

NORTH LODGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of North Lodge Parish Council held at Arizona Chemical, Vigo Lane, Chester-le-Street on Tuesday 15th January 2013.

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.

County Councillors: Mr. P. May.

Clerk: Mr. D. Murrell.

Representatives of North Lodge Residents'
Association

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm with the Chairman wishing everyone a Happy New Year. Councillors Mrs. S. Brown and Mrs. M. May and County Councillor P. May were not present at the start of the meeting.

Item 1. 13/01 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors C. Jukes and C. Noble-Nesbitt and PCSO L. Hunter. Councillor Mrs. M. May and County Councillor P. May had given apologies for their expected late arrival at the meeting.

Item 2. 13/02 Declarations of Interest

Dispensations were requested regarding Agenda item 9 (Appendix 1, attached).
(**Resolved** - to grant dispensations as requested relating to Agenda item 9).

Item 3. 13/03 Report of the Police

PCSO L. Hunter had provided a written report attached (Appendix 2) and this was read out by the Clerk.

Councillors agreed to delay Item 4 until the arrival of County Councillor P. May.

Item 5. 13/04 Adoption of Minutes of Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 20th November 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. 13/05 Chairman's Report

a) Re Minute 12/120 section 6b). Re the pipe at the entrance to Lombard Drive, the County Council had been unable to establish whether or not the pipe was still connected. The Clerk will ask a local firm to investigate and remove the pipe, if possible.

b) Re Minute 12/120 section 6c). Re the leaf-covered footpath at Caxton Way, Councillors will observe if the work has yet been done.

Re the "Gateway" project at Barley Mow, Councillors and the Clerk are to make enquiries with the aim of establishing the price of a suitable stone.

The Chairman informed the meeting of the County Council's plan for artwork at the A167/Ropery Lane and Riverside roundabouts.

Councillors thanked the Chairman for her report.

Item 7. 13/06 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.

Re dog fouling signs at Low Flatts, Cllr. Mrs. Caygill had tried numerous times to contact the Neighbourhood Warden but without success. The large branches which had been on the field at Low Flatts had now been removed.

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).

Re the advertising hoarding, the Chairman advised that the Police had been contacted as the hoarding was in a potentially dangerous condition.

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

c) Highways and Website Cllr. Noble-Nesbitt had previously advised the Clerk that there were no matters to report.

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

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. 13/07 Correspondence

1) From Pot-It-On

Letter of thanks re increase in hourly rate.

2) From the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Letter of thanks re donation.

3) From Butterwick House Children's Hospice

Letter of thanks re donation.

4) From Lloyds TSB

Letter re online banking.

5) From Tavistock Leisure Limited

email re the Lambton Worm pub.

6) From the Office of the Durham Police and Crime Commissioner

Letter re community panels.

7) From the Lieutenancy of Durham

Letter re the appointment of Mrs. Sue Snowdon as the Lord-Lieutenant of County Durham.

8) From the North East Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust

email re the provision of community access defibrillators.

9) From a resident

email re consultation period for the Northlands roundabout development.

10) From Cestria Community Housing Association

email re 5th birthday celebrations.

The Association was making available wooden seating. The Clerk will enquire if it would be possible to have a replacement seat at the bus shelter opposite the entrance to Lombard Drive.

11) From DSJ Property Services

Quotation re repair work to bus shelters.

Councillors discussed this quote and the earlier quote from the County Council for repair work to floors of various bus shelters. It was agreed to accept the quote of DSJ Property Services.

(Resolved - to accept the quote of DSJ Property services for repair work to bus shelters).

12) From County Durham Association of Local Councils

a) email re the draft Upper Eden Neighbourhood Plan.

This Plan was the first in the country to pass an independent examination.

b) Notice of meeting of the Small & Medium Local Council Forum to be held on 14th Feb. 2013.

c) email re inquorate meeting of the Chester-le-Street Sub-Committee on 8th December 2012.

d) email re Local Council Tax Support and changes to precept setting.

e) email re attendance at a Buckingham Palace Garden Party.

Councillors agreed to nominate the Chairman to attend the Garden Party to be held on Thursday 30th May 2013.

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

13) From Darlington Borough Council

email re LitterFree Durham - 2013 Big Spring Clean.

Cllr. Mrs. Caygill advised that Park View School had expressed an interest in being involved with the Parish Council and the Residents' Association in this year's project. Re Pelaw Grange Cottage (now known as The Grange), the Chairman kindly offered to contact the estate agents to see what could be done to tidy the land. County Cllr. May also offered to make enquiries to try to make some progress in this matter.

14) From Durham County Council

a) Letter re registerable interest forms.

b) Press release re the arch at Chester-le-Street marketplace.

c) Letters re notification of tax base and request for precept 2103 / 2014.

d) Notice of meeting of the AAP Improved Environment Task Group to be held on Thursday 24th January 2013.

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

a) Application for pitched roof to existing flat roofed porch and living room offshoot to front elevation, at 82 Kingsmere.

b) Approval for alterations to existing vehicular access and new front boundary wall (1.5m high) (resubmission), at 4 North Lodge.

c) Approval for proposed B8 storage and distribution unit with ancillary office accommodation and associated servicing, parking, infrastructure and landscaping, at Phase 2 land, off Drum Road.

d) Approval 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 860 sqm enclosed warehouse building to incorporate dual fuel profiling facilities, at ASD Metal Services, Drum Road.

e) Approval for pitched roof to existing flat roofed porch and living room offshoot to front elevation, at 82 Kingsmere.

Item 4. 13/08 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 matters contained in his written report attached (Appendix 4), having first wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Re Northlands roundabout, Councillors agreed that the County Council's consultation had not been fully satisfactory and that the part of the plan involving the widening of roads needed to be re-considered. Following a further meeting of residents being held on Monday 21st January, the Chairman and the Clerk are to draw up a letter to the County Council.

Re Minute 12/120 section a), the County Councillor will make enquiries re the untidy utility box at Barley Mow roundabout.

The Chairman thanked County Councillor May for his report.

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

Item 9. 13/09 The Precept

Councillors discussed the precept for 2013 / 2014. Having regard for the forecasts drawn up by the Clerk, the current economic conditions and the Localising Council Tax Support Scheme, Councillors agreed to set a precept of £17,092. Including the LCTSS grant to be paid by the County Council, this would provide a total income of £17,785, a reduction of £215 on last year's precept of £18,000.

(Resolved - to set a precept of £17,092 for 2013 / 2014).

Item 10. 13/10 Payment of Accounts

The following payments were submitted for approval.

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	
Pot-It-On	£161.69	Horticulture	
E. Forrester	£150.00	Chair's Quarterly Allowance	

(Resolved - the payments be approved as submitted).

Item 11. 13/11 Other Matters for Consideration

The following matter was submitted for consideration.

Cllr. Mrs. LeDune enquired about the procedure for reporting problems involving pavements and roadsides to the County Council. The Clerk advised that these should be reported to the Highways Action Line.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm.

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