

West Auckland Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held Monday, 13th December 2021 at 7.00 pm,
Parish Community Room, Monteith Close, West Auckland

Present : Cllr G Smith, Chairman
Cllr K Bolton
Cllr J Curl
Cllr E Farrer, Vice-Chairman
Cllr J Pattison
Cllr L Rielly
Cllr N Simpson

21.101 To ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Palfreyman, Cllr Roberts, Cllr Robinson & Cllr C Smith. Apologies were also received from Barbara Slaser, Gaunelss Gateway.

21.102 DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest.

21.103 To CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

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

21.104 To INVITE ANY COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- A resident thanked the Parish Council for writing to the manager of McColl's shop with a request to clear the shop frontage but unfortunately the request to clean up the bag of rubbish has not yet been carried out. As the bag is reported to be encouraging rats a report to DCC will be made. ACTION: Clerk to follow-up.
- A wind damaged fence on a public pathway between Oakley Cross school and the A68 is reported to be causing a hazard as it is falling towards the pathway. ACTION: Clerk to report and follow-up with Cllr Yorke.

21.105 To RECEIVE CHAIRPERSON/COUNCILLORS REPORT

- To receive feedback from the 15th November 2021 Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) meeting.

Representatives of the Parish Council attended the meeting to gain an understanding of what is required of anyone becoming involved in the CAP initiative. Several Parish Council representatives agreed to attend the Bishop Auckland meeting to obtain more information and as there were four members absent from tonight's meeting it was agreed to carry this item forward for consideration by all in January. ACTION: Clerk to obtain and circulate the Bishop Auckland meeting date to be circulated to those attending.

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

- The Memorial Hall's Queen's Jubilee meeting volunteers are to be invited to the Memorial Hall's January 2022 meeting. ACTION: Clerk to forward the date to those attending.
- It was advised that the Environment Agency have commenced work on clearing the Oakley Cross beck and have removed a fence which was across the beck. It is believed that the works are not yet complete due to the pressure added to services by the recent storms. It was reported that residents are throwing tree prunings and garden rubbish into the beck. This needs to be monitored and addressed as appropriate.
- It was reported that there has been a spate of bus shelter windows being broken in West Auckland and surrounding local areas.
- It was advised that there will be Carols around the Christmas tree on Thursday, 16th December 2021.

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

Correspondence received was tabled and payments endorsed as follows:

	Receipt	Payment
Village in Bloom - vac shredder		£364.00
Village in Bloom vac shredder repayment	£303.33	
Tool-Time Ltd - turf lifter		£58.00
Monteith Cleaning - October - E Jones		£120.00
Hampers - residential homes		£98.20
Ferryhill Band - Remembrance Sunday		£150.00
Eon Next		£30.28
Zurich Public Liability Insurance		£427.52
BT - Monteith Internet		£37.08
Telephones and Broadband		£30.00
Abyte Annual Website hosting & Security		£280.00
wave Water Rates		£46.29
Monteith Cleaning - November - E Jones		£135.00
Youth Club - part order - Plastic plates		£12.99
Youth Club - part order - kettle		£24.99
Youth Club - part order - plastic tumblers		£9.69
Youth Club - part order - cups		£24.99
Youth Club - part order - slow cooker		£36.98
Youth Club - part order - fridge inc package removal		£180.99
Youth Club - fridge unpacking on delivery		£13.00
Hampers		£30.70

i. To consider adoption of CDALC recommended Code of Conduct

It was resolved that the Parish Council will adopt the new Code of Conduct as recommended by County Durham Association of Local Councils (CDALC) with immediate effect.

ii. To receive final version of Leaflet 1

Cllr Roberts was not in attendance to provide the final version and therefore this item will be carried forward.

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

iii. To arrange pre-meet for Bypass meeting with MP

It was resolved that a pre-meeting to agree pertinent points will be arranged for the day before the meeting with the MP.

21.107 RECEIVE ENVIRONMENT/PLANNING WORKING GROUP UPDATE

i. To receive update on Bypass Proposals

It was confirmed that a meeting has been arranged with MP Dehenna Davison for Saturday, 8th January 2022 to discuss the Parish Councillors concerns about the current bypass proposal as it stands.

ii. To receive update on the Heritage Board & Purchase of a new Notice Board

To be carried forward to the next meeting in the absence of key Parish Councillors.

iii. To receive update on community use plans for the Oakley Cross school Multi-user games and activities (MUGA)

It was reported by Cllr Rielly that Barbara Slaser is available to manage Parish Council approved projects and that Barbara is keen to support with the development of the MUGA. A bid will be submitted for available Towns & Village funding to develop the facility. An update from Cllr Yorke was requested. ACTION: Clerk to request.

iv. To consider pursuing options to obtain electric car chargers

It was confirmed that DCC are implementing an initiative to install electric car chargers and West Auckland is being included for consideration within the project.

21.108 To RECEIVE FINANCE WORKING GROUP UPDATE

• To receive update on DCC councillor's funding request for an additional New Street play area phase

Durham County Councillors, Cllr Rob Yorke & Cllr Mark Idwal-Roberts have agreed to fund the pyramid equipment for the New Street play area. Therefore, the Parish Council will fund the swings to complete this final phase of improvements to the recreation area.

21.109 To CONSIDER LOCAL PLANNING ISSUES

There were no planning issues for consideration.

21.110 To receive items for Monday, 10th January 2022 meeting

- To consider location of 4th defibrillator
- To receive final version of Leaflet 1
- To consider nominees to represent the Parish Council at the Community Alcohol Partnership
- To receive update on Bypass Proposals
- To receive update on the Heritage Board & Purchase of a new Notice Board
- To receive update on community use plans for the Oakley Cross school Multi-user games and activities (MUGA)

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