

West Auckland Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held Monday, 10th June 2019 at 7.00 pm,
Parish Community Room, Monteith Close, West Auckland

Present: Cllr G Smith, Vice-Deputy Chairman
Cllr K Bolton
Cllr J Curl
Cllr E Farrer
Cllr Gargett-Gillens
Cllr A Palfreyman
Cllr L Rielly
Cllr M Roberts
Cllr C Smith
Cllr C Wilson, DCC

19.52 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Mairs, Cllr Robinson and Cllr Simpson.

19.53 DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no expressions of interest received.

19.54 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING & MATTERS ARISING

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

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

19.55 INVITE ANY COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Local residents attended and thanked Cllr Mairs, Cllr Rielly and Cllr Simpson for their support during planting up of the tubs throughout the village. It was resolved that a letter of thanks be sent SM/URFIT via Anthony Jones for their community support. ACTION: Clerk to write.

It was reported that the lights at the statue are currently unsafe as the unit is becoming exposed as the turf around them is wearing away. ACTION: This is to be reported to Dave Gillett via Cllr Rielly.

A litter bin was requested at the benches near the Pant. Cllr C Wilson agreed to pursue this request.

It was reported that the footpath between Oakley Cross school and Darlington Road requires improvement. It was proposed that Audrey Christie be asked about progress with the application to make this path a right of way. ACTION: Clerk to write.

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19.56 TO RECEIVE CHAIRPERSON/COUNCILLORS REPORT

- Cllr Curl raised residents’ request to have speed ramps on Robson Road. Cllr Wilson agreed to pursue this request.
- It was advised that the Gaunless Gateway is commencing with the small grants scheme and anyone interested should apply.

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

Correspondence received was tabled and payments endorsed as follows:

Monteith Groups rents	£100.00	
Domestic Salary		£73.00
Telephone & Broad Band		£30.00
Evans & Co Solicitor		£925.44

19.58 RECEIVE ENVIRONMENT/PLANNING WORKING GROUP UPDATE

i. To consider provision of dog waste bags

Further to complaints about the amount of dog faeces, it was resolved that the Parish Council request that the dog warden visit the area to the rear of the Manor House. ACTION: Clerk to report and Cllr Wilson agreed to report to DCC.

ii. To review the parish boundary

Following discussion it was resolved that the Parish Council would request that the parish boundary be reviewed and realigned to include Hummerbeck and Spring Gardens. ACTION: Clerk to log DCC request for response by the relevant person.

iii. To consider options for provision of a youth club

Following discussion about the possibilities of expressing an interest in the youth club as a community asset it was resolved that the Diacoes Secretary, St Cuthberts House, Langley Moor be asked to advise on the current status of land and building. ACTION: Clerk to write.

iv. To review outstanding initiatives

- **Play area** – due to the lack of response/progress on the play area from Barrie Alderson it was requested that Cllr Wilson raise concerns at the next council meeting.
- **Defibrillator** – Cllr Curl requested a supply of forms for completion during maintenance checks. The Clerk requested confirmation where the service records are being stored securely in the Parish Room office for ease of access when required. Cllr G Smith advised that as the Headteacher is leaving Copeland Road school it has caused a delay with the request to site the final defibrillator within the school boundary.
- **Rose bed replacement** – Cllr Rielly is requesting a meeting with Dave Gillett. It was resolved that, due to the delays in completion of this long outstanding project, the local

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volunteers will be allocated a maximum of £500 for plants and topsoil to landscape the old rose bed.

- **Leaflet 1** – Cllr Gargett-Gillens agreed to finalise the outstanding leaflet. Cllr Roberts confirmed he will check and approve leaflet 4 within a few days.
- **To consider the village in bloom** – Cllr Rielly is requesting a meeting with Dave Gillett to consider various problems with groundwork throughout the village including the football statue lighting, long term maintenance of the rose beds, weeding killing and grass cutting.

19.59 To RECEIVE FINANCE WORKING GROUP UPDATE

- i. To consider annual service of heating and/or replacement of programme timer

It was resolved that quotes will be obtained for an annual gas boiler service. Cllr Smith kindly agreed to replace the heating programme timer with a tamper proof version.

- ii. To consider replacement of notice board

It was resolved that a local joiner be asked to replace the broken lock section of the notice board if possible and, if not, he will be asked to provide a quote to replace the notice board in hardwood.

19.60 To CONSIDER LOCAL PLANNING ISSUES

There were no outstanding plans for consideration.

19.61 To RECEIVE AGENDA ITEMS FOR MEETING MONDAY, 8TH JULY 2019

- Community woodland
- Christmas meal
- Remembrance service
- New Street Play area

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