

# West Auckland Parish Council

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Minutes of Meeting held Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 7.00 pm,  
Parish Community Room, Monteith Close, West Auckland

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

## **17.21 To ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr C Smith, Cllr A Turner & Cllr M Roberts.

## **17.22 DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were no expressions of interest raised.

## **17.23 To CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING & MATTERS ARISING**

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

### **Matters Arising**

#### Update on Edith Terrace parking

Cllr Wilson advised that the police have checked the road and as it is un-adopted, they are unable to intervene. Cllr Wilson agreed to raise concerns with DCC. It was proposed that Steve Callaghan be invited to future meetings. ACTION: Clerk to invite.

## **17.24 To INVITE ANY COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Information on the history of The Old Hall was requested. It was highlighted that a book, written by Cllr Roberts, on village history, is available for sale. It was also suggested that the Parish Council seek to provide information on village history and places of interest for tourists. Following discussion it was resolved that a focus group be pulled together. Cllr Palfreyman, Cllr Raine and resident, Audrey Becks expressed an interest and it was agreed to arrange a date at the next meeting.

## **17.25 To RECEIVE CHAIRPERSON/COUNCILLORS REPORT**

- The football history information poster has been sited in the bus shelter opposite the Workingmen's Club.

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- Cllr Rielly advised that the play bus is being refurbished as required and once the Gaunless Gateway has a Constitution in place, the bus will be made available to local areas for children's activities.
- The bollards at the Earl of Warwick were discussed and it was resolved that the Parish Council will replace them at the earliest convenience. ACTION: Cllr Robinson.

**17.26 CLERK'S TABLING OF CORRESPONDENCE/ENDORISING OF INVOICE CHEQUES**

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

Gemini Legionella Assessment		£50.00
Blue rolls x 48		£45.99
Telephones & Broadband		£20.00
Domestic 1 Salary		£52.14
BDM Services - path		£620.00
Reimbursed donation to youth club	£5,000.00	
Creative Graphics-Bus Shelter		£102.00

It was resolved that the external Health & Safety assessment of Monteith Close Parish room can go ahead. ACTION: Clerk to arrange.

It was confirmed that the £5,000 donated to the Youth Club has been reimbursed due to its closure.

A request for funding from West Auckland Football Club was raised and the item will be considered at the next meeting.

**(i) To consider Newsletter working group**

The production of the newsletter was discussed and it was suggested that a working group be formed. Those present agreed to hold an interim meeting on Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at 7.00 pm.

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

It was confirmed there were no attendees during February 2017 Citizen's Advice Bureau sessions held at Monteith Close Parish Room.

**17.27 RECEIVE ENVIRONMENT/PLANNING WORKING GROUP UPDATE**

**(i) To receive Street Scene Update**

The Clerk advised that DCC Street Scene have advised they no longer have the resource to attend evening meetings and also that any issues need to be logged on the system by telephoning 0300 0261000; they no longer take lists of jobs from community meetings..

Cllr Wilson confirmed that a call has been logged about the recently requested Oakley Cross school street signs.

**(ii) To receive update on speed matrix**

The Clerk advised that she had invited input of Police Commissioner, Ron Hogg to support

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the speed matrix initiative; a reply from his office is awaited. It was requested Ron Hogg, Mike Barton and Helen Goodman be asked for their support in tacking speeding traffic within the village main roads. ACTION: Clerk to request.

**(iii) To receive update on replacement of rose beds**

Cllr Roberts advised, via email, that he has made positive steps with advice on designs for the replanting and will liaise with Cllr C Smith in due course to proceed with the redesign and planting of the existing rose beds.

**(iv) To consider siting remembrance plaque**

It was resolved that, with the family’s permission, a plaque be added to a village seat to commemorate Keith Tweddle’s commitment whilst volunteering as a Parish Councillor.

**(v) To consider allotment security**

It was resolved that allotment holders be advised that the Parish Council has concerns about the access gate being continually left open as this provides an open invite to unwanted temporary parking in the area. ACTION: Clerk to write.

**(vi) To consider any feedback on use of Oakley Cross sports hall and consider options**

Cllr Charlton is arranging a meeting with school Headteacher and Governors, if possible, prior to the next meeting to allow this item to be considered fully. ACTION: Cllr Charlton to arrange and attend meeting with all relevant parties.

**17.28 TO RECEIVE FINANCE WORKING GROUP UPDATE**

**To consider funding replacement Christmas lights**

Cllr G Smith advised that the Christmas lights required for the two trees at the top of the village are only available in two colours. It was resolved that white lights will be appropriate and Cllr Smith was asked to provide a quote at the next meeting.

**17.29 TO DISCUSS CURRENT LOCAL PLANNING ISSUES**

It was confirmed that the Mill has been sold and the Prince of Wales and Queens’ Head are being converted to residential dwellings.

It was confirmed there is no progress with the development of old East Green home. Cllr Wilson advised that there are numerous complaints about various issues, including anti-social behaviour and the dilapidation of the derelict premises; the owner, Mr John Fenwick, is being pursued with requests to develop the area.

**17.30 TO RECEIVE ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING BEING HELD MONDAY, 10<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2017**

- To consider a request to support local football club.
- To consider options to utilise the play area at Oakley Cross school.
- To receive update on replacement rose beds.
- To consider management of permanently parked, un-roadworthy vehicles.
- To consider replacing bollards in various village areas.

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