

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SEATON WITH SLINGLEY PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2024**

**Present: Councillor A Slater (Chair)  
Councillors A Blacklock, S Faulkner, G Fuller,  
A Taylor, J Theobald, A Vila, S Williams.**

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S McAuliffe, H Middlemiss, D Temple and County Councillors K Batey and D McKenna.

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3 PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There was no public present at the meeting.

**4 POLICE MATTERS**

The Police reported that following a speedwatch on the B1404 at Seaton Lane 86 drivers triggered the safety cameras.

Members were advised that of the 86 drivers who triggered the cameras none required court action. Six fell within the conditional offer level and were issued with a fine and points and eighty drivers attended a speed awareness course.

**RESOLVED** that the information given, be noted.

**5 The Minutes of the last meeting held on 16 October 2024, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved and signed by the Chair.**

**6 CORRESPONDENCE**

**(1) Request for Financial Assistance**

The Clerk reported the receipt of a request for financial assistance from the Great North Air Ambulance Service.

**RESOLVED** that a donation of £50 be made from the Section 137 Budget.

**(2) Royal Garden Party 2025**

The Clerk reported the receipt of correspondence from the County Durham Association of Local Councils which gave details of the Royal Garden Party to be held in 2025.

**RESOLVED** that Councillor D Temple be nominated to attend the Royal Garden Party on behalf of Seaton with Slingley Parish Council.

**(3) Seaham Town Council**

The Clerk reported the receipt of an invitation to a Christmas Party Night at Valentinos Restaurant, Seaham on 7 December 2024.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

**7 PLANNING MATTERS**

There were no planning issues.

**8 CLERKS REPORT**

**(1) Precept and Budget 2025/2026**

The Clerk reported details of the figures related to the tax base for the forthcoming 2025/2026 financial year.

Members were provided with budget options and a range of figures for consideration. Members discussed the options and suggested that a 15% increase be applied to the precept.

RESOLVED that the Clerk prepare a draft 2025/2026 budget based on a 15% increase to the precept.

**(2) Christmas Tree**

The Clerk reported that the Feeder Pillar for the Christmas lights was re-energised on the 6 November 2024. E-on Next had agreed a tariff of 56p a day standing charge and 65p per KWh. The tariff started the day the Feeder Pillar was re-energised and would end when it was de-energised.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

**(3) Carol Singing with the Salvation Army**

The Clerk reported that the annual carol singing with the Salvation Army would be held on 11 December 2024 at 7pm followed by refreshments in the Community Centre. The December meeting of the Parish Council would be held on the same date at the earlier time of 6pm.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

**(4) Hillrise Crescent**

The Clerk reported that Durham County Council had started work to repair the track across the village green. It was anticipated the work would be completed early December.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

**(5) Remembrance Sunday**

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had displayed 2 poppy wreaths in the village on Remembrance Sunday following which they were laid on the 2 war graves in St Mary's Church, Seaham.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

**(6) Memorial Plaque - WW2 Bomber – 9 November 2024**

The Clerk reported that County Councillor McKenna had commissioned a memorial plaque to honour the crew of a WW2 Whitley Bomber that crashed at Slingley Hill on 10 October 1944, killing all the crew on board.

Members were advised that an event to unveil the plaque, which was located on the corner of

Hillrinse Crescent was held on 9 November 2024.

The Chair reported that the event was well attended and the Canadian ambassador to London also attended the service.

**RESOLVED** that the information given, be noted.

**(7) Salt Bin – Lyster Close**

The Clerk reported that the salt bin at Lyster Close was reported to Durham County Council as damaged.

**RESOLVED** that the information given, be noted.

**9 PAYMENTS**

**RESOLVED** that the following schedule of payments be approved.

CHQ NO	PAYMENT TO	DETAIL	COST	VAT	TOTAL
100866	HMRC	PAYE - November 2024	295.91		295.91
100867	Payroll	Wages - November 2024	917.86		917.86
100868	JACS Accountancy Limited	Payroll Services - November 2024	10.00	2.00	12.00
100869	Seaham Town Council	Christmas Tree	370.00		370.00
100870	Blachere Illumination Uk Ltd	Christmas Lights	481.00	96.20	577.20
100871	A Slater	Reimbursements	93.95	18.79	112.74
100872	Society of Local Concil Clerks	Annual Subscription	180.00		180.00
100873	J Thompson	Reimbursements	30.70		30.70
100874	Great North Air Ambulance	Section 137 Donation	50.00		50.00
Sheet 171	HSBC	Bank Charges	7.00		7.00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,436.42</b>	<b>116.99</b>	<b>2,553.41</b>

**10 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED** that the next meeting be held **11 December 2024 at 6pm.**

.....Signed

.....Dated