

NORTH LODGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of North Lodge Parish Council held at Arizona Chemical, Vigo Lane, Chester-le-Street on Tuesday 20th November 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.

Representatives of North Lodge Residents'
Association

Before the meeting, a presentation was given by officers of the County Council regarding the County Council's latest proposal for the traffic management of Northlands roundabout.

The meeting commenced at 6.45pm with the Chairman welcoming everyone, in particular the two members of the Residents' Association. Councillor Mrs. S. Brown was not present at the start of the meeting.

Item 1. 12/115 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from PCSO L. Hunter.

Item 2. 12/116 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations made.

Item 3. 12/117 Report of the Police

PCSO L. Hunter had provided a written report attached (Appendix 1) and this was read out by the Clerk.

Item 4. 12/118 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) Re consultation on the draft County Plan, County Cllr. May advised that many residents of areas (including Rickleton) adjacent to the County had not been well advised of the consultation.

However, the County Council had now attended to this in many areas and the County Cllr. would be attending a forthcoming meeting of the Rickleton Residents' Association to discuss the Plan.

b) There had been a temporary closure of Blind Lane recently to enable the cutting back of trees and shrubs. However, this had not been well advised by the County Council to local residents.

c) A boy had been hit by a car on Lombard Drive near to the School entrance. County Cllr. May had discussed the incident with the School and had agreed to request the County Council to put in place a 20mph speed limit. Cllr. Mrs. Caygill declared an interest as a Governor of the School and read out a letter which, following the incident, had been sent by the School to parents/guardians requesting that cars be parked away from the area of the incident whilst waiting to collect school pupils.

d) A resident of Merlin Drive had complained about problems from another house there. This matter was now in the hands of the County Council Public Health and Housing Manager.

e) Re flooding at Caxton Way, the County Council had advised that a field drain needed to be unblocked but other areas were much worse affected and therefore would receive a higher priority.

f) County Cllr. May had given a grant of £5K from his Neighbourhood Budget towards the cost of the new skate park at the Riverside. Work had begun and it was hoped that the park would be open by February.

g) The improvements to the park at Camperdown Avenue were going well. Trees and shrubs had recently been planted.

The Chairman thanked County Councillor May for his report.

Item 5. 12/119 Adoption of Minutes of Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 16th October 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. 12/120 Chairman's Report

a) Re Minute 12/107 section g). Re the untidy utility box at Barley Mow roundabout, County Cllr. May will follow this up.

b) Re Minute 12/109 section b). Re the pipe at the entrance to Lombard Drive, the Clerk will pursue this with the County Council.

c) Re Minute 12/110 section c3). Re the leaf-covered footpath at Caxton Way, a reply was awaited from the County Council.

The Chairman then reported on the matters contained in her written report attached (Appendix 2). Re a possible sculpture for the "Gateway" project at Barley Mow, Councillors agreed that it would be necessary to hold a separate meeting to discuss this fully.

Re a possible community building, the Chairman read out the recent reply from the County Council. Councillors discussed this and considered that an eventual partnership with the School might lead to progress.

The Chairman also advised that together with Cllr. Mrs. Caygill, Cllr. Noble-Nesbitt and the Clerk, she had attended the recent funeral service of former Parish Councillor Bill Jackson.

Councillors thanked the Chairman for her report.

Item 7. 12/121 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 Low Flatts play area, the dog fouling signs were still not satisfactory and Cllr. Mrs. Caygill would again be contacting the Neighbourhood Warden about this. There were some large branches on the football field. Cllr. Mrs. Walton will ask the gardener if he is able to remove them. If the branches are too big for the gardener to remove, the Clerk will contact the County Council.

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

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 3).

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

c) Highways and Website 1) Re grass overgrowing a section of the footpath on North Road, the County Council had advised that they did not have the manpower to carry out work to clear the path. Councillors considered that this was an unsatisfactory reply and the Clerk is to contact again the County Council. 2) Re the recent accident (see Minute 12/118 section c, above), Councillors

agreed that there was a good case for a 20mph speed restriction from the entrance to Lombard Drive to just past the School entrance. More visits by the County Council Wardens to the School entrance at School leaving time would also be welcome. The Clerk will write to the County Council to promote these two points. 3) The status of the website was unchanged.

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

d) Publicity Cllr. Mrs. Brown advised that a photocall had been held on Bonemill Lane by residents commenting on the draft County Plan proposed housing development for Picktree Village.

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

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

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

Item 8. 12/122 Correspondence

1) From a resident

documents re overgrowing trees at Longdean Park.

2) From a resident

email re house at Merlin Drive.

3) From a resident

email re Durham County Plan Preferred Options.

4) From Durham Constabulary

Letter of thanks.

5) From HM Revenue & Customs

Letter re PAYE real time reporting.

6) From the War Memorials Trust

Bulletin number 55, November 2012.

7) From County Durham Association of Local Councils

a) email re Paths for Communities (P4C).

b) Agenda for the Chester-le-Street Sub-Committee meeting to be held on Saturday 8th December 2012.

8) From Sunderland City Council

Letter re consultation on Draft Greenspace Audit and Report 2012.

9) From Durham County Council

a) email re woodland alongside the A693.

b) email re community assets.

c) email re the Chairman's Medal.

d) Letter re Register of Interests.

e) email re overgrown footpath.

f) AAP Board papers for the meeting held on Monday 22nd October 2012.

g) Notification of the AAP Public Forum meeting held on Monday 19th November 2012.

- 10) Various planning applications, approvals and refusals from Durham County Council, of which the following were within North Lodge Parish:-
- a) Application for alterations to existing vehicular access and new front boundary wall (1.5m high) (resubmission), at 4 North Lodge.
 - b) Approval for demolition of existing conservatory and erection of sun lounge extension to rear, at Stobilee, Picktree.
 - c) Approval for demolition of existing farm buildings and erection of 1 no. two storey dwelling, at Pelaw Grange, Longdene Park.
 - d) Approval for erection of single storey extension at front and side of dwelling, at 68 Lyndhurst Avenue (amended plans received 09-10-12).
 - e) Approval for erection of single storey extension to side of house and installation of 2 dormer windows to front, at 54 Leander Avenue.

Item 9. 12/123 Requests for Donations

Councillors discussed the outstanding requests and agreed to make the following two donations.

Poppy Appeal	£100
Butterwick Hospice for Children	£ 50

Item 10. 12/124 Review of the Gardener's Wages and Expenses

Councillors discussed the level of payments to the Gardener and agreed to increase his hourly rate by £1ph. His expenses payments are to remain at the current level.

(Resolved - to increase the Gardener's rate of pay by £1 per hour with immediate effect).

The Clerk will advise the Gardener by letter.

Item 11. 12/125 Payment of Accounts

The following payments were submitted for approval.

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	£218.00	Horticulture	
Butterwick Hospice	£50.00	Donation	
Poppy Appeal	£100.00	Wreath and Donation	

(Resolved - the payments be approved as submitted).

Item 12. 12/126 Other Matters for Consideration

The following matter was submitted for consideration.

The Chairman advised that the County Council had extended the deadline for submissions on the draft County Durham Plan and therefore there was the opportunity to add to the submission already made by the Parish Council. Councillors discussed matters including concerns regarding the proposed extension to the Drum Industrial Estate and the proposed new housing alongside the motorway at Picktree Village. The Clerk will make the additional submission.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10pm wishing everyone an enjoyable Christmas.

North Lodge Parish Council

Accounts for the month as submitted to the Meeting of North Lodge Parish Council held on Tuesday 15th January 2013.

TO	AMOUNT	REASON	VAT
D. Murrell		Salary/Exps. Dec 2012 / Jan 2013	
Durham County Pension Fund		Clerk's Pension Dec 12 / Jan 13	
HM Revenue & Customs	£266.20	PAYE	
Pot-It-On	£291.00	Horticulture	
Society of Local Council Clerks	£114.00	Annual Subscription	
E. Forrester	£150.00	Chair's Quarterly Allowance	

Balance to 30th November 2012

Balance b/f	£29359.37	Balances at Bank:-	
Deduct Payments - Nov 2012	<u>£ 1026.58</u>		Current £ 8800.91
	£28332.79		30 Day <u>£29129.86</u>
			Total <u>£37930.77</u>
		Deduct cheques not yet presented	<u>£ 9597.98</u>
Balance c/f	£28332.79		£28332.79