

LOW CONISCLIFFE & MERRYBENT PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 15 October 2019
St Edwin's Church Hall, High Coniscliffe, 7pm

ATTENDANCE: Cllrs: K Marshallsay (Chair), M Ellerton, L Steel, A Craggs, S Clark, C McLay, BC P Crudass (from 7.30), M Bailey (Clerk).

Apologies: BC G Lee

The meeting was attended by three members of the public.

1 Parish Councillor vacancy – co-option:

The vacancy was advertised and DBC electoral services confirm that the PC can proceed with co-option. Mark Armstrong applied for the vacancy and the PC voted unanimously to accept the application recognising the expertise in planning matters that Mark will bring to the PC.

Mark Armstrong completed the Acceptance of Office form.

It was also reported that a resident from Merrybent has enquired on the role of Parish Councillor. A meeting with K Marshallsay and C McLay is to be held w/c 21 Oct 19.

2 Declarations of Interest: None

3 Matters arising from Action Committee:

Mark Armstrong summarised the key on-going actions regarding the development to east of Gate Lane and interactions with Robertson Homes:

- Protection of the site
- Naming of road
- Surfacing of Teesdale Way
- Speed limit of 20mph extension to Low Coniscliffe
- Financial contribution for local improvements (seated area, history board)
- Protection of architecture at entrance to village
- Freedom of Information request regarding S106 funds
- Application form to Historic England for designation of ancient walling

There was also discussion of matters relating to the status of the Action Committee and some issues that have arisen due to some of the recent emails between the Action Committee and PC.

M Ellerton read an extensive list of the achievements of the Action Committee over the last 3 years. The PC acknowledged the great value of this work.

4 Scope and terms of reference for future Action Committee:

Mark Armstrong agreed to continue as Chair of the Action Committee with a remit to focus on working constructively with Robertson Homes to secure benefits for the community as a result of the Gate Lane development, and to work with DBC on securing S106 funds for community initiatives. The full scope and terms of reference for the Action Committee remain to be proposed for agreement with the PC.

Meeting closed at 8.10pm.