

West Auckland Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held Monday, 11th February 2019 at 7.00 pm,
Parish Community Room, Monteith Close, West Auckland

Present: Cllr K Bolton
Cllr J Curl
Cllr E Farrer
Cllr L Rielly
Cllr W Robinson
Cllr N Simpson
Cllr C Smith
Cllr G Smith, Vice-Chairman (deputy Chairman)

19.11 To ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Gargett-Gillens, Cllr Mairs, Cllr Palfreyman and Cllr Roberts.

19.12 DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no expressions of interest received.

19.13 To CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING & MATTERS ARISING

The Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed accordingly.

Matters Arising

- **Cemetery Update** - It was advised that a meeting has taken place with Tony Johnston, DCC to discuss potential improvements to the cemetery. It was confirmed that the entrance planting will commence at the earliest convenience, tree planting will commence in the autumn and a remembrance woodland/garden will be discussed further in future. It was confirmed that the Parish Council are keen to support improvements but do not have the resource to take on the responsibility for managing it. ACTION: Clerk to confirm when a meeting can be held and when planting at the front of the cemetery will commence.
- **Leaflets** – the Clerk confirmed that she has followed up on the final draft of the leaflets being printed.
- **Defibrillators** – it was confirmed that two defibrillators will be sited this week and the other two will be sited at the earliest convenience.

19.14 INVITE ANY COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A resident requested confirmation on ownership of the right of way pathway between the A68 and Oakley Cross school.

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

It was confirmed that £2,300 has been raised by volunteers to date for village planters. Dog fouling near the football monument was reported and it was agreed to request a covert camera to identify who owns the dog. ACTION: Clerk to report.

19.15 To RECEIVE CHAIRPERSON/COUNCILLORS REPORT

It was reported via a resident that, while waiting for route turnaround times, Arriva bus drivers are urinating near the beck behind the bus shelter at Staindrop Road. ACTION: Clerk to report to police and Arriva management.

It was confirmed that 2 dog waste bag dispensers have now been sited; one at Oakley Cross play area and one on Darlington Road. Unfortunately bags have been taken in bulk by someone abusing the facility; it was resolved that options for future issues and management of supplies of bags needs to be considered. A dog waste bin was requested for East Green where the new houses are being built and one on Darlington Road between the cemetery and Smurfitt factory. ACTION: Clerk to request.

It was confirmed there are no plans for further house building in the County Durham Plan. It was highlighted that there is land in the area suitable for consideration of building.

It was reported that the Memorial Hall have been advised that the Miners' Banner will not be brought back to the village for the foreseeable future as Beamish are unable to release it at present.

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

Correspondence received was tabled and payments endorsed as follows:

npower electric		£34.69
Domestic Salary		£69.33
Telephones & Broadband		£30.00
Laptop Firewall & Tech support- 2 years		£114.98

19.17 RECEIVE ENVIRONMENT/PLANNING WORKING GROUP UPDATE

i. To consider planning for 2019 Christmas lights and decoration.

Various options were considered and it was resolved that representatives from the Parish Council will meet to consider providing lights on the trees around the football monument. It was requested that a light-up star be added to the existing Christmas tree.

19.18 To RECEIVE FINANCE WORKING GROUP UPDATE

i. To consider CCTV in village.

It was advised that this idea was abolished due to the privacy issues some time ago. The current systems were explained and it was agreed that technology has vastly improved. It was resolved that the idea should be explored further. ACTION: Cllr G Smith to obtain prices.

19.19 To CONSIDER LOCAL PLANNING ISSUES

There were no plans reviewed on this occasion.

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

19.20 TO RECEIVE AGENDA ITEMS FOR MONDAY, 11TH MARCH 2019 MEETING

- Cemetery improvements meeting
- Confirmation of Christmas lighting.
- To obtain costs and legislation on village CCTV
- Funding for village
- Picnic tables maintenance

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