

## NORTH LODGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of North Lodge Parish Council held at Arizona Chemical, Vigo Lane, Chester-le-Street on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

PRESENT: Chairman: Cllr. Mrs. E Forrester  
Councillors: Mrs. M. Caygill, Mrs. L. LeDune, Mrs. M. May,  
Mrs. C. Walton, N. Alderson, C. Noble-Nesbitt,  
D. Snaith.

County Councillor: P. May

Two Residents

Clerk: Mr. D. Murrell.

The meeting commenced at 6.35pm with the Chairman welcoming everyone. County Councillor P. May was not present at the beginning of the meeting.

### **Item 1. 14/46 Election of Chairman for 2014 / 2015**

Cllr. Mrs. E. Forrester was proposed and seconded as Chairman for 2014 / 2015. There were no other nominations.

**(Resolved** - that Cllr. Mrs. E. Forrester is to be Chairman for the year 2014 / 2015).

### **Item 2. 14/47 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Dr. D. Hartley. County Councillor P. May had also given Apologies for his expected late arrival at the meeting.

### **Item 3. 14/48 Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Mrs. Forrester declared an interest in a matter relating to the appearance of land at Queensmere.

### **Item 4. 14/49 Election of Vice-Chairman for 2014 / 2015**

Cllr. D. Snaith was proposed and seconded as Vice-Chairman for 2014 / 2015. There were no other nominations.

**(Resolved** - that Cllr. D. Snaith is to be Vice-Chairman for the year 2014 / 2015).

### **Item 5. 14/50 Election of Portfolio Holders**

The following Councillors were elected as Portfolio Holders - a) Finance - vacant, b) Highways - Cllr. C. Noble-Nesbitt, c) Horticulture - Cllr. Mrs. C. Walton assisted by Cllr. Mrs. L. LeDune, d) Planning - Cllr. D. Snaith, e) Play Areas - Cllr. Mrs. C. Caygill assisted by Cllr. N. Alderson, f) Publicity - Cllr. Mrs. M. May, g) Website - Cllr. C. Noble-Nesbitt.

The Chairman thanked all those Councillors who had put themselves forward for a Portfolio position.

**Item 6. 14/51 Report of the Police**

The Police were not present at the meeting but had provided a written report (Appendix 1, attached) and this was read out by the Clerk.

At this point, County Councillor P. May arrived at the meeting.

**Item 7. 14/52 Report of the County Councillor**

The Chairman welcomed County Councillor P. May to the meeting and invited him to give his report which included the matters contained in his written report attached (Appendix 2). Before presenting his report, County Cllr. May offered his condolences on the recent death of Cllr. Ditte Prest. In the light of recent news that a buyer was being sought to develop land at Windlestone Hall for housing, Cllr. Mrs. Caygill asked the County Councillor to make enquiries regarding the sale price of the Hall when it was sold by the County Council into private ownership in 2012. The Chairman thanked County Councillor May for his report.

**Item 8. 14/53 Adoption of Minutes of Meeting**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2014, draft copies of which had been previously circulated, were adopted as a true and accurate record of the Meeting and were duly signed by the Chairman.

**Item 9. 14/54 Chairman's Report**

Regarding outstanding matters -

- a) Re Minute 14/37 section 1). Re anti-social behaviour at South Pelaw Woods, Cllr. Mrs. Caygill advised that the County Council expected to thin out tree branches after the bird-nesting season, following which the Police hoped to enlist the services of the Probation Service to clean the area.
- b) Re Minute 14/38. The Clerk advised that the County Council had made a grant of £100 towards replanting after re-installation of the Northlands bus shelter.
- c) Re Minute 14/40 section a). Cllr. Mrs. Caygill advised that Park View Academy expected to commence out-of-hours community activities from the 1<sup>st</sup> June.
- d) Re Minute 14/40 section b). Re the path between Low Flatts and the Drum Industrial Estate, the Clerk advised that Sustrans had not been able to offer any help in improvement work. However, Cllr. Mrs. Caygill advised that help might be available from the County Council and the Co-op's environment group.
- e) Re Minute 14/40 section c). Re land between Queensmere and North Road, the Clerk advised that there had not yet been any reply from the Neighbourhood Wardens. The Chairman advised that many residents were enjoying the appearance of the area now that the trees were in leaf, and that the matter would be discussed again by the residents there once the leaves had fallen.
- f) Re Minute 14/40 section d). Re a raised bed for Barley Mow, the Clerk advised that there had not yet been a reply from the County Council regarding the positions of services there. The Clerk will enquire again.

The Chairman reported on the matters contained in her written report attached (Appendix 3). Councillors thanked the Chairman for her report.

### **Item 10. 14/55 Portfolio Holders' Reports**

The Chairman invited Cllr. Mrs. Caygill to give her report.

**a) Play Areas** Cllr. Mrs. Caygill's report included the following matters.

Nothing yet had been heard from the Neighbourhood Wardens re dog fouling at Low Flatts. The Chairman kindly agreed to contact the County Council on this matter. The Clerk will contact the County Council to ask again that the damaged seat of the junior swings at Low Flatts be repaired or replaced. The Clerk will arrange a site meeting for Cllr. Mrs. Caygill to meet Cestria Housing to consider the site for the two proposed seats at the Drum pond. The Clerk will advise the County Council that the grant monies for the replacement seesaw at Merlin Drive has now been received. The Chairman thanked Cllr. Mrs. Caygill for her report and invited Cllr. Mrs. Walton to give her report.

**b) Horticulture** Cllr. Mrs. Walton's report included the matters contained in her written report attached (Appendix 4).

Re the willow tree, Councillors agreed with the suggested site at Merlin Drive play area. Cllr. Mrs. Walton was enquiring with a local business as to the best way to provide a mount for the plaque for the Queen's Jubilee tree. It was not known at present where the plaque for the Millennium Yew tree was. Councillors agreed that a replacement should be sourced if the original could not be found. Re the project with the Residents' Association for more flower tubs, the Chairman of the Association gave an up-date on progress so far. Councillors agreed that the Council should be involved in this project.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Mrs. Walton for her report and invited Cllr. Noble-Nesbitt to give his report.

**c) Highways and Website**

Cllr. Noble-Nesbitt provided an up-date regarding some aspects of the Northlands roundabout works. Articles re overhanging branches and parking on pavements would be included in the forthcoming Newsletter. The website was working well.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Noble-Nesbitt for his report and invited Cllr. Snaith to give his report.

**d) Planning**

Cllr. Snaith advised that there were no matters to report.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Snaith and invited Cllr. Mrs. May to give her report.

**e) Publicity**

Cllr. Mrs. May advised that she had provided an article on Neighbourhood Plans for the Newsletter. The Chairman thanked Cllr. Mrs. May for her report.

**f) Finance** In the absence of a Portfolio Holder, no report was made.

### **Item 11. 14/56 Correspondence**

1) From the County Durham Association of Local Councils

- a) email re Localism event.
- b) email re Community Right to Bid.
- c) Agenda for the CDALC Smaller Councils Forum held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2014.
- d) email re Making Localism Work conference.
- e) email re North East WW1 networking events.
- f) email re Healthy Weight Framework consultation.
- g) email re playground inspection training courses.
- h) email re Village Green training.
- i) email re Paper Chase training course.
- j) email re "Local Councils Explained" publication.

Councillors agreed that a copy of this book should be purchased.

- k) email re AAP priorities.

- 2) From Durham County Council
- a) Notification of the AAP Board Meeting to be held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2014.
  - b) Notification of funding event to be held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2014.
  - c) Notification of “Digital Inclusion” event to be held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2014.
  - d) Notification of the AAP Improved Environment group meeting to be held on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2014.
- 3) Various planning applications, approvals and refusals from Durham County Council, of which the following were within North Lodge Parish:-
- a) Application for change of use of car park for a motor cycle training business and for the erection of two steel containers and a temporary cabin, at car park at Pelaw Grange Greyhound Stadium.
  - b) Application for advertisement consent for one banner sign on fencing and one fascia sign on hoarding, at car park at Pelaw Grange Greyhound Stadium.
  - c) Application for erection of two storey side extension, at 44 Lyndhurst Avenue.
  - d) Application for porch and pitched roof over front room bay window, at 16 Wear Lodge.
  - e) Approval for single storey extension to side and rear of property, at 79 Picktree Lodge.
  - f) Approval for erection of detached bungalow and garage, at 27 Blind Lane.

**Item 12. 14/57 The Newsletter**

Cllr. Noble-Nesbitt advised that he now had the main submissions for the Newsletter. The Clerk will make preliminary contact with the printers.

**Item 13. 14/58 Payment of Accounts**

TO	AMOUNT	REASON	VAT
D. Murrell		Salary/Exps. May 2014	
Durham County Pension Fund		Clerk's Pension May 2014	
Pot-It-On	£385.49	Horticulture	
Comm Lincs Insurance Services	£780.01	Annual Insurance Premium	
St. Cuthbert's Hospice	£ 50.00	Donation	
D. Murrell (via Makro)	£10.19	Photocopy Paper	£1.70

(Resolved - the payments be approved as submitted).

**Item 14. 14/59 Other Matters for Consideration**

The following matters were submitted for consideration.

- a) Re the proposed raised bed at Barley Mow, Cllr. Mrs. LeDune considered that it would be helpful to know who owns the land between the two fences alongside the former BOC site. The Clerk will enquire with the County Council.
- b) The Chairman outlined the recent informative visit, which she had taken part in, of the Chester-le-Street & District AAP to the East Durham AAP.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.58pm.



**CHESTER-LE-STREET BEAT TEAM**

**NORTH LODGE**  
**PARISH**

**BEAT OFFICER – PC 2128 Lynda Richardson**

**PCSO 6389 Christine Taylor**

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**REPORTING PERIOD 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

<b>CRIMINAL DAMAGE</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>THEFT</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>YOUTH NUISANCE</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>BURGLARY</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>VEHICLE NUISANCE</b>	<b>0</b>

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Nothing reported.

THEFT

Money Stolen by a family member for online Gaming

YOUTH NUISANCE

Nothing to report

BURGLARY

Nothing to report

VEHICLE RELATED NUISANCE

Nothing reported.

## **INFORMATION**

**Please remember to lock all valuables away if leaving in your vehicles and remove all traces of Sat Navigation systems if stuck on windows etc. Also check that your vehicle is locked and the keys are not visible through a window or door. **Up to 70% of all car crime in Chester le Street in the last 12 months is because the vehicles have been left unlocked.****

**Regular patrols have been made around Picktree Lodge by Officers, PCSO's and wardens. Northumbria officers have also been involved.**

**If you get a phone call asking you to call a 0809 number back, don't. It will cost you over £1000.**

**Please do not hesitate to contact us if you wish to discuss any Police matters.**

**Thank You,**

**Police officer Lynda Richardson  
PCSO Christine Taylor**

**Telephone the police on 101**

**[Christine.taylor@durham.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Christine.taylor@durham.pnn.police.uk)**

**[Lynda.richardson@durham.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Lynda.richardson@durham.pnn.police.uk)**

# **County Councillor Peter May** **North Lodge Parish Council May 2014 Report**

## **Flower Power**

The Parish Council in partnership with the North Lodge Residents Association propose an initiative to move the barrels containing flowers already in situ at various sites throughout the Parish. Buy more and re-position them to create a more appealing design to the area. Funding is to come from County Councillor Peter May's community fund. There is £2,000 available

## **Car Parking issues near Police Station.**

I have had complaints that staff from the Police Station are parking on the pavement and occasionally across the accesses to resident's homes along Newcastle Road. I have been in contact with Inspector Naunton who has taken action to prevent this happening.

## **Parking problems Rickleton Avenue**

The situation regarding commuters parking their cars around the entrance to Rickleton Avenue is now getting out of hand with the area often being reduced to a one way system. – I am intending to take this up with residents and Police to see if action can be taken to reduce the problem

## **Camperdown Pocket Park Activities programme Easter/Summer 2014**

Funding for £2,000 has been allocated from my budget to fund this event which includes more planting

## **The water main in Kingsmere has once again burst**

I have asked the County to investigate and to ask Northumbria Water for their programme of investment for this area. I was under the impression 12 months ago that NWL had plans in place to replace the main.

**From:** [Roger Culpin](#)

**Sent:** 15/05/2014 08:58

**To:** [Dean Bell](#); [Cllr Peter May](#); [Catherine Peat](#); [mike.madine@durham.gov.uk](mailto:mike.madine@durham.gov.uk); [Brian Weatherall](#)

**Cc:** [Graham Dixon](#); [Keith Wood](#)

**Subject:** RE: Water Burst

I have had a note from NWL regarding their apparatus at Kingsmere, Chester le Street,

Their response is that there was a CP0 raised end of last year to have the mains renewed at this location. They are now waiting for the go-ahead to start the renewal but there is presently no date for this. They do confirm that they have installed a couple of valves to keep the number of properties disrupted down to a minimum if there was a leak in the interim period and that my contact will continue to chase the CP0 and the stage this is at.

Regards

Roger Culpin

Network Operations Manager



## **Air quality around Northlands Roundabout**

For purposes of Local Air Quality Management consideration is given to both the long and short term National Air Quality Standards that are an annual mean of 40 micrograms/m<sup>3</sup> (µg/m<sup>3</sup>)

Location	DCC Ref:	Year		
		2011	2012	2013
3 North Road	D26	38.96	35.87	32.26
3 Blind Lane	D27	36.6	32.04	31.86

It would appear that the pollution levels have decreased over the 3 year period.

It will be interesting to know how the traffic lights and longer waiting times of the vehicles effects the readings over the next 3 years.

## **Picktree Lodge Paths.**

I am still waiting for a report from the County Council and have recently reminded them of it.

Meanwhile I would like residents to continue reporting their concerns in order that I have a constructive argument when negotiating with the Council. EG

*Entrance to a lot drives are crumbling at the edges. The path up the side of No 41 has subsided leaving it dangerous to walk on for the aged & children*

**CCTV sites and costs** – discussions with the Police are still ongoing

## **Road Repairs**

At the last Parish Council meeting, Councillor Colin Noble-Nesbitt (Highways portfolio holder) advised the meeting that recently he had reviewed road surfaces throughout the Parish. In his opinion, the surfaces at the east end of Lombard Drive and in parts of Merlin Drive were the worst, being heavily potholed and rutted, and needed early attention by the Highways team. Could Councillor Peter May please take this forward to the County Council?

**I did take it forward** - It is acknowledged that the road surface through areas of Lombard Drive, Merlin Drive and Leander Avenue are poor where a previous bituminous overlay of the concrete has eroded. Although the defects are not considered by the County Council a safety concern, the roads are unsightly and further deterioration will continue if nothing is done. Therefore, arrangements have been made for the defective areas to be patched. The work has been scheduled for mid-June 2014.

## **Blight spots**

Please will residents let me know ASAP of any blight spots that they believe the Council can help improve?

I have already asked the planners to seriously relook at private gardens with abandoned cars etc.

## **Capital Works Programme 2014/15 – North Lodge**

Please find below the list of highway works which are programmed to be carried out within my division this financial year. I would like to point out that this list may be subject to change throughout the year without notice, but I will keep you informed of progress

<b>Scheme Type</b>	<b>Road No</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Status</b>
Footways	Unc	Wear Lodge, North Lodge	Highway Services	Committed
Footways	A167	North Road (44 to 50), North Lodge	Highway Services	Committed
Carriageway Works	Unc	Lombard Drive, Chester Le Street	Highway Services	Committed
Carriageway Works	A693	Northlands Rbt, Chester Le Street	Highway Services	Committed
Footway Surface Treatment	Unc	Picktree Lane, Chester-Le-Street	Kiely Bros.	Committed
Footway Surface Treatment	Unc	Broadway, Chester-Le-Street	Kiely Bros.	Committed
Micro Asphalt	Unc	Appledore Gardens, Chester-Le-Street	Kiely Bros.	Complete
Surface Dressing	C8	Vigo Lane, Barley Mow, Ch-le-St	Kiely Bros.	Committed

**The root affected pathway in Park Road North has now been repaired**

**North Lodge Parish Council**

**Accounts for the month as submitted to the Meeting of North Lodge Parish Council held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2014.**

<b>TO</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>REASON</b>	<b>VAT</b>
D. Murrell		Salary/Exps. May 2014	
Durham County Pension Fund		Clerk's Pension May 2014	
Pot-It-On	£385.49	Horticulture	
Comm Lincs Insurance Services	£780.01	Annual Insurance Premium	
St. Cuthbert's Hospice	£ 50.00	Donation	
D. Murrell (via Makro)	£10.19	Photocopy Paper	£1.70

**Balance to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

Balance b/f	£28215.67	Balances at Bank:-		
Deduct Payments - April 2014	<u>£ 1595.68</u>		Current	£ 913.77
	£26619.99		30 Day	<u>£43889.45</u>
Add Precept + LCTSS Grant	<u>£18044.90</u>		Total	£44803.22
	£44664.89			
Add Bank Interest Received	<u>£ 1.23</u>	Deduct cheques not yet presented		<u>£ 137.10</u>
Balance c/f	£44666.12			£44666.12