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*M Fenwick, Parish Clerk, Chatwood Lodge, Stainton Village, Barnard Castle DL12 8RD.*

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**Minutes of Meeting**

Held on

Tuesday 10th December 2024

at Marwood Social Centre

@ 7.30 pm

**Present**: Cllr. A Mairs (Chairman), M Fenwick (Parish Clerk), Cllr. D Gill, Cllr. P Stubbs, Cllr. G Wilson (Vice Chairman) and Cllr. E Marwood No member of the public or press in attendance.

1. Declaration of Interest – None Received.

2. Declaration of Dispensation – None Received.

3. Approval of Minutes of Meetings: The following minutes were approved.

Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 22nd October 2024.

4. Correspondence – all corresponded actioned.

5.Financial

5.1 To endorse the monies paid by the Clerk.

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| MF Flowers for resigned Cllrs. | £30.00 |
| Stationary | £140.54 |
| British Legion Donation | £150.00 |
| C. A Stamp | £870.00 |
| Eggleston Agriculture Show Donation | £300.00 |

5.2 Bank Balance of Current Account as of 1st November 2024 £10,869.37.

5.3 Bank Balance of Reserve Account as of 1st November 2024 £22,646.14.

5.4 VAT - The council were informed that we have received £554.78 refund.

5.5 Precept – The council agreed that there would be no increase in the

Precept for 2025 – 2026.

5.6 Parish Clerk Salary was reviewed and in agreement with the Parish Clerks

contract an increment was proposed and pay increase back dated plus

contracted hours shortfall. All were in favour. It was agreed that the

Chairman Cllr. A Mairs will e mail the Parish Clerk confirming this. **Action**

M Fenwick to Inform Butler and Gee Accountants in connection with this

change in Salary.

6. Vacancies for Two Councillors – The council were informed that we can now

co-opt for the vacancies.

7. High Riggs - The Rockery

C. A Stamp is looking into tidying this rockery more because of boulders and

routes protruding out. This is to be address in The New Year (2025) and a

quotation for this work has been requested.

8. Harmire Road – The council are going to make a decision regarding the

brambles and the overgrown grass verges address this in the New Year (2025)

9. C A Stamp – The council agreed that we should undertake a new contract for

2025 with C.A Stamp with amendments of going forward into the New Year.

10. D Wearmouth – Flower Tubs – will check that D Wearmouth is prepared to

undertake the works for 2025.

11. Band Stand/ Harmire Road – The council have allocated a dedicated

councillor Cllr. G Wilson (Vice Chairman) who is going to oversee this and to

report back in the New Year 2025.

12. Castle Vale – Community Garden. The water has now been turned off at

the mains for the winter and we will address new garden contracts in February

2025.

13. Donations

13.1 Green Lane Church of England School – New Sensory Room - The

council agreed to donated £1,000.00 towards this new project.

13.2 Eggleston Agriculture Show – Donation of £300 was given.

14. Hamsterley Forest Development –

The Chairman Cllr. A Mairs and Cllr. E Marwood attended a meeting at

Woodland for the proposed development by Forest Holidays to build 70 eco

luxury cabins in Hamsterley Forest. It was agreed by the Parish Council to

oppose this development and that Chairman Cllr. A Mairs draft up

an opposition letter for the council to review its content before forwarding

to Durham County Council. The councillors were informed that if they so

wish they can send their objections in individually. This is to be

received by Durham County Council no later than 31st January 2025.

**Action** Cllr. A Mairs.

15. Dates of future meetings as follows:

Tuesday 11th February 2025

Tuesday 20th May 2025 **Marwood Annual Parish Council Meeting**

Tuesday 10th June 2025 **Marwood Annual Meeting**

The above meetings will be held at 7.30pm at Marwood Social Centre unless

Otherwise stated.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed by ………. Chairman ………………… Dated …………………..