

Minutes of Meeting held Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2013 at 7.00 pm,  
Parish Community Room, Monteith Close, West Auckland

**Present:** Cllr Charlton, Chairperson  
Cllr J Bell  
Cllr E Farrer  
Cllr J Ferguson  
Cllr C CMairs, vice Chairperson  
Cllr V Raine  
Cllr L Rielly  
Cllr W Robinson  
Cllr A Turner arrived 8.00 pm  
Cllr Christine Wilson  
Cllr Rob Yorke arrived 7.45 pm  
Robert McMullen, DCC  
Ross Cowling, DCC

Robert McMullen attended the meeting to provide an informal update on the funding available via Big Local. He advised there is up to £1,000,000 funding available to local communities. Cllr Rielly and Cllr Ferguson are group members and will attend meetings on behalf of the Parish Council.

Ross Cowling attended the meeting to provide an informal update on the asset transfer process for Monteith Close, West Auckland. He advised that DCC could support the Parish Council in fundraising for the work to be carried out but highlighted that there is no funding available for West Auckland to assist with the replacement windows and kitchen at the Community Parish Rooms; other areas have received up to 70% of refurbishing costs. He will provide a further update following a meeting with Dale and Valley Homes to establish confirmation that the whole building will be available.

**13.43 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies were received from Cllr Roberts.

**13.44 DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.**

There were no expressions of interest in any agenda item.

**13.45 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes were agreed to be a true account of the previous meeting and signed accordingly.

**13.46 TO INVITE ANY COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.**

A member of the public raised concerns about kerb stones being removed from a corner of the village green near the Manor House. The resident requested that the gap, required for grass cutter access, be relocated to somewhere more public like the bus shelter area as opposed to outside her front gate. She also highlighted that a raised areas is required at the  
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car park near the Old Hall to prevent access to the green. **ACTION: Cllr Yorke agreed to handle the concerns.**

Another member of the public queried the whether horses are allowed to be rode up and down the village green. It was confirmed that horses are allowed on village green. Another concern was raised about a local on Milbank Close fixing cars causing oil spillage and congestion in a residential area. **ACTION: Cllr Yorke agreed to liaise with Martin Lowrie on these concerns.**

#### 13.47 CLERK’S TABLING OF CORRESPONDENCE/ENDORISING INVOICE CHEQUES.

CHEQUE NO	DETAILS	AMOUNT	PREVIOUSLY AGREED
100442	Cre8ive Graphics – road signs	£216.00	Y
100443	MH Fencing & Gates – siting village seat	£170.00	Y
100444	Under 15s football tournament	£200.00	Y

The Clerk tabled all correspondence received and cheques were endorsed for invoices as detailed above.

#### 13.48 TO RECEIVE FINANCE WORKING GROUP UPDATE.

i. To consider supporting under 15s football tournament

It was agreed that £200 would be donated to the group to assist with their tournament costs.

ii. To consider purchase of picnic tables for the village green

Cllr Mairs agreed to arrange for the siting of the 2 picnic tables. It was agreed that the work could go ahead providing each table cost no more than £500 fully sited. **ACTION: Cllr Mairs to arrange.**

iii. To consider proposed bus shelter, Copeland Road

A request for a bus shelter has been refused once but as Cllr Charlton advised that a tree has been removed near the site where a bus shelter is proposed, it was suggested that a further site meeting be requested in view of this change. **ACTION: Cllr Charlton to provide clerk with contact details.**

iv. To consider planting a permanent Christmas tree

Cllr Charlton advised that a site meeting has taken place with John Day, DCC, and suggested feedback is awaited on the most appropriate site and type of tree. This will then be considered by the Parish Council.

v. To consider planting more daffodils

The options of planting additional bulbs was considered and it was suggested Andrew Walker, AAP could possibly provide bulbs to plant at the south end of the village where the current ones are reported to be looking sparse. **ACTION: Clerk to contact Andrew Walker.**

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vi. To consider siting of bollards near McCalls Shop

Following consideration it was agreed that a seat will be sited at McCalls shop as an interim measure until the possibilities of acquiring some village green for additional parking can be pursued fully. It was therefore agreed that MH Henderson could site this seat at his earliest convenience. **ACTION: Cllr Mairs to arrange.**

**13.49 TO RECEIVE ENVIRONMENT/PLANNING WORKING GROUP UPDATE.**

i To receive update on Betts landscaping at Oakley Manor

There was no update available. **ACTION: Clerk agreed to liaise with Betts & Martin Lowrie.**

ii To receive update on Oakley Green mounds

It was agreed that following advice from Dave Gillett, DCC, Joe Robinson will be asked to proceed with the mounds. **ACTION: Cllr Yorke will seek written confirmation from DCC that the works are approved in the interim.**

iii To receive update on village green application process

A progress report on the village green application was provided and it was agreed that legal representation will be funded to present the case at eh public enquiry to be held Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> June 2013. The outcome will be reported back at the next meeting.

iv To receive update on iron fenced garden on village green

The objections to the wrought iron fence on the garden within the village green are still ongoing. **ACTION: Cllr Yorke agreed to pursue the order for the removal of the fence.**

v To consider need for Neighbourhood Plan

It was agreed that a Neighbourhood Plan will benefit the village and the item will be discussed more at the interim meeting and then discussed formally at the next Parish Council meeting.

**13.50 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING MONDAY, 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2013 7.00 PM . Interim meeting 24<sup>th</sup> June**

- Neighbourhood plan
- Request for bollard at Michael Stock's house
- Monteith Close asset transfer
- Update on village green application
- Replacement Christmas tree site shrubs –for consideration at the September meeting
- Christmas tree lights
- Music Group Children's trip

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