

NORTH LODGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of North Lodge Parish Council held at the Civic Centre, Newcastle Road, Chester-le-Street on Wednesday 20th October 2010.

PRESENT: Chairman: Cllr. C. Noble-Nesbitt.
Councillors: Mrs. M. Caygill, Mrs. E. Forrester, Mrs. L. LeDune,
Prof. V. McEwan, Mrs. M. May, Mrs. D. Prest,
Mrs. C. Walton.

County Councillor: Mr. P. May

Clerk: Mr. D. Murrell

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm with the Chairman welcoming everyone.

Item 1. 10/104 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors Mrs. S. Brown and S. Tones.

Item 2. 10/105 Report of the Police

The Police were not in attendance. However, County Cllr. P. May had kindly agreed to present their report (Appendix 1, attached).

The Chairman thanked County Cllr. May.

Item 3. 10/106 Reports of the County Councillors

The Chairman invited County Councillor P. May to give his report which included the following matters.

a) County Cllr. May was in discussion with the County Council regarding planting on Northlands roundabout, and he had offered funding for this from his County Council Allowance. He had further funds available towards good causes in his Ward. Councillors discussed this and proposed a partnership improvement scheme, with the County Council, to recognize the importance of the County and Parish entrance at Barley Mow which at present was untidy and unattractive. County Cllr. May kindly offered £5000 from his Allowance towards the project. The Chairman proposed that a sub-committee be set up. Councillors agreed that this should be chaired by Cllr. Mrs. Caygill with Cllrs. Mrs. LeDune, Mrs. Prest and Mrs. Walton as the other members. The Clerk is to put the proposal to the County Council.

(**Resolved** - that a sub-committee consisting of Cllrs. Mrs. Caygill (Chairman), Mrs. LeDune, Mrs. Prest and Mrs. Walton be set up to oversee an improvement project for the north entrance to the County and Parish at Barley Mow).

b) County Cllr. May gave details of the AAP's proposed Christmas Festival activities. Most events would be held on the 10th and 11th of December.

The Chairman thanked the County Councillor for his report.

Item 4. 10/107 Adoption of Minutes of Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 15th September 2010, 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 5. 10/108 Matters Arising

- a) Re Minute 10/94. The Police had advised that the maximum noise level for motorbike exhausts was 80db. The Clerk is to contact the Police to ask what enforcement options for this are available.
- b) Re Minute 10/94. Re the involvement of Councillors in the Community Speed Watch scheme, the Clerk is to ask the Police for possible dates and times.
- c) Re Minute 10/98 section b). The work to install dropped kerbs along North Road had now been completed and Councillors thanked County Cllr. P. May for providing funding for the work.
- d) Re Minute 10/98 section f). Re a website for the Parish Council, the Chairman advised that there had been little progress with other County Council sponsored websites for Parish Councils and Cllr. Prof. McEwan advised that contact with the County Council on this matter had been difficult. However, they would both persevere and County Cllr. P. May kindly agreed to approach the County Council to ascertain the present position.
- e) Re Minute 10/99 section 11e). Re the County Council's draft Statement of Licensing Policy, Cllr. Prof. McEwan gave an outline and advised that there was nothing particular to the Parish in it.
- f) Re Minute 10/99 section 11j). Re the forthcoming Remembrance Sunday Service, Councillors agreed that the Chairman and Cllr. Mrs. Caygill were to represent the Parish Council.
- g) Re Minute 10/99 section 11o). Re the Local Councils Information Handbook, the Chairman advised that a second copy had been received electronically.
- h) Re Minute 10/100 section a2). Re inspection of the swings at Merlin Drive play area, the Chairman advised that it was not clear whether or not the repair had been carried out. However, Cllr. Mrs. Caygill had been advised by the County Council that they would carry out an inspection and effect any repairs needed.

Item 6. 10/109 Correspondence

- 1) From Community Consultation Ltd
email re insurance claim.

The insurers had asked that the invoice for the repair of the boomgate at Low Flatts play area be sent to them.

- 2) From TreesPlease Ltd

Price List, 2010 - 2011 season.

- 3) From Durham Rural Community Council
Community News - Autumn 2010 / Winter 2011.

- 4) From Gateshead Council and Newcastle City Council
Letter re NewcastleGateshead Strategic Land Review.

- 5) From County Durham Association of Local Councils

- a) email re new County Association website.

- b) email re the future of the Standards framework in England.

The Government was proposing the abolition of the present Standards regime.

- c) email re consultation on Code of Practice on Local Authority Publication.

Included in the proposed Code was that Councils should not publish newspapers in competition with the local press, should not appear more than quarterly and should only include material directly related to council services.

- d) email re assistance at 2011 Census.

- e) Agenda and Minutes for the Annual General Meeting to be held on Saturday 30th Oct. 2010.

- f) Schedule of forthcoming training events.

- g) email re Durham County Council Sport and Leisure Strategy consultation.

- h) email re Durham County Council Bonfire Night Strategy.

6) From Durham County Council

- a) email re sale of land at South Pelaw.
- b) email re construction of roundabout at A693 / Drum Road junction.

County Cllr. P. May kindly agreed to ask the County Council to consider using quiet road surfacing.

- c) Letter re County Durham Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment.
- d) Board Papers for the Chester-le-Street and District Area Action Partnership Board meeting held on Monday 27th September 2010.
- e) Letter and leaflets re the Registered Trader Scheme.
- f) Contact details re Neighbourhood Services, Streetscene North.
- g) Letter re 2010 Bulb Planting Challenge.
- h) Letter and Newsletter re the work of the Chester-le-Street & District AAP.
- i) Letter re Bus Service consultation.

7) Various planning applications, approvals and refusals from Durham County Council, of which the following were within North Lodge Parish:-

- a) Application for erection of two-storey extension at side of dwelling, porch and pitched roof to front, at 17 Low Flatts Road.
- b) Application for erection of two-storey extension at side of dwelling, at 47 Leander Avenue.
- c) Application for erection of first-floor extension over existing games room and new portico to rear of dwelling and erection of porch to front, at 47 Longdean Park.
- d) Approval for Section 73 application for variation of conditions 3 and 4 of planning application 05/00439/LBC to allow staging of details submitted in accordance with submitted phasing plan, at Byers Cottage / Lambton Stables, Lambton Park.

Item 7. 10/110 Transit 15 Proposals

The Chairman detailed the County Council's latest Transit 15 proposals and referred to the plan contained in the Chairman's Report attached (Appendix 4). Councillors discussed these and the Chairman asked that they give some thought to the proposals in order that a response could be detailed at the November Parish Council meeting.

Item 8. 10/111 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. At Merlin Drive play area, 1) The County Council had advised that the gate could not be repaired and therefore they were considering a replacement. 2) Re an additional set of swings, Cllr. Mrs. Caygill had discussed this matter with the County Council Leisure Services Technician, following which three quotes should be available for consideration at the November Parish Council meeting.

At Low Flatts play area, 3) The County Council had now filled in the rabbit holes. 4) The boomgate had been repaired and re-painted by the County Council. 5) Good working relationships were in place with the County Council.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Mrs. Caygill for her report and invited Cllr. Mrs. Walton to give her report.

b) Horticulture Cllr. Mrs. Walton reported on the matters contained in her written report attached (Appendix 2). Re the bulb planting challenge, Cllr. Mrs. Walton advised that, in fact, 300 bulbs had been obtained. Councillors agreed that these bulbs should be planted throughout the Parish. Re the hedge at Merlin Drive play area, Councillors were disappointed to learn of the damage and agreed that the Council's actions should now be limited to keeping the area tidy.

Cllr. Mrs. Walton advised that it had become difficult to maintain contact with the gardener who had not been seen in the Parish recently. The Clerk is to write to the gardener asking for immediate contact.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Mrs. Walton for her report and invited Cllr. Mrs. Forrester to give her

report.

c) **Publicity** Cllr. Mrs. Forrester's report included the following matters. 1) Production of the artwork for Northlands play area was progressing well. 2) The mobile cinema in the district was again in operation and was being well received. 3) Children from local schools were to meet to propose possible events for the coming year. 4) AAP approval was being sought for a temporary ice rink in the town. 5) A Carol Service was to be held on 18th December at the Civic Heart. 6) The County Council was to build a "Hub" in the town for young people to access various services. 7) Cllr. Mrs. Forrester had attended a "Destination Plan for Chester-le-Street" meeting to discuss the promotion of the district.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Mrs. Forrester for her report.

d) **Highways** Cllr. Noble-Nesbitt reported on matters contained in his written report attached (Appendix 3). Re item 7, the Prohibition of Waiting Order for Lombard Drive, Councillors agreed unanimously that a recommendation be sent to the County Council that the times of restriction should be 8am to 9am and 3pm to 4pm Monday to Friday so as to correspond with the timings of present restrictions there. The Clerk will advise the County Council accordingly.

(Resolved on a unanimous show of hands - to recommend to the County Council that the times of restriction in the Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting Order 2010 relating to Lombard Drive should be 8am to 9am and 3pm to 4pm Monday to Friday).

Councillors thanked Cllr. Noble-Nesbitt for his report.

e) **Planning** In the absence of Cllr. Tones, no report was made.

f) **Finance** In the absence of Cllr. Jukes, no report was made.

Item 9. 10/112 The Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported on matters contained in his written report attached (Appendix 4).

Councillors thanked the Chairman for his report.

Item 10. 10/113 Payment of Accounts

The following accounts were submitted for payment.

TO	AMOUNT	REASON	VAT
D. Murrell		Salary/Exps. Oct 2010	
Durham County Pension Fund		Clerk's Pension Oct 2010	
Durham County Council	£55.68	Filling of Rabbit Holes at Low Flatts	£8.29

(Resolved - the accounts rendered be approved for payment).

Item 11. 10/114 Other Matters for Consideration

There were no matters submitted for consideration.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30pm.

North Lodge Parish Council

Accounts for the month as submitted to the Meeting of North Lodge Parish Council held on Wednesday 20th October 2010.

	TO	AMOUNT	REASON	VAT
	D. Murrell		Salary/Exps. Oct 2010	
	Durham County Pension Fund		Clerk's Pension Oct 2010	
	D. Carins		Gardener's Wages/Exps. Oct 2010	
<u>Balance to 30th September 2010</u>				
	Balance b/f	£33465.43	Bank:-	
				Current £ 131.86
	Deduct Payments - Aug/Sept 2010	<u>£ 2401.92</u>		30 Day <u>£30931.65</u>
		£31063.51		Total <u>£31063.51</u>
			Deduct cheques not yet presented	<u>Nil</u>
	Balance c/f	£31063.51		£31063.51