

**BRANDON AND BYSHOTTLES PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL  
CHAMBERS  
6 GOATBECK TERRACE, LANGLEY MOOR, DURHAM  
ON FRIDAY 16TH APRIL 2010 AT 6.30 PM**

**PRESENT**

**Councillor Tommy Akins (in the Chair)  
and Councillors Allen, Mrs Bonner, Mrs Catterson, Dowsey, Mrs Gates, Grantham, Kelley,  
Nelson, Nolan, Mrs Smith, Smith, Stoddart, Taylor, Turnbull, Venn, Mrs Wilkinson and  
Wilkinson.**

**346. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**347. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no questions from the public in the specified time.

**348. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bell (attending a function), Jones and Mrs Kitching.

**RESOLVED:** To receive the apologies.

**349. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19TH MARCH 2010**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 19th March 2010 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Councillor Mrs Gates reported that Ushaw Moor Ward Members had attended St. Joseph's Church Centenary and enjoyed a lovely service conducted by the Bishop.

**350. PRESENTATION OF DONATIONS**

The Chairman presented donations to the following:

Durham Citizens Advice Bureau  
Great North Air Ambulance

**351. POLICE**

There were no Police in attendance.

**352. REPORT FROM UNITARY MEMBERS**

There was nothing to report at this time.

**353. TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING**

Extracts from planning application lists had been forwarded to appropriate Ward councillors.

List of approvals and refusals received were available at the meeting.

The Clerk reported with regard to applications going to Committee rather than delegated powers, The Planning Department had informed the Parish Council that if there was an objection lodged by the Parish Council the application would automatically go to Committee. The objection must be supported by genuine planning reasons.

4/10/00095/FPA	Mr T B Patterson	Erection of new detached dwelling as replacement for existing semi-detached dwelling to be retained in non-residential use as bat roost 2 Eshwood Gardens, New Brancepeth, Durham DH7 7HG
4/10/00108/FPA	Brandon & Byshottles Parish Council	Erection of glasshouse, Brandon Village Community Garden, Sawmill Lane, Brandon, Durham DH7 8SJ
4/10/00183/FPA	Mr D Rodgers	Change of use from dwelling to mixed use as retail shop at ground floor with residential use at both ground and upper floor levels 24 High Street North, Langley Moor, Durham DH7 8JG
928/4/104(7)	Sure Start	Proposed extension and internal alterations Brandon Children's Centre, Carr Road, Brandon, Durham
4/10/00189/VOC	Mr J Guy	Material amendments to approved application 09/00622 (variation of condition 3) to increase ridge height of rear extension 14 Ivesley Cottages, Waterhouses, Durham DH7 9AY
928/4/124(9)	Sure Start Durham	Proposed internal alterations and 2 no. extensions, Ushaw Moor Children's Centre, Durham Road, Ushaw Moor, Durham.
928/4/234D	Neighbourhood Services Durham County Council	Proposed application for prior notification of proposed demolition of blocks of 2 storey dwellings Nos. 1-18 Rowan Court, Nos.1-51 The Oaks and Nos.1-18 Pine Tree, Esh Winning.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**354. ZURICH ANNUAL HEALTH & SAFETY SEMINAR- 24<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2010 AT SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE**

Approval of delegates was requested.

**RESOLVED:** To book the Clerk and Mrs Howe and 2 Members (LG Act 1972 Sec 111).

**355. NALC CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION 'LOCALISM IN ACTION' 2<sup>ND</sup> JULY 2010 IN BRISTOL, 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER IN YORK**

Approval of any delegates was requested.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Stoddart and the Clerk attend (LG Act 1972 Sec 111)

**356. DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL-FUTURE JOBS FUND PLACEMENTS**

This item was deferred from the last meeting. The first phase of the scheme had been completed and future phases would begin 1<sup>st</sup> April and 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010. The job would have to be a minimum of 25 hours per week and be of benefit to the community. A contribution of a maximum of £6,500 would be received from the Jobs Fund.

**RESOLVED:** To receive the information.

**357. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL**

A request had been received to contact Harriet Harman & John Denham to ensure Bill receives necessary Parliamentary time. The Clerk informed the meeting that the Bill had now been given extra Parliamentary time and had successfully passed through final House of Common stages and all its House of Lords stages. The Bill is now an Act and a second round is guaranteed.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**358. DONATIONS**

**a) HAMILTON & DISTRICT HOMING SOCIETY**

A request for a donation had been received from the above.

**RESOLVED:** To donate £100 in this instance and inform the Society about the Small Lotteries Fund.

**b) DURHAM MINERS GALA BOOK PROJECT**

A request for a donation had been received from the above.

**RESOLVED:** To purchase 8 copies of the book for the following locations: Brandon Primary, Browney Primary, St Patrick's (Brandon and Meadowfield share cost), Langley Moor Primary, New Brancepeth Primary, Deerness Community Business College, Esh Winning Library and Office (LG Act 1972 Sec 144)

**358. DONATIONS (Cont.)**

**c) DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL-BEAUTIFUL DURHAM COMPETITION**

A request for a donation had been received from the above.

**RESOLVED:** To donate £60 in this instance (£10 per Ward).

**359. CONSULTATION ON DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL'S PROPOSAL TO CLOSE 7 CARE HOMES**

The Clerk informed the meeting of the comments received from Members as follows:

- Why is it that there is an increase in number of Private care homes being built when the document states older people are wanting to stay in their own homes.
- Costs of private facilities will probably increase significantly if Council continues to close its care homes.
- Is the Council fully prepared to provide care at home - have adaptations been fully costed?
- If Council moved to care at home, resident should expect high level of service. Will carers spend sufficient time with residents?
- These care homes provide a family home to many elderly residents, why should they be subject to the traumatic experience of being moved.

**RESOLVED:** To respond to the consultation based on the above comments.

**360. CIVIC FUNCTIONS FOR APPROVAL**

Ferryhill T.C.	Charity Dinner	16.4.10
Ferryhill T.C.	Brass Band Concert	24.4.10
Durham County Council	Civic Dinner	14.5.10
Ferryhill T.C.	Civic Dinner	15.5.10

**RESOLVED:** To approve the functions.

**361. CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS**

A decision was required whether to pursue the provision of Christmas decoration in 2010.

**RESOLVED:** To ask Durham County Council to look at the possibility of providing some sort of decoration at Ushaw Moor as there was already an electricity supply in place at the Silver Trees site.

**362. ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL**

Authorisation was requested to pay accounts amounting to £7,140.45.

**RESOLVED:** To authorise payment of the accounts.

**363. DIRECT INFORMATION SERVICE**

Issues 730 - 731 were available at the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**364. COUNTY DURHAM ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS**

Information had been received on a series of courses on safeguarding of vulnerable Adults.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**365. POLICE COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE GROUPS**

Details of meetings of the above were available at the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**366. DISABLED ACCESS**

Following the Parish Council's letter to Durham County Council requesting use of meeting facilities at Annand House for DDA purposes, confirmation had been received that meeting space could be made available on request.

**RESOLVED:** That to comply with the recommendations of the Disability Discrimination Act to arrange to use the meeting space when required.

**367. DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL - FREE WEBSITES**

The Clerk has had a meeting with Linda Buchanan from the County Council, with a view to transferring the Parish Council's current site to a new site. Training on updating the site would be given at no cost to the Council.

**RESOLVED:** To proceed with the project.

**368. B6302 BROOMPARK - SPEEDING**

A letter had been received from Durham County Council following the Parish Council's request to include Broompark in the Gateway Schemes being considered by the AAP.

**RESOLVED:** To arrange a site visit with 2 Unitary Members, the Chairman of the Parish Council, Police and the County Council.

**369. NON- DOMESTIC RATES**

The annual rates for the Parish Council for year ending 31st March 2011 are £1,345. £1,218.12 small business rate relief had been received.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**370. MID DURHAM RURAL WEST AAP**

The following information had been received:

- a) Draft Minutes for the Board held on 17th March 2010.
- b) Small Grants Applications - Update
- c) Notice of neighbourhood budget applications for the following:
  - Station Street, Waterhouses - surfacing of back street
  - Deerness Heights, Brandon - extension of 2 residential parking areas
  - Mid Durham Rural Railway Paths (formerly Deerness Gateway Project) - Further meeting to be held on 7th April 2010 at Park House, Lanchester. Parish representatives will be present.
  - Comprehensive needs survey in Langley Park and surrounding villages for all sectors of community (particularly young people)
  - Satley - Improvement of roadside car parking and footpaths.
- d) Summary of current and predicted spend for the Area Budget 2009/10.
- e) Next meeting of Young Peoples' Task Group would be held on 28th April 2010 at Park House, Lanchester at 4.00 pm
- f) Joint Commissioning Strategy for older people 2010-13 consultation events - Councillors Bell and Mrs Bonner had been informed.

There was much debate on the small grants fund regarding the lack of information being fed back to the community and the criteria for applications.

**RESOLVED:** To obtain some application forms and feed information about the fund back to community groups.

**371. PARISH COUNCILS COMMITTEE**

- The next meeting of the above would be held on 21st April 2010 in the Parish Council offices. Minutes of the meeting held on 20th March 2010 were circulated.
- An e-mail had been received from the County Council's Overview and Scrutiny Officer inviting all sub committees of the AAP to express their views on winter maintenance. A letter regarding this issue has already been sent from the Parish Councils Committee.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information..

**372. PARISH PATHS GRANT (P3)**

The Parish Council would be applying for the P3 grant from Durham County Council for cutting back of PROW and replacement of 2 styles at New Brancepeth with gates. A meeting to discuss the latter would be held on 26th April 2010.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**373. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

The incident report 5.2.10 - 15.3.10 was available at the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**374. ESH WINNING PRIMARY SCHOOL**

A meeting to further discuss proposals for the new Primary School was held on 30th March 2010.

Councillor Mrs Wilkinson reported that Red Box had taken on board the comments received at the meetings and were working on a design based on these comments.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**375. BRANDON VILLAGE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**

Minutes of the meeting of the above held on 8th March 2010 had been received. The Association had asked if the Parish Council would purchase some stone on their behalf so that the Council could reclaim the VAT. The Chairman and Brandon Ward Members had no objection.

With regard to the CPO, the Residents Association had been informed that the Parish Council were not prepared to pursue this because of costs involved. The Residents Association had indicated that they intend to pursue the issue of the CPO with the County Council themselves.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**376. YOUTH FACILITIES, ESH WINNING**

Further to issues raised at the last meeting regarding the Youth Project using Esh Winning Community Hall. the County Council had informed the Parish Council that a meeting would take place on 29th March 2010 to discuss the issue. It appears that following the meeting the Youth Club would be allowed back into the Community Hall. Strict guidelines on times and dates of entry would be put in place.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**377. COMMUNITY HIGHWAYS MEETING**

Notes from the Working Group held on 23rd March 2010 were circulated.

The Clerk enquired whether to pursue the purchase of salt bins for New Brancepeth later in the year. Durham County Council had indicated that a Scrutiny Committee meeting was due to be held in May to discuss future winter maintenance.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Bell raise the issue of the salt bins to the Scrutiny meeting.

**378. DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

- a) Notification had been received from Durham County Council that repairs to the A690 Langley Moor carriageway would take place on 28th March 2010.
- b) Temporary Road Closure - Brandon Lane Turning Circle - 12th April for 5 days - sewer installation.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**379. NOTICE BOARD**

Due to the deterioration of the notice board located outside the office, a new notice board would be purchased at an approximate cost of £355.

**RESOLVED:** To order the notice board.

**380. SAWMILLS LANE, BRANDON**

An e-mail had been received from a resident of Brandon regarding the situation with parking at Sawmills Lane. This has been forwarded to the County Council and the Police. A reply had been received from the Police.

Councillor Taylor informed the meeting that a meeting to further discuss this issue would be held at the end of May.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**381. THANK YOU LETTERS**

Silver Courts Over 60's Tea Dance Club  
Victim Support  
Mayor of Durham

**RESOLVED:** To receive the letters.

**382. ST JOHN'S AMBULANCE**

An invitation had been received to attend the annual meeting of the above.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Mrs Gates attend.