

West Auckland Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held Monday, 12th November 2018 at 7.00 pm,
Parish Community Room, Monteith Close, West Auckland

Present: Cllr C Mairs, Chairman
Cllr J Curl
Cllr E Farrer
Cllr R Gargett-Gillens
Cllr L Rielly
Cllr W Robinson
Cllr G Smith, Vice-Chairman

18.92 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Palfreyman, Cllr Roberts, Cllr Simpson and Cllr C Smith

18.93 DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no expressions of interest received.

18.94 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING & MATTERS ARISING

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

Matters Arising

18.95 INVITE ANY COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A resident attended to say, "thank you" for the efforts of the Parish Council with the Remembrance Service; it was agreed by all that the service was well attended and poppies displayed around the village was well received.

It was reported there are 5 panes of glass missing from 'Brewery' bus stop. ACTION: Clerk to log a call with DCC.

It was suggested that the schools be invited to tend a piece of land in the village to encourage the children to take pride in the village. A suggested area is the path between the A68 and Oakley Cross school. Cllr G Smith and Cllr L Rielly agreed to raise the idea with both village schools at the next respective Governors' meeting.

A resident attended to raise concerns about a new development of 3 detached bungalows on the Leech estate. There are concerns about a 2 meters high fence being erected approximately 2-3 meters from existing properties. Outline Planning permission stated that the properties would be 12 meters from existing properties with the area in between to be landscaped. It was resolved that the Parish Council will support objections to any fencing between number 41 and the new builds as a low wall would be more in keeping with the rest of the estate. ACTION: Clerk to write to DCC.

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

A resident requested the possibility of additional planted bulbs to produce some colour in the summer as well as spring. The resident asked if she could approach the businesses to seek sponsorship in funding planters to be sited next to the 10 seats around the village. The Parish Council highlighted a concern about maintaining and watering but overall welcomed the ideas and thanked the resident for volunteering to approach local businesses.

A resident requested that the beck near the New Street play area be cleaned out as it is full of debris close to where children play. It was advised that the community wardens be approached to raise concerns about the amount of dog fouling on the New Street recreation area. It was resolved that the Environment Agency be asked to clean the beck. ACTION: Clerk to write.

18.96 TO RECEIVE CHAIRPERSON/COUNCILLORS REPORT

- Cllr Rielly advised she had attended the Memorial Hall Committee meeting. Cllr Rielly recommended that a Parish Council representative attend the regular meetings to support their efforts. It was advised that the recent Autumn Fayre raised £2918.39 and the next meeting is Thursday, 6th December 2018 at 7.00 pm.
- It was advised that the recent Westlife was delivered in time to advertise all events included in the edition. However, it was reported that some streets had not received a copy and agreed that the Clerk would follow-up with the Scouts’ coordinator. Cllr Farrer advised that he has linked with the Memorial Hall Committee to offer the opportunity to use future editions of Westlife to advertise any fund-raising events.

18.97 CLERK’S TABLING OF CORRESPONDENCE/ENDORISING OF INVOICE CHEQUES

Correspondence received was tabled and payments endorsed as follows:

Clerk's Salary Qtr End		£600.00
Domestic Salary		£69.33
Telephones & Broadband		£30.00
HMRC - PAYE		£150.00
NEA Project Gaunless Gateway	£2,000.00	
Cre8tive Graphics Newsletter		£175.50
npower		£17.25
Cllr Simpson hire tool for planting bulbs		£50.00
Scouts newsletter delivery		£100.00
Domestic Salary		£69.33
Telephones & Broadband		£30.00
CDALC Course		£27.00
Clerk's Salary – Nov annual		£800.00
A=Byte 2017-2018 Website Subscription		£144.00

The Clerk has received complaints about 3 trees planted near the Eden Arms. It was resolved that the Clerk log a call with DCC to ask them to investigate who planted them and remove if appropriate.

A letter of thanks has been received from Oakley Cross school for allowing them to use Monteith for a recent children’s evacuation project.

Chairman’s Signature..... Date.....

The speed matrix quote for approximately £22,000 has been obtained and it was resolved that DCC will be asked to proceed with siting two traffic speed alter units; one on A68 Toadpool and the other at the top of Copeland Road, West Auckland.

18.98 RECEIVE ENVIRONMENT/PLANNING WORKING GROUP UPDATE

i. To consider New Street play area improvements

Cllr Rielly advised she has been in touch with the Barrie Alderson and stated that he is keen to support improvements at the New Street play area. Cllr Robinson advised that during his previous meeting with Barrie Alderson it was advised that improvements will not take place until Spring 2019 when new funding becomes available. ACTION: Clerk to log call about the hazard of surface rubber matting requiring replacement inside the play area.

ii. To consider advertising boards

To be considered at a later date when leaflets arrive. ACTION: Clerk to double check on the progress with leaflets being printed.

iii. To consider village green flower beds

A planting programme has been considered at 18.95. It was advised that DCC are willing to liaise with the Parish Council on what plants are available for village planting. Concerns were raised about the lack of progress with the landscaping of the flower beds.

iv. To consider a Remembrance Woodland

To be considered at the next meeting after a meeting with Tony Johnston, DCC.

18.99 TO RECEIVE FINANCE WORKING GROUP UPDATE

i. To consider approval of Proposed Budget 2019-2020

- The draft proposed budget was considered and it was resolved that the attached budget can be implemented for 2019-2020. It was resolved that the precept will not be increased for the coming year.

18.100 TO RECEIVE AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE MONDAY, 10TH DECEMBER 2018 MEETING

- To consider advertising boards
- To consider cemetery remembrance garden
- To receive update on request to have the Miners' Banner returned to the village
- To expedite progress with the flower bed landscaping
- To consider a Remembrance Woodland
- To consider funding by-pass target hardening
- To arrange delivery of hampers
- To receive update on siting of defibrillators

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