

NORTH LODGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of North Lodge Parish Council held at Arizona Chemical, Vigo Lane, Chester-le-Street on Tuesday 21st October 2014.

PRESENT: Chairman: Cllr. Mrs. E Forrester
Councillors: Mrs. M. Caygill, Mrs. M. May, Mrs. C. Walton,
N. Alderson, J. Waugh.

County Councillor: P. May.

Clerk: Mr. D. Murrell.

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

Item 1. 14/103 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors Dr. D. Hartley, Mrs. L. LeDune, C. Noble-Nesbitt and D. Snaith.

Item 2. 14/104 Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made.

Item 3. 14/105 Presentation - Neighbourhood Plans

The Chairman welcomed County Council officers Stuart Carter and Andy Wood, and invited them to give a presentation re Neighbourhood Plans. The presentation outlined how Neighbourhood Plans fitted within the planning system and the practicalities of completing a Plan. Councillors found the presentation to be informative and helpful. The Chairman thanked the officers for attending the meeting.

Item 4. 14/106 Report of the Police

The Police were not present at the meeting but had provided a written report (Appendix 1, attached) and this was read out by the Clerk. Cllr. Alderson advised on an attempted break-in at Leander Avenue.

Item 5. 14/107 Report of the County Councillor

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

- a) The Remembrance Day Service will be held at the new War Memorial.
- b) A safety audit of Northlands roundabout will be carried out by the County Council in November.
- c) Re the re-building of the bus shelter at Northlands roundabout/North Road, the County Council was consulting with an engineer to ensure that the walls would be strong enough to support a concrete slab roof.
- d) Following complaints from residents, County Cllr. May had asked the County Council to inspect trees on the west side of North Road between Northlands roundabout and Low Flatts Road.
- e) The Chairman advised that the Post Office was consulting on its proposal to move the Post Office from its present site near the south end of Front Street to a shop at the north side of the Market Place. Councillors discussed this and agreed that the proposed move was ill-conceived in terms of access to the immediate vicinity of the shop for the potential volume of customers. The Clerk is to write accordingly to the Post Office.

The Chairman thanked County Councillor May for his report.

Item 6. 14/108 Adoption of Minutes of Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 16th September 2014, 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 7. 14/109 Chairman's Report

Regarding outstanding matters -

- a) Re Minute 14/94. The County Councillor will make enquiries re County Council income from composted garden waste.
 - b) Re Minute 14/96 section a). The Clerk will again ask the County Council if litter bins are now in stock.
 - c) Re Minute 14/96 section b). Re the Drum pond area project, Cllr. Mrs. Caygill advised that the Co-op Environment Group had completed an excellent job in clearing weeds, vegetation and litter from the area, and repairing a length of fencing. The Clerk had submitted an article on the project to the Advertiser newspaper series and will also send it to Durham County News and the AAP.
 - d) Re Minute 14/96 section d). Cllr. Mrs. Walton was still to search her garage for the plaque for the millennium yew tree.
 - e) Re Minute 14/96 section f). Cllr. Alderson advised that the Leander Avenue sub-station had now been tidied.
 - f) Re Minute 14/98 section 6g). The Clerk is to write again to request that the County Council removes rubble from the south end of Lyndhurst Avenue.
- The Chairman reported on the matters contained in her written report attached (Appendix 2).
Councillors thanked the Chairman for her report.

Item 8. 14/110 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.

- 1) At Merlin Drive play area a tree overhanging from a neighbouring property needed to be monitored.
 - 2) At Low Flatts, a "No Dog Fouling" sign had been purchased and was awaiting fitment to the post near the play area entrance. There was a gap in a perimeter hedge where plants had died. It might be possible to obtain a National Tree Week grant to purchase replacement plants.
 - 3) Park View school officers were monitoring trees overhanging from the school grounds. School officers were giving consideration to carrying out re-pointing of a further length of the school wall along North Road.
 - 4) Cllr. Alderson advised that the stone wall between the Sustrans bridge and the former Pelaw Grange Cottage had continued to deteriorate. The Clerk will advise this to 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'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. Mrs. May to give her report.

c) Publicity

Cllr. Mrs. May advised that there were no matters to report.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Mrs. May.

d) Planning

In the absence of Cllr. Snaith, no report was made. However, the Chairman advised that Cllr. Snaith had recently attended a very informative training event re budgeting and precepts.

e) Highways and Website

Cllr. Noble-Nesbitt had provided a written report (Appendix 4, attached) and this was read out by the Clerk.

f) Finance In the absence of a Portfolio Holder, no report was made.

Item 9. 14/111 Correspondence

- 1) From North Lodge Residents' Association
email following residents' meeting.
- 2) From Northern Gas Networks
Invitation to social investment programme workshop.
- 3) From County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service
email re public consultation on three year strategic plan.
- 4) From BDO LLP
Notice of Conclusion of Audit.
The Auditors had raised no matters from the audit.
- 5) From the County Durham Association of Local Councils
 - a) email re County Council Children's Centre consultation.
 - b) email re Neighbourhood Plans.
 - c) NALC updates following Party conferences.
 - d) Agenda for the NALC AGM to be held on Wednesday 29th October 2014.
 - e) email re new NALC model financial regulations.
 - f) Agenda for the CDALC 68th AGM to be held on Saturday 8th November 2014.
 - g) email re new Durham County Council website.
 - h) Invitation to the Durham County Council Pension Fund Annual Meeting to be held on Wednesday 5th November 2014.
- 6) From Durham County Council
 - a) Letter re AAP Crime & Community Safety Roadshows.
 - b) Notification of the AAP Board meeting to be held on Monday 27th October 2014.
- 7) Various planning applications, approvals and refusals from Durham County Council, of which the following were within North Lodge Parish:-
 - a) Application to carry out works to trees, including removal of saplings and pruning works, at British Oxygen Co, Vigo Lane..
 - b) Application for first floor extension to the side, at 66 Longdean Park.
 - c) Application for first floor extension to provide additional bedroom, at Garden Cottage, Lambton Park.
 - d) Application for change of use from B8 to a mixed use of B1 and B2 and installation of silos, at 1 Drum Park.
 - e) Approval for demolition of porch and erection of sun room to front, at 7 Picktree Farm Cottages.

Item 10. 14/112 Payment of Accounts

TO	AMOUNT	REASON	VAT
D. Murrell		Salary Oct 2014	
D. Murrell		Expenses Oct 2014	
Durham County Pension Fund		Clerk's Pension Oct 2014	
D. Murrell (via Archer Signs Ltd)	£ 53.10	No Dog Fouling Sign	£ 8.85
Pot-It-On	£340.98	Horticulture	
BDO LLP	£240.00	Audit Fee	£ 40.00
Charleton Fencing Ltd	£ 33.00	Timber for Drum Project	
CDALC	£27.00	Fee for Training Event	

(Resolved - the payments be approved as submitted).

Item 11. 14/113 Other Matters for Consideration

a) The Chairman invited Cllr. Mrs. Caygill to give an up-date on Park View school's proposal to open a community facility, including a meeting room, within its Lombard Drive premises.

Cllr. Mrs. Caygill declared an interest as a Governor of Park View school.

Cllr. Mrs. Caygill advised that the Chairman, Cllr. Snaith, County Cllr. May, the Clerk and herself had recently visited the school to see the proposed facilities which had been well received although there was still work to be done on the building (the school's estimated cost of this being £15,000).

Councillors provided a number of questions for Cllr. Mrs. Caygill to take forward to the school although there was agreement that the Parish was in need of such a community facility.

Councillors were aware that the Council's Barley Mow gateway project would not be able to proceed in the format originally planned, due to the prevalence of utilities' infrastructure in the area and, therefore, up to £5,000 allocated to this project could be available to assist in the provision of the community facility at the school. Councillors considered this and agreed, in principle, to make available to the school £5,000 towards the costs of establishing the community facility. This was supported by County Cllr. May.

b) Cllr. Mrs. Caygill advised that the Co-op might give to the Parish Council a hamper to raffle to raise funds for community use. However, care would need to be taken re legal requirements for holding a raffle.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05pm.

North Lodge Parish Council

Accounts for the month as submitted to the Meeting of North Lodge Parish Council held on Tuesday 18th November 2014.

TO	AMOUNT	REASON	VAT
D. Murrell		Salary Nov 2014	
D. Murrell		Expenses Nov 2014	
Durham County Pension Fund		Clerk's Pension Nov 2014	
D. Murrell (via WH Smith Ltd)	£ 18.31	Copier Paper	£ 3.05
Pot-It-On		Horticulture	
CDALC	£90.00	Governance/Accountability Books	

Balance to 31st October 2014

Balance b/f	£37350.72	Balances at Bank:-	
Deduct Payments - Oct 2014	<u>£ 1375.52</u>	Current	£ 1638.09
	£35975.20	30 Day	<u>£35391.21</u>
Add Donation Received	<u>£ 890.00</u>	Total	£37029.30
		Deduct cheques not yet presented	<u>£ 164.10</u>
Balance c/f	£36865.20		£36865.20



CHESTER-LE-STREET BEAT TEAM

NORTH LODGE

PARISH

North Lodge Residents

Chester North

BEAT OFFICER – PC 1360 Mark Ferry

PCSO 6389 Christine Taylor

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REPORTING PERIOD 01/09/2014 to 30/09/2014

CRIMINAL DAMAGE	2
THEFT	1
YOUTH NUISANCE	3
BURGLARY	1
VEHICLE NUISANCE	0

Crime and ASB figures for September 2014

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

**Low Flats road, an O2 mast has had the wires cut
Hillside, has had their solar lights damaged**

THEFT

Hilda park store. A 7 year old stole items and ran out of the shop

YOUTH NUISANCE

**Conyers Road
Hilda Park
Hazel Grove**

BURGLARY

North Road entered put chain on the front door. A number of thefts have occurred by a gang from Peterlee, arrests already made

VEHICLE RELATED NUISANCE

Nothing reported.

INFORMATION

Operation DARK. Please leave a light on in the house when you are out and keep the curtains closed or property out of sight during the dark and cold nights.

During the long dark nights please try to leave a light on when going out to deter potential burglars as there have been several incidents locally recently.

Please remember to lock all valuables away if leaving in your vehicles and remove all traces of Sat Navs if stuck on windows etc. Also check that your vehicle is locked and the keys are not visible through a window or door. Over 70% of all car crime in Chester le Street in the last 12 months is because the vehicles have been left unlocked.

Regular patrols have been made around Picktree Lodge by Officers, PCSO's and wardens. Northumbria officers have been involved.

If you get a phone call asking you to call, 0809 number back, don't. It will cost you over £1000.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you wish to discuss any Police matters.

Thank You,

PCSO 6389 Christine Taylor

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