

# West Auckland Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 7.00 pm,  
Parish Community Room, Monteith Close, West Auckland

**Present via Zoom:** Cllr G Smith, Chairman  
Cllr K Bolton  
Cllr J Curl  
Cllr E Farrer  
Cllr A Palfreyman  
Cllr J Pattison  
Cllr M Roberts  
Cllr W Robinson  
Cllr N Simpson

## **20.62 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Rielly, Cllr Mairs and Cllr C Smith.

Cllr Jean Pattison was welcomed as a new co-opted member of the Parish Council.

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

There were no expressions of interest received.

## **20.64 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

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

## **20.65 INVITE ANY COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

- A resident expressed thanks to the Parish Council for resurfacing the path between the A68 and Oakley Cross school. Rats are reported to be behind the wall and it was requested that the Parish Council report it. ACTION: Clerk to report to DCC. FS-Case-285789865
- Village in Bloom thanked the Parish Council for their support during a difficult year for fund raising.
- It was requested that the New Street play area seating structure be removed as it is damaged and in poor condition. It was advised that the New Street play area improvements, to be implemented by DCC in due course, are to include the removal of the seating structure.
- Cllr G Smith provided a resident with an update on progress in supporting the ongoing anti-social behaviour at the East Green car park. Cllr Roberts advised that some of the agreed actions have been addressed and proposed to arrange a site meeting with the residents. ACTION: Cllr Roberts to meet residents.

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

## 20.66 TO RECEIVE CHAIRPERSON/COUNCILLORS REPORT

- Cllr Roberts agreed to arrange a meeting with the residents at the East Green car park to review the ongoing action plan and consider any further practical intervention to reduce the anti-social behaviour reported as taking place there.
- Cllr Palfreyman reported that a fir tree was dumped behind the Manor House. The Clerk advised that she has already reported this and suggested that members of the public or Parish Council can report any issue to DCC via their website and there is no need for public or Parish Councillors to wait until the next meeting to address routine issues which can be reported direct to DCC. Any delay in reporting can be avoided by making reports to DCC by telephoning 0300 0260000 or online via their website [doitonline - Durham](#) .
- Cllr Roberts provided an update on the S&DR progress and he proposed that a memorial to miners who lost their lives be considered.

## 20.67 CLERK'S TABLING OF CORRESPONDENCE/ENDORISING OF INVOICE CHEQUES

The September 2020 quarter end bank reconciliation was reviewed and approved.

Correspondence received was tabled and payments endorsed as follows:

	Receipt	Payment
npower		£12.79
Zurich Annual Insurance		£427.52
Overpayment for tablets & cases - S Proud	£4.95	
BT - Monteith 4G internet		£36.00
B McGregor - bus shelters cleaned		£150.00
A-Byte - annual website host & security		£288.00
Telephones and Broadband		£30.00
npower gas		£45.00
Christmas cakes for residential homes		£28.98
Anglian Water rates		£37.12
Boxing Club - Iron Strength equipment		£1,651.14
Boxing Club - Ebay weights (combined £681.35)		£291.36
Boxing Club Treadmill		£998.33
Boxing Club - Beny Rower (combined £681.35)		£389.99
Reimbursed Boxing Club kit out-of-stock	£399.00	

## 20.68 RECEIVE ENVIRONMENT/PLANNING WORKING GROUP UPDATE

### i. To consider management of emissions and smoke from APTEC site.

Cllr Smith advised that he has had the area checked out by the Environment Agency and no concerns were raised. It was reported that scrap is being burnt outside the APTEC boundaries by land owners of a field further down towards the Gaunless beck; it was confirmed that the burning of scrap is being addressed by DCC and is not relating to any business on the APTEC site.

### ii. To consider improving the state of the names of the fallen listed on the Pant

It was proposed that the Pant name plaque be cleaned and improved to preserve it. Cllr Farrer is making enquires with DECO Signs and will update at the next meeting.

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

## 20.69 TO RECEIVE FINANCE WORKING GROUP UPDATE

### i. To receive request for Boxing Club equipment

The following items were agreed to be purchased and gifted to the new West Auckland Boxing Club to support with provision of required equipment for the facility. The boxing club is providing numerous health and training sessions for residents of all ages and abilities.

Item	Cost
Blue/Red Olympic Bar 180 cm 50mm	£139.00
Bench, squat. Stand. Plates and bars Bundle	£936.54
HMS Barbell Composite 30 kg SG30 Dumbell	£225.00
Handrails for premium pumps	£99.99
V-fit Tornada Air Rower - Rowing machine	£389.99
Commercial Rubber free weights Dumb Bells	£291.36
Super Large Motorized Electric Treadmill Folding Automatic Incline Running 2.5HP	£998.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>£3,080.21</b>

### ii. To consider purchase and installation of CCTV for West Auckland

Cllr Smith provided an update on securing a pan tilt zoom (PTZ) camera and will provide an update on progress with this at the next meeting.

### iii. To receive a quote for bird-mouth fencing and trees at Oakley Grange land and East Green car park

Following discussion, it was resolved that any works at the East Green car park will be kept on hold until plans to improve the area are considered fully.

It was resolved that the Trevor Burns quote of £1,722 for bird-mouth fencing at Oakley Grange land was acceptable. This piece of land, recently transferred in ownership to West Auckland Parish Council, will have the required replacement fencing erected.

Trees for Oakley Grange were considered and it was resolved that options to obtain Woodland Trust donated whip trees be pursued in addition to purchasing more mature trees for the Oakley Grange land.

## 20.70 TO CONSIDER LOCAL PLANNING ISSUES

There are no recent planning applications in West Auckland for consideration.

It was proposed and resolved that DCC be asked for specific advice on the proposed various tree planting schemes around the village. ACTION: Cllr Roberts to liaise with DCC.

## 20.71 To receive any items for Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 meeting

- To receive an update on Street Games
- To receive an update on the Stockton & Darlington Railway initiative
- The Pant name plaque – finance
- To receive update on a PTZ camera
- To update on East Green car park

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- To receive update on litter bins – opposite the Manor and near the Pizza shop
- To receive update on the poor state of the Queen’s public house
- To consider options for a Remembrance wall at the Cemetery

Chairman’s Signature..... Date.....