

West Auckland Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held Monday, 13th February 2017 at 7.00 pm,
Parish Community Room, Monteith Close, West Auckland

Present: Cllr H Charlton, Chair
Cllr E Farrer
Cllr C Mairs, Vice-Chairman
Cllr A Palfreyman
Cllr V Raine
Cllr L Rielly
Cllr M Roberts
Cllr W Robinson
Cllr C Smith
Cllr G Smith
Cllr A Turner
DCC Cllr Wilson

17.11 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Elliott.

17.12 DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Newly co-opted Cllr Palfreyman expressed an interest in Agenda item 5.

17.13 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING & MATTERS ARISING

The Minutes were agreed as a true account and signed accordingly.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising discussed.

17.14 TO INVITE ANY COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A resident has written to managers of the Smurfitt factory to request that they dispose of rubbish along their premises perimeter fence line; she advised that the manager was very supportive and arranged for the whole area to be cleared.

It was advised that the DCC motorised path cleaner is available in May and could be requested for use in West Auckland to coincide with the annual litter pick.

It was advised that dog fouling persists to be a problem in specific areas. ACTION: Clerk to notify Street Wardens when details are provided by those effected. It was suggested that Street Scene be invited to attend a future meeting. ACTION: Clerk to invite (Ref FS13002099).

Chairman's Signature..... Date.....

17.15 TO RECEIVE CHAIRPERSON/COUNCILLORS REPORT

- Cllr Farrer circulated draft football history display boards, produced by Cre8ive Graphics, to be sited in the bus shelter adjacent to the monument. Following discussion various amendments were suggested and it was resolved that the final version will be sited at the earliest convenience.
- It has been reported that, due to residents cars being parked, traffic travelling through Edith Terrace is having to mount the path to pass ACTION: Clerk to arrange a meeting with Highways and PC StevenCallahan@durhampnn.polic.uk Tel 101 ext 6732306
- Cllr Roberts advised that he has walked around the village with John Day to review the condition of various trees. It was proposed that maintenance be carried out on some trees and recommended that a Chestnut tree near the Crusty Loaf be replaced in due course.
- It was recommended that the Enforcement Officer be asked to review an area at the rear of Front Street, along the Gaunless river pathway as the footpath has been narrowed due to recent building. ACTION: Clerk to write.
- It was resolved that the Parish Council write to DCC to confirm that they did not instigate a recent request to review the planted area. ACTION: Clerk to write.

17.16 CLERK'S TABLING OF CORRESPONDENCE/ENDORISING OF INVOICE CHEQUES

- The Clerk tabled all correspondence received and payments were checked on invoices as below:

Refund from ABYTE	£50.00	
HMRC PAYE		£150.00
Monteith Chairs		£1,380.96
WI Room use Chq 487080	£55.00	
Domestic 1 Salary		£52.14
Telephones & Broadband		£20.00
Bollard (named Chairs in error on Bank State.)		£33.50

The following requests and quotes were raised:

A quote of £50 received for a company to provide an annual Legionella assessment and report was approved. ACTION: Clerk to arrange assessment.

A request to use the Parish Room for a yoga & martial arts class was raised. It was proposed that they could approach the Youth Club as this was suggested as a potentially more suitable venue. It was advised that if the Youth Club is unsuitable/unavailable the group leaders could come back to the Parish Rooms for future review.

A quote of £911 for signage directing to Oakley Cross primary school/Parish Council Office has been received. It was resolved that DCC should be asked to fund a double sided sign on an existing post. Cllr Robinson advises that he may be able to obtain the signs for half the cost of the quote. ACTION: Cllr Robinson to obtain quote and Cllr Wilson to enquire about DCC funding a sign.

Chairman's Signature..... Date.....

Further to receipt of quotes received:

- It was resolved that Brian Mundell be asked to replace a section of footpath between New Street, Oakley Cross and Staindrop Road.
- It was resolved that Cllr Robinson will arrange fitting of a bollard purchased by the Parish Council.
- It was resolved that Manor Woodcraft be asked to fit the oak slatted frame on the stone seat.
- It was resolved that CE Joinery be asked to supply and fit two picnic tables.

(i) To receive co-opted member update

Following recent resignations by parish councillors, two new members have been interviewed and co-opted until the May election; Cllr Ann Palfreyman and Cllr Chris Smith were welcomed as co-opted members.

(ii) To receive monthly activity update on Citizens' Advice sessions

It was advised there were no attendees at the last Citizens' Advice Bureau session; 8 people attended sessions during January.

17.17 RECEIVE ENVIRONMENT/PLANNING WORKING GROUP UPDATE

(i) To consider replacement of existing village green rose beds

It was resolved that one existing rose bed be removed and the area grassed and the other be replanted. It was suggested that Cllr Roberts and Cllr C Smith liaise on the design and suitable plants.

(ii) To receive update on speed matrix

It was highlighted that assessment of village traffic was carried out in 2014 and there is no recollection of the survey carried out at that time. It was advised that West Auckland is not considered as a priority for 20 mph on the school roads and the Parish Council were advised that flashing speed matrix requested for the entrances to the village are not a feasible option. It was resolved that Police Commissioner, Ron Hogg, be invited to support this initiative as tackling speeding cars was high on his campaign list. ACTION: Clerk to request availability and invite.

17.18 TO RECEIVE FINANCE WORKING GROUP UPDATE

(i) To consider quote for resurfacing a path between New Street play area and rear of Staindrop Road

Quote approved as above.

(ii) To consider funding replacement Christmas lights and arrange switch-on process

Cllr Smith advised that the 2017 brochure will be available at the end of February; this item will be carried forward.

Chairman's Signature..... Date.....

17.19 To DISCUSS CURRENT LOCAL PLANNING ISSUES

It was advised that progress with the Neighbourhood Plan is held up due to lack of support. ACTION: Clerk to follow up on Groundwork representative who agreed to provide a quote to support with developing the Plan.

17.20 TO RECEIVE ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING BEING HELD MONDAY, 13TH MARCH 2017

- To receive update from Street Scene
- To receive update on Christmas light options
- To consider placing a remembrance plaque
- To receive feedback on the Oakley Cross sports hall and consider options
- To consider security of allotments
- To receive update on replacing rose beds
- To receive update on request for support from Ron Hogg with speed matrix
- To consider forming Newsletter working group

Chairman's Signature..... Date.....