

NORTH LODGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of North Lodge Parish Council held at Arizona Chemical, Vigo Lane, Chester-le-Street on Tuesday 16th October 2012.

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

County Councillors: Mr. P. May.

Clerk: Mr. D. Murrell.

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm with the Chairman welcoming everyone. Councillor Mrs. S. Brown was not present at the start of the meeting.

Councillors agreed to take Agenda Item 3 first.

Item 3. 12/104 Report of the Police

The Chairman welcomed PCSO L. Hunter to the meeting and invited the PCSO to give her report which included matters contained in the written report attached (Appendix 1).

PCSO Hunter confirmed that the regulation of cars parked on the yellow lines at Lombard Drive was the responsibility of the County Council.

The Chairman thanked the PCSO for giving the report.

Item 1. 12/105 Apologies for Absence

No Apologies for Absence were received.

Item 2. 12/106 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations made.

Item 4. 12/107 Reports of the County Councillors

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

- a) There had been two recent incidents at the Baffle Bank of dogs bounding into people. County Cllr. May was liaising with the Police and the County Council to see what could be done to minimise the possibility of any further incidents. Cllr. Mrs. Caygill suggested that an item could be put in the next Parish Council Newsletter.
- b) New street lighting was presently being installed at Picktree Lodge, complying with current legal requirements.
- c) Re the Picktree Lodge plinth, Councillors agreed that County Cllr. May should meet with Cllr. Mrs. Walton and the Gardener to discuss planting.
- d) The new road sign for Picktree Lodge was now in place.
- e) The leisure pool in the town would close from 19th November to 13th January for a refurbishment.
- f) County Cllr. May reminded Councillors that progress was still to be made with the northern gateway project. Cllr. Mrs. Caygill suggested a sculpture for the area. The Chairman kindly agreed to contact Waldrige and Ouston Parish Councils who had installed similar sculptures.

g) Cllr. Mrs. LeDune reminded Councillors that the utility box near to Barley Mow roundabout was still in a very untidy and possibly dangerous condition. County Cllr. May kindly agreed to pursue this with the County Council.

h) The County Council would like to discuss with the Parish Council the County Council's latest proposal for Northlands roundabout, before the proposal went out to public consultation. Councillors agreed that the most suitable time would be at 6pm on Tuesday 20th November.

i) Cllr. Mrs. Caygill advised that it was disappointing that County Cllr. May had not been able to deliver a speech at the recent Merlin Drive play area ceremony.

The Chairman thanked County Councillor May for his report.

Item 5. 12/108 Adoption of Minutes of Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 18th September 2012, 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 6. 12/109 Chairman's Report

a) Re Minute 12/98 section c1). Re repairs to the concrete floors of the bus shelters, the County Council had provided a quote for the work. The Chairman and he Clerk will obtain a further two quotes.

b) Re Minute 12/98 section c3). Re the pipe at the entrance to Lombard Drive, the Clerk advised that none of the utility companies asked to date had been able to identify the pipe as theirs. The Clerk will ask Lambton Estates if they are able to provide any help or information regarding the ownership of the pipe.

The Chairman then reported on the matters contained in her written report attached (Appendix 2). Re item 2 of the report, Councillors suggested that a photograph should be submitted for the next edition of the County Council's "County News" magazine.

Re item 3 of the report, the Clerk is to contact the County Council to request a discussion on the provision of a community building for the Parish.

Councillors thanked the Chairman for her report.

Item 7. 12/110 Portfolio Holders' Reports

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

a) Horticulture Cllr. Mrs. Walton's report included the matters contained in her written report attached (Appendix 3). 1) Re crocus bulbs, Councillors suggested suitable sites for planting. 2) Re the suggested provision of crocus bulbs by the Residents' Association at the entrance to Picktree Lodge, Councillors welcomed this offer although the Clerk is to advise the Association of the need to avoid areas of existing daffodil bulbs at the site, and the need to liaise with the County Council re grass cutting.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Mrs. Walton for her report and invited Cllr. Mrs. Caygill to give her report which included the following matters.

b) Play Areas The Merlin Drive play area artwork ceremony had eventually been held on 3rd October. Councillors had been very well received at Park View school, Lombard Drive where the artist, Andrew Mckeown, had given an excellent presentation on the design and production of the artwork. Following this, the ceremony at the play area had been very enjoyable although the press release by the County Council had not been satisfactory.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Mrs. Caygill for her report and invited Cllr. Noble-Nesbitt to give his report which included the following matters.

c) Highways and Website 1) The correct "No Waiting" signs were now being installed by the County Council in Lombard Drive. 2) Re new lighting columns being installed by the County Council, workmen had advised that at some sites it had not been possible to make progress with concreting as the land was saturated by rainwater. 3) A footpath near Caxton Way was covered by so many leaves that it was very difficult to walk over it. The Clerk will ask the County Council to clear the path. 4) No solution had yet been found re the problem of adding Minutes and Agenda to the website.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Noble-Nesbitt for his report.

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

e) Publicity In the absence of Cllr. Mrs. Brown, no report was made.

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

At this point, Cllr. Mrs. S. Brown arrived at the meeting.

Item 8. 12/111 Correspondence

1) From North Lodge Residents Association
email re crocus bulbs.

2) From TreesPlease Ltd
Wholesale nursery price list, 2012-2013 season.

3) From County Durham Association of Local Councils

a) Notice and Agenda for the Annual General Meeting to be held on Saturday 3rd Nov. 2012.

b) email re Community Right to Bid.

c) Agenda for the Chester-le-Street Sub-Committee meeting held on Saturday 29th Sept. 2012.

d) email re Police and Crime Commissioners.

4) From Durham County Council

a) Quotation for repairs to bus shelters.

b) email re National Tree Week 2012.

Councillors suggested that trees obtained through the scheme could be added to the trees to be planted by North Lodge Residents' Association at the Baffle Bank. The Clerk will contact the Association to seek its agreement.

c) Letter re Council Tax Support Scheme.

d) Letter and leaflets re the Warm Homes Campaign.

e) Board Papers for the AAP Board Meeting held on Monday 24th September 2012.

f) Notification of the AAP Board Meeting to be held on Monday 22nd October 2012.

g) email re the annual Remembrance Parade.

The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Cllr. Mrs. Caygill are to attend the Service on behalf of the Parish Council. The Clerk will liaise with the County Council regarding seating requirements.

h) email re the annual meeting of Durham County Pension Fund to be held on Thursday 1st Nov.

i) Letter re proposed Council Tax Support Scheme and Review of Empty Property / Second Homes Discounts.

- 5) Various planning applications, approvals and refusals from Durham County Council, of which the following were within North Lodge Parish:-
- a) Application for demolition of existing farm buildings and erection of 1 no. two storey dwelling, at Pelaw Grange, Longdene Park.
 - b) Application for erection of single storey extension at front and side of dwelling, at 68 Lyndhurst Avenue.
 - c) Application for development of 2500 sqm of existing Drum Road site to form a new external stockyard for reversing mill plate operated by overhead crane including formation of a new 860sqm enclosed warehouse building to incorporate dual fuel profiling facilities, at ASD Metal Services, Drum Road.

Item 9. 12/112 The County Durham Plan

Councillors discussed the County Durham Plan Local Plan Preferred Options papers with particular attention to the proposals for the extension of the Drum Industrial Estate and for housing at Picktree Village and Lambton Estate. Councillors considered that the case for the extension of the Drum Industrial Estate was weakened by other proposals and the potential loss of green space, that any new housing at the proposed site in Picktree Village would require protection from intrusive noise from the motorway, and that the proposed housing at Lambton Estate was welcomed. The Chairman and the Clerk are to draw up and submit an appropriate response to the County Council.

Item 10. 12/113 Payment of Accounts

The following payments were submitted for approval.

TO	AMOUNT	REASON	VAT
D. Murrell		Salary/Exps. Oct 2012	
Durham County Pension Fund		Clerk's Pension Oct 2012	
D. Murrell (via Post Office Ltd)	£36.30	Postage Stamps	
D. Murrell (via Ebuyer.com)	£22.18	Printer Cartridge	£3.70
D.Murrell (via Costco Ltd)	£11.75	Photocopy Paper	£1.96
Pot-It-On	£461.18	Horticulture	
Npower	£9.23	Power for Tree Lights	£1.54

(Resolved - the payments be approved as submitted).

Item 11. 12/114 Other Matters for Consideration

The following matter was submitted for consideration.

Cllr. Mrs. LeDune considered that two seats at bus shelters on North Road required replacement. Councillors agreed that this matter should be considered at the next budget setting meeting which was likely to be in January 2013.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55pm.

North Lodge Parish Council

Accounts for the month as submitted to the Meeting of North Lodge Parish Council held on Tuesday 20th November 2012.

TO	AMOUNT	REASON	VAT
D. Murrell		Salary/Exps. Nov 2012	
Durham County Pension Fund		Clerk's Pension Nov 2012	
D. Murrell (via Post Office Ltd)	£1.60	Postage	
Pot-It-On		Horticulture	
Poppy Appeal	£50.00	Wreath and Donation	
<u>Balance to 31st October 2012</u>			
Balance b/f	£30556.99	Balances at Bank:-	
Deduct Payments - Oct 2012	<u>£ 1197.62</u>		
	£29359.37		
		Current	£ 9589.51
		30 Day	<u>£29129.86</u>
		Total	£38719.37
		Deduct cheques not yet presented	<u>£ 9360.00</u>
Balance c/f	£29359.37		£29359.37