

## NORTH LODGE PARISH COUNCIL

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

PRESENT: Chairman: Cllr. Mrs. E Forrester  
Councillors: Mrs. M. Caygill, Dr. D. Hartley, Mrs. M. May,  
Mrs. C. Walton, C. Noble-Nesbitt, D. Snaith.  
County Councillor: P. May  
Clerk: Mr. D. Murrell.  
A Resident

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

### **Item 1. 13/97 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors Mrs. L. LeDune, Mrs. D. Prest and N. Alderson. The Chairman advised that she had sent a Get Well card to Cllr. Alderson.

### **Item 2. 13/98 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr. Mrs. M. May declared an interest in the planning application concerning Hollydene, North Lodge.

### **Item 3. 13/99 Report of the Police**

The Chairman welcomed PCSO L. Hunter to the meeting and invited the PCSO to give the Police report (Appendix 1, attached). The PCSO advised that an arrest had made been re the recent burglaries and a further three males were being questioned. Cllr. Mrs. Caygill advised that a car had been causing an obstruction in Low Flatts Road and that there was fly-tipping on the path between Low Flatts play area and Drum Industrial Estate. Re fly-tipping, the PCSO advised that if it was on private land then it would not be a matter for the Police although the County Council had powers of enforcement. County Cllr. P. May advised that it was important to report to the County Council all incidents of fly-tipping, whether on public or private land. County Cllr. May reported that there had been vandalism at the Camperdown play area. However, the PCSO advised that regular patrols there had not observed anything suspicious.

The Chairman thanked PCSO Hunter for presenting the Police report.

### **Item 4. 13/100 Report of the County Councillor**

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

- a) A meeting was to be held soon with the County Council and residents to discuss the height of a hedge at Cherry Banks.
- b) There was no start date yet for the Northlands roundabout works.
- c) The County Plan had now reached the Pre-Submission Draft stage. Councillors agree that this matter should be included on the November Parish Council Agenda.

The Chairman thanked County Councillor May for his report.

### **Item 5. 13/101 Adoption of Minutes of Meeting**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2013, 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. 13/102 Chairman's Report**

Regarding outstanding matters -

- a) Re Minute 13/92 section b). Re the steps leading from North Road to Lyndhurst Avenue, County Cllr. May kindly agreed to approach the County Council with a request to close the gaps at the top of the steps.
- b) Re Minute 13/92 section c). Re the footpath from Picktree Village to the motorway roundabout, County Cllr. May kindly agreed to ask the County Council to consider the path for re-surfacing.
- c) Re Minute 13/92 section d). Re fly-tipping near to the pond at Drum Industrial Estate, Cllrs. Mrs. Caygill will inspect the site to see if it has yet been removed.
- d) Re Minute 13/92 section e). The County Council had now advised that the new seats were expected to be installed by the end of October.
- e) Re Minute 13/96. Re the pond at Drum Industrial Estate, a meeting with the Land Agent was to be held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October. Cllr. Mrs. Caygill and Cllr. Snaith are to attend on behalf of the Parish Council.

The Chairman reported on the matters contained in her written report attached (Appendix 2).  
Councillors thanked the Chairman for her report.

### **Item 7. 13/103 Portfolio Holders' Reports**

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

- a) **Publicity** Cllr. Mrs. May advised that there were no matters to report.

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

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

For Low Flatts, Councillors agreed to accept one of the two quotes received for the re-painting of the goal posts. The hedge had now been cut back. However, there was much litter in evidence. At Merlin Drive, news was awaited from the County Council re a replacement see-saw. County Cllr. May advised that he would consider making funds available for this and also for adult play equipment. The Clerk will ask the County Council for price quotations.

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

- c) **Planning** Cllr. Snaith advised that there were no matters to report.

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

- d) **Horticulture** Cllr. Mrs. Walton's report included the matters contained in her written report attached (Appendix 3).

In addition, County Cllr. May enquired about the proposed improvement work for the entrance to Lambton Park and suggested that the work should now be left over until the fallen leaves have gone.

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

- e) **Highways and Website** Cllr. Noble-Nesbitt's report included the following matters.

1) Access to the website had been unavailable for a short time during the month although this had been clearly advised by the County Council.

2) There was nothing to report re highways.

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

- f) **Finance** The Clerk advised Councillors to give some thought to any projects for consideration in the budget forecast for 2014 / 2015.

### **Item 8. 13/104 Correspondence**

- 1) From the Campaign to Protect Rural England  
North East Newsletter - Autumn 2013.
- 2) From Durham Constabulary  
email re attempted burglary.
- 3) From the Department for Communities and Local Government  
Revised personal interests guide.
- 4) From the County Durham Association of Local Councils
  - a) Agenda for the 67<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting to be held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2013.
  - b) Notification of the Smaller Local Councils meeting to be held on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2013.
  - c) Notification of the inaugural meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group to be held on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2013.
  - d) Agenda for the Chester-le-Street Sub-Committee meeting held on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2013.
  - e) Document summarising the procedure for preparing a Neighbourhood Plan.
  - f) email re the County Plan Pre-Submission Draft.
  - g) email re the County Council consultation on its review of garden waste collections.
  - h) email re recharge of election costs.
  - i) email re the County Council lunchtime school crossing patrol consultation.
  - j) Invitation to a Members' Training - Time Management course to be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct. 2013.
  - k) email re the protocol of Remembrance Sunday parades.
  - l) email re "Our Place!" programme.
- 5) From Durham County Council
  - a) email re reporting problems to the County Council.
  - b) Letter re winter opening times for household recycling sites.
  - c) Letter re the County Plan Pre-Submission Draft.
  - d) Letter re Your Money, Your Area, Your Views Community Grant Fund.
  - e) Board Papers for the AAP Board meeting held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2013.
  - f) Notification of the AAP Board meeting to be held on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2013.

During consideration of the following item, Cllr. Mrs. M. May and County Cllr. P. May left the room.

- 6) Various planning applications, approvals and refusals from Durham County Council, of which the following was within North Lodge Parish:-
  - a) Outline application for one dwelling with garage with some matters reserved, at Hollydene, North Lodge.

### **Item 9. 13/105 Speed Limit on North Road**

Cllr. Noble-Nesbitt outlined the history and current situation re the 40mph speed limit on North Road. Councillors discussed making a proposal to the County Council to have the limit reduced to 30mph. No agreement was reached to propose an amendment.

### **Item 10. 13/106 Payment of Accounts**

TO	AMOUNT	REASON	VAT
D. Murrell		Salary/Exps. Oct 2013	
Durham County Pension Fund		Clerk's Pension Oct 2013	
Pot-It-On	£392.99	Horticulture	

(Resolved - the payments be approved as submitted).

**Item 11. 13/107 Other Matters for Consideration**

The following matters were submitted for consideration.

a) Residents had complained about a proposal by Network Rail to carry out track work on the main railway line on the night of Christmas Eve and during Christmas Day. Network Rail had advised many residents by letter that this work would cause disruption and intrusion to local properties. Councillors discussed this and agreed that it was entirely inappropriate for such work to be carried out at these times. The Clerk is to write to Network Rail to request that the work be carried out on a more appropriate date.

b) Re the damage caused by the airborne release of chemicals from Arizona Chemical in July, Cllr. Mrs. Caygill advised that some residents did not yet considered the matter closed.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.52pm.

**North Lodge Parish Council**

**Accounts for the month as submitted to the Meeting of North Lodge Parish Council held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2013.**

	<b>TO</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>REASON</b>	<b>VAT</b>
	D. Murrell		Salary/Exps. Nov 2013	
	Durham County Pension Fund		Clerk's Pension Nov 2013	
	Pot-It-On		Horticulture	
 <b><u>Balance to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2013</u></b>				
	Balance b/f	£36258.59	Balances at Bank:-	
	Deduct Payments - Oct 2013	<u>£ 1072.03</u>		Current £ 357.20
		£35186.56		30 Day <u>£34829.36</u>
				Total <u>£35186.56</u>
			Deduct cheques not yet presented	<u>£ Nil</u>
	Balance c/f	£35186.56		£35186.56