

Minutes of Meeting held Monday, 9th December 2013 at 7.00 pm,
Parish Community Room, Monteith Close, West Auckland

Present: Cllr Charlton, Chairperson
Cllr E Farrer
Cllr J Ferguson
Cllr C Mair, vice-Chairman
Cllr V Raine
Cllr M Roberts
Cllr W Robinson
Cllr G Smith
Cllr N Thomas

13.77 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were received from Cllr L Rielly and Cllr J Bell

13.78 DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

There were no expressions of interest.

13.79 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

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

Matters Arising: The following actions require follow-up: None

13.80 TO INVITE ANY COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

A local resident attended to complain about the recently sited bollard on one of the exits used previously by allotments holders. It was advised that the road in question belongs to the resident that lives adjacent to the road and the bollard was sited following residents' concerns over cars passing when children are exiting premises. It was advised that vehicular access for the allotments is at Darlington Road and all allotment holders should possess a key. The resident was advised to liaise with the allotment holder's secretary should he require keys.

13.81 CLERK'S TABLING OF CORRESPONDENCE/ENDORISING INVOICE CHEQUES.

| CHEQUE NO | DETAILS | AMOUNT | PRIOR AGREED |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|---------|--------------|
| 100472 | Poppy Wreaths & Wooden crosses | £60.00 | Y |
| 100473 | Filling salt bins | £60.00 | Y |
| 100474 | Christmas tree | £200.00 | Y |
| 100475 | Copeland Road School Donation | £100.00 | Y |
| 100476 | BDM Services – anti-vehicle posts | £62.00 | Y |

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

The Clerk tabled all correspondence received and cheques were endorsed for invoices as detailed above. The Clerk requested the Parish Council's consideration of not subscribing to SLCC as she thinks the level of support received from CDALC is adequate. It was agreed that she could obtain further advice from CDALC and act in accordance with the direction given.

Following a recent incident the Clerk requested that the Chairperson's Chains of Office be insured at the earliest convenience. This was agreed and the provision of a bespoke case for the chains will be considered once costs are obtained at the next meeting.

13.82 TO RECEIVE FINANCE WORKING GROUP UPDATE.

i. To consider planting permanent Christmas tree

A quote has been obtained to supply and plant a Christmas tree at the agreed site on the small, triangular green at the top of the village. It was agreed that it is necessary to confirm that the electric supply cabinet can be relocated to the triangular green before purchasing and planting the permanent tree. ACTION: Clerk to write.

ii. To receive update on bus shelter request

As no further correspondence has been received from Kieran Moralee it was proposed that Cllr Yorke be asked to pursue this issue which has gone unresolved for 3 years. ACTION: Clerk to contact Cllr Yorke.

13.83 TO RECEIVE ENVIRONMENT/PLANNING WORKING GROUP UPDATE.

i To confirm Christmas arrangements

The Christmas tree lights have been replaced and thanks were given to Cllr Smith for his efforts and contribution in providing the lights at cost. A small charge to a third party was made to delivery and site the lights.

ii To receive update on Neighbourhood Plan

Shaun Hanson, Planning Consultant, attended the meeting to provide the Parish Council with an awareness of the neighbourhood plan production process. Shaun requested Parish councillors' views on aspirations for a neighbourhood plan. Cllr Mairs requested how a neighbourhood plan would interact and influence DCC planning decisions, given that the DCC consultation period has recently completed. Shaun explained the benefits of a neighbourhood plan, should it go-ahead and advised that following the recent expression of interest, West Auckland Parish Council have been allocated 3.5 days of support to prepare groundwork for a neighbourhood plan. It was agreed that the Parish Council do wish to proceed with the neighbourhood plan process. ACTION: Clerk to send Shaun the Westlife edition requesting village residents' support.

iii To receive update on Monteith Close asset transfer

The Clerk is to request a progress update from Ross Cowling as no further communication has been received.

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

iv To receive update on village green application process

It was advised that the Highways Committee will meet in February 2014 to consider the village green application and the Clerk has requested that the committee have a site meeting prior to the meeting where the decision will be made. Following advice of Cllr Yorke, the Clerk will write to Helen Goodman to request a letter of support also be submitted to the committee chair prior to the meeting.

v To consider reverting Pant slip-road back to village green

A site meeting with Bryan Harris initiated this project. A contact is awaited from Bryan Harris. ACTION: Clerk to request a progress report.

vi To receive update on community services volunteer options

It was advised that a volunteer services manager will attend the Monday, 10th February 2014 to offer advice on services available.

vii To consider availability of speed warning signs

Cllr Smith has requested quotes and they will be considered at next month's meeting.

viii To consider setting up village archive group

This item was deferred to the next meeting due to time restrictions.

13.84 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING MONDAY, 13TH JANUARY 2014 7.00 PM

(top 4 items highlighted below will be allocated a timed slot and take priority on the agenda)

- **To receive progress update on Pant slip-road village green request.**
- **To consider donation requests for Oakley Cross and Copeland Road schools.**
- **To obtain speed warning sign quotes.**
- **To consider a village archive group.**
- To consider prevention of cold callers
- Spring Clean 2014

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