

BRANDON & BYSHOTTLES PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
6 GOATBECK TERRACE, LANGLEY MOOR, DURHAM
ON TUESDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER 2019, AT 10.00 AM

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs Nelson (in the Chair)
and Councillors Bell, Bonner, Grantham, Jamieson and Turnbull

All. 14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

All. 15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs Catterson and Walter

RESOLVED: To receive the apologies.

All. 16 COMMERCIAL STREET – REPORT OF TRESPASSER AND REQUEST TO MOVE BOUNDARY GATE

A tenant on plot 5a/7a/7b had informed the Allotments Officer that he believed someone had trespassed onto his allotment and killed several of his chickens.

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Allotments Officer arranges for the security gate to be moved to the boundary of the allotment site.

All. 17 COCKHOUSE LANE – REQUEST TO BUILD EXTENSION ONTO PREVIOUSLY APPROVED GARAGE

A tenant who is currently erecting a garage at Cockhouse Lane allotment site had requested permission to extend onto the previously approved garage.

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Parish Council grants permission to build the extension, on the condition that the tenant abides by the proposed plans and only after obtaining planning permission from Durham County Council.

All. 18 ALDER PARK

a) Dispute regarding fence and request for meeting

The Allotments Officer informed the meeting that following a new tenant beginning to tidy and cultivate a previously unworked plot, a resident from a neighbouring house had contacted the Council several times expressing concerns regarding the fence dividing the allotment site and their house.

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Allotments Officer monitor the situation and reminds the resident that they must not trespass onto Parish Council Land and that all access must be supervised.

b) Approval of skip

The Allotments Officer requested a skip to be left on site until it is full or no longer than two weeks, as done in previous years.

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Allotments Officer organises the provision of a skip and writes to all tenants to inform them.

All. 19 BROOMPARK – FELLING OF POTENTIALLY UNSAFE TREE

The Allotments Officer informed the meeting that she had organised the felling of a potentially unsafe tree on plot 4 at Broompark allotment site.

RESOLVED: To take for information.

All. 20 APPROVAL OF ASBESTOS CONTRACTOR AELS LTD

The Allotments Officer requested permission to add the above mentioned asbestos removal company onto the approved contractors list. The Allotments Officer had already received all required paperwork including the insurance and liability documents and health and safety policy.

RESOLVED: To recommend adding the company onto the approved contractors list.

All. 21 ANY MATTER RELATING TO THE ALLOTMENT A MEMBER WISHES TO DISCUSS

a) Station Avenue – Request for skip

A tenant on plot number 5 had requested a skip in order to dispose of a vast amount of waste from a previously unworked plot.

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Allotments Officer organises the provision of a skip and writes to all tenants to inform them.

b) Station Avenue – Request to erect internal fence

A tenant on plot 5 had requested permission to erect a small dividing fence between plot 5 and plot 6.

RESOLVED: To recommend granting permission to erect the fence on the condition that the fence should be of a type and specification approved by the Council and not barbed wire. The tenant will be responsible for the maintenance of the fence and must remove it at the end of their tenancy.

c) **Station Avenue – Request for fence repair**

A tenant on Plot 2 had requested that the Parish Council repair the section of fence at the boundary of the plot.

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Allotments Officer arranges for the fence to be repaired by Kevin Wilson Gardening Services.

d) **Station Avenue – Request for fence**

A tenant on Plot 13 had requested that the Parish Council repair the section of fence at the boundary of the plot.

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Allotments Officer arranges for the fence to be repaired by Kevin Wilson Gardening Services.

e) **Waterhouses – Access to grazing plot and public bridleway**

The Allotments Officer informed the meeting that she was concerned about the path leading up to the Parish Council's grazing land at Waterhouses as the hedge was over grown and making it difficult to access the public bridleway.

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Allotments Officer contact the relevant person at Durham County Council to inform them of the problem and request that the hedge which runs alongside the public bridleway be cut back.

All. 22 **DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF QUOTATIONS FOR WORK AT THE FOLLOWING ALLOTMENT SITES:**

a) **Langley Grove – Potentially unsafe garage**

RESOLVED: To recommend awarding the contract to Durham County Council.

b) **Low Browney – Request for grazing fence to be erected**

RESOLVED: To recommend refusing to erect the fence as the grazing licence states: section 5. You shall provide suitable solid fencing as required only for the purpose of this Licence, such fencing to be of a type and specification approved by the Council. You shall be responsible for the maintenance of the fencing throughout the period of this licence.

The meeting closed at 11.00am

Signed S. Nelson

Date 20/9/19