

Minutes of Meeting held Monday, 10th February 2014 at 7.00 pm,
Parish Community Room, Monteith Close, West Auckland

Present: Cllr H Charlton, Chairperson
Cllr Bell
Cllr J Ferguson
Cllr C Mair, vice-Chairman (Chairman at this meeting)
Cllr L Rielly
Cllr M Roberts
Cllr W Robinson
Cllr G Smith
Cllr N Thomas

14.09 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

No apologies were received.

14.10 DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

There were no expressions of interest.

14.11 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

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

Matters Arising: Feed-back on actions as follows:

- Update from Cllr Roberts on village archive article – Cllr Roberts has not yet drafted and will provide at his earliest convenience.
- Update on cold callers- John Raw agreed to obtain costs and manage the scheme for West Auckland
- Update on asset transfer of Monteith – the Clerk confirmed that the funding application for a kitchen has been refused and listed the reasons given.

14.12 TO INVITE ANY COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

A member of the public attended to raise her concerns about a caravan being used as a residential dwelling. The Parish Council agreed to request that the area be blocked to prevent access for caravans in future. ACTION: Clerk to contact Cllr Yorke

John Raw, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator attended the meeting to provide information on an Allotment Watch initiative. John provided details of how the allotment watch initiative is working in other local areas and requested a meeting with allotment holders to encourage using the colour coding spray and SMART water to assist police in identifying rightful owners of stolen items.

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

Shaun Hanson attended the meeting to provide details of the draft Neighbourhood Plan application to be agreed and submitted as required. It was resolved that the application should be submitted and it was agreed that the Neighbourhood Plan process should be pursued as it will allow the Parish Council more influence in long-term planning decisions in the area. It was highlighted that, providing the application is approved, funding can be sought for the production of the final Neighbourhood Plan.

14.13 CLERK’S TABLING OF CORRESPONDENCE/ENDORISING INVOICE CHEQUES.

CHEQUE NO	DETAILS	AMOUNT	PRIOR AGREED
100486	Newsletter delivery	£70.00	Y
100487	Removal of Christmas tree lights	£100.00	Y
100488	Allotments skip	£170.00	Y

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

14.14 TO RECEIVE FINANCE WORKING GROUP UPDATE.

i. To consider speed warning quotes and agree progress

Cllr Smith raised a local school’s concerns about the speed of traffic passing the Copeland Road school. Cllr Rielly and Cllr Roberts have met with Keith Jameson to discuss speed signs. It was reported that Keith Jameson has confirmed that West Auckland has now been added to a priority list for the rotation programme of speed cameras. It was explained that there are 7 cameras available which rotate around the county whilst another 7 are being serviced/charged; it is anticipated that they will be allocated to West Auckland for 2 or 3 weeks, 4 times per year. It was proposed that if there has been no cameras sited in the next 6 months that the Parish Council would consider purchasing a camera to rotate around the village. **ACTION:** Cllr Smith to request that Copeland Road school headmaster writes to DCC requesting that the 30 mph sign at the top of Copeland Road be moved outside the residential area and a speed warning sign be sited. The Parish Council will echo the concerns by writing a letter requesting the same thing.

ii. To consider purchase of a box for Chain of Office

It was proposed that a box be purchased for the Chairperson’s Chain of Office.
ACTION: Clerk to arrange.

iii. To consider Pant slip road and obtain quote for reverting to village green

It was proposed that this item be held for consideration during the Neighbourhood Plan process. **ACTION:** Clerk to obtain female engineer contact from Brian Harris to obtain quote for reverting the Pant slip-road to village green.

14.15 TO RECEIVE ENVIRONMENT/PLANNING WORKING GROUP UPDATE.

i To consider Community Service Initiative

This item is to be carried forward to the next meeting.

Chairman’s Signature..... Date.....

ii To consider focus group for dog soiling problem

Various ideas were considered and it was proposed that progress following communication with Rob Yorke should be sought. ACTION: Clerk to write to Cllr Yorke.

iii To receive update on village green application

A statement has been submitted for consideration by DCC planning committee meeting prior to their decision on the village green application. It was proposed that a request be made for an Article 4 direction to be served on the land to ensure that all fences/enclosures erected fall into planning requirements. ACTION Clerk to write to Adrian Cairnes, Green Lane, Spennymoor.

It was proposed and agreed that the Parish Council subscribe to Open Spaces Society for a trial period. ACTION: Clerk to arrange.

iv To receive skate park project update

Cllr Charlton provided an update on the recent meeting with Groundwork and Cllr Yorke and confirmed that the skate park application cannot progress until the land belongs to the Parish Council. A request has been submitted for the Parish Council to obtain the land, following which a meeting is essential to clarify the financial detail prior to further progression.

Due to shortage of time the following items will be carried to the next meeting:

- v To arrange Spring Clean 2014
- vii To arrange action plan meeting for annual events
- viii To confirm Neighbourhood Plan focus group members
- viii To consider information board for World Cup monument

14.16 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING MONDAY, 10TH MARCH 2014 7.00 PM (INTERIM)

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

- **To consider Community Service Initiative**
- **To arrange Spring Clean 2014**
- To arrange action plan meeting for annual event
- **To confirm Neighbourhood Plan focus group members**
- **To consider information board for World Cup monument**

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