTNERSHIP REPORT**
4. **COMMUNITY CENTRE REPORT**
5. **MINUTES**
To consider the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2nd February, 2023.
6. **FINANCE REPORT**
7. **PLANNING MATTERS**
8. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Minutes of a meeting of Burnhope Parish Council held on Thursday 2nd February 2023 in Burnhope Community Centre at 6:00 pm.

Present:

Councillor D. Coates - Chair

Councillors J. Box, L. Clarke, S. J. McCormick, C. McCulloch, T. Metcalf and G. Smith.

In Attendance

County Councillors M. McGaun and D. Oliver and Alderman O. Johnson.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors T. Clarke, B. Henderson, P. Luther, I. McKeag and PCSO A. Tonge.

Police Report

The Clerk read out the following Police Report:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Number of Incidents</u>	
	Dec. 2022	Jan. 2023
Transport	6	5
Public Safety	26	21
Anti-Social Behaviour	1	4
Alcohol Related	3	10
Domestic Incidents	1	4
Vulnerable Adult / Child	12	11
Mental Health	6	4
Drug Related	0	0
Total	55	59

Partnership Report

Councillor S. J. McCormick reported that, at a recent meeting, the main topic of discussion was funding, and in particular, the funding of the Summer Fun Day and the Burnhope Wheel.

Community Centre Report

The Chair advised that activities in the Centre were well supported.

Minutes

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting of Burnhope Parish Council held on Thursday 1st December 2022 be approved as a correct record.

Greenwood Avenue – proposed housing development

The Clerk reported that the following information had been received from the Housing Development Manager of Durham County Council:

“The Greenwood Avenue, Burnhope site is identified within Phase 1 of the Council Homes New Build Programme. You may be aware that the Council has been successful in being awarded some funding from the Brownfield Land Release Fund to bring forward housing development on this site. The Council is planning to remediate the site and put the site to the market for sale with the potential for the successful bidder to include some homes as part of the Council Homes Build Programme.

The Council is currently reviewing the Council Homes Build Programme in the light of rising construction costs and interest rates and it is hoped that this work will be concluded shortly. The County Council is unable, at this time, to confirm a specific delivery timeframe for the development of the site, the intention is that the site remediation works will take place within the next 12 months in line with the funding requirements.

Finance Report

The Clerk reported that the following payments had been made since the last meeting of the Council:

Description	Amount
	£
A. Childs – Knotweed Remediation Contractor	240.00
British Gas - Electricity for Christmas Tree Lights	32.25
T. Kernahan – Web Duties	46.10
Total	318.35

Planning Matters

The Clerk reported on the following Planning Application (Amended):

Land East of Edge Lane, Burnhope - Installation and operation of a ground mounted photovoltaic (PV) solar energy generation system (Solar Farm) battery storage facility, electrical substation, and associated infrastructure.

Members noted that the Applicant had amended the Application taking into account comments made at the Public Meeting and following comments / objections made to Durham County Council as follows:

- Increased setback and ecological improvements (“Set Back” – removal of solar panels from the south-eastern most field)
- Improved screening
- Improved footpaths

Members noted comments in relation to Community Benefit, in particular that the applicant remains committed to providing a contribution of £50,000 to Burnhope Parish Council. It was felt that this could be construed to mean that “a deal” had been made with the Parish Council. Members stressed that this was not the case.

Following detailed discussion Members were unanimous that the objections previously submitted to Durham County Council remain. This said, Members acknowledged the details of the Community Benefit proposal. In addition, Members considered the amendments to the Planning Application to be minimal and that the overall impact of the proposals remain.

Correspondence

The Clerk reported on the following items of correspondence:

- Zurich Municipal – re community events for Coronation of King Charles III.
- Durham County Council – Local History Commemorative Schemes re plaque on Pit Wheel.
- Durham County Council – Planting of trees. Former football field.
- County Durham Association of Local Councils – Coronation of King Charles III.
- Durham County Council – North East Devolution Deal.
- Durham County Council – Parish Meeting of Electors.

“Views” Children’s Home, Burnhope

The Chair reported on a request from the Deputy Manager of the above home to attend the next meeting of the Parish Council. The Home wishes to create more positive relationships with and within the community .

Agreed that arrangements be made for a representative of “Views” Children’s Home, Burnhope, to attend the meeting of Burnhope Parish Council scheduled for 2nd March 2023 at 6:00 pm.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting of Burnhope Parish Council will be held on Thursday 2nd March 2023 in Burnhope Community Centre at 6:00 pm.