

**BRANDON AND BYSHOTTLES PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL  
CHAMBERS**

**6 GOATBECK TERRACE, LANGLEY MOOR, DURHAM  
ON FRIDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER 2010 AT 6.30 PM**

**PRESENT**

**Councillor T Akins (in the Chair)**

**and Councillors Allen, Bell, Mrs Bonner, Mrs Catterson, Dowsey, Mrs Gates, Grantham, Kelley, Mrs Kitching, Nelson, Smith, Mrs Smith, Stoddart, Taylor, Turnbull, Wilkinson, Mrs Wilkinson and Venn**

**98. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following Members declared interests:

- Councillor Turnbull - Item 9 Clerk's Report
- Councillor Nelson - Item 16d Brandon Community Association
- Councillor Grantham - Item 9 Town & Country Planning
- Councillor Kelley - Item 9 Town & Country Planning
- Councillor Akins - Item 16e Samaritans
- Councillor Stoddart - Item 11 Play Park, Ushaw Moor

**RESOLVED:** To accept the declarations.

**99. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

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

**100. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Jones.

**RESOLVED:** To receive the apology.

**101. MINUTES**

To amend the minutes to read:

- Councillor Smith and Taylor omitted from attendance
- Councillor Mrs Catterson to be removed from attendance

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**102. MINUTES OF THE ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 1ST  
SEPTEMBER 2010**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**103. MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 1ST SEPTEMBER 2010**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**104. POLICE**

The Police were unable to attend but sent a written report of crime throughout the Parish.

**RESOLVED:** To receive the report and that the Clerk pass on a report of 2 youths with alcohol at Ushaw Moor crossroads at 1.45pm on Friday 17th September 2010.

**105. UNITARY COUNCIL REPORT**

Councillor Taylor gave a report which included the following:

- County Council held 1st full council meeting since recess - waiting outcome of Governments spending review in October
- New statutory powers for licensees through Policing and Crime Act 1979
- Reduction of £287,000 in swimming grant  
Capital funding no longer available for Building Schools for future
- Public consultation underway regarding public transport and Durham County Council's subsidy. Subsidy worth £4.5 m a year - cuts could lead to drastic reductions in bus services

Councillor Wilkinson added:

- East Hedleyhope service already been cut
- £2.4m Section 106 monies still not distributed

**RESOLVED:** To receive the reports.

**106. TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING**

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

List of approvals and refusals were available at the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** To object to the amount of signage at Manchester House, Brandon (application number 4/10/00580/AD) and to obtain plans for Stoneacre Garage, Brandon (application number 4/10/00673/AD)

**107. 'EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATIONS & USE OF IT FOR COUNCILLORS' 22<sup>ND</sup>-24<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2010, CHESTER**

Approval was required for delegates to attend the above training course.

**RESOLVED:** To approve Councillors Bonner, Nelson and 1 other (LG Act 1972 Sec 111)

**108. PLAY PARK, USHAW MOOR**

A letter had been received via AAP from children requesting improvement to facilities at Play Park, Ushaw Moor.

**RESOLVED:** To liaise with Andy Couthard from AAP to set up a meeting to discuss the proposals.

**109. DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL-STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY**

The above document had been received for consultation.

**RESOLVED:** To make the following comments:

- Paragraph 5.2 clarification required of 'vicinity' of premises
- Request notification of applications for new licenses within Parish

**110. DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL - TAXI LICENSING POLICY**

The above document had been received for consultation.

**RESOLVED:** To make the following comments:

- No limitations on colour of taxis - in this economic climate owners do not need extra cost and inconvenience of spraying taxis with specific colour
- Support retention of 7 zones - smaller firms would suffer if there was only 1 zone
- Lift the regulations in Chester le Street and Durham so there is no limitation on number of licences issued.

**111. DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL - CONSULTATION ON 'A FRAMEWORK FOR CHANGE FOR COUNTY DURHAM'S LIBRARY SERVICE'**

The above document had been received for consultation. Comment forms had been distributed.

**RESOLVED:** To receive the document.

**112. COMPLETION OF AUDIT FOR YEAR ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2010**

The audit for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010 had been completed by BDO, the external auditors, and approval and acceptance of annual return was required. There were no issues arising from the audit.

**RESOLVED:** To approve and accept the annual return.

**113. DONATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**a) St Patrick's Church, Langley Moor**

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

**113. DONATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION (Cont.)**

**RESOLVED:** To donate £300 in this instance (£100 each Brandon, Meadowfield and Langley Moor) (Power of Well Being)

**b) Brandon Bay Horse F.C.**

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

**RESOLVED:** To donate £200 in this instance (Brandon Ward) (Misc Prov 1976 Sec 19)

**c) Durham City Centre Youth Project**

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

**RESOLVED:** To donate £500 in this instance (£50 each Ushaw Moor, New Brancepeth, Langley Moor and Meadowfield, £200 Brandon and £100 Esh Winning) (Power of Well Being)

An invitation had also been received to an open event on 7th October 2010.  
To request that the Chairman present the cheque at the event.

**d) Brandon Community Association - Teddy Bear Group**

A request for a donation had been received from the above to restart the Teddy Bear Group.

**RESOLVED:** £500 was approved by the Chairman, Ward Members and the Clerk due to timing issue. (Brandon Ward) (Power of Well Being)

**e) Samaritans**

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

**RESOLVED:** To donate £800 in this instance (£200 each Brandon and Ushaw Moor Wards, £100 each Meadowfield, Langley Moor, New Brancepeth and Esh Winning Wards) (Power of Well Being)

**f) The Medical Group**

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

**RESOLVED:** To donate £700 in this instance (£200 Brandon Ward, £100 each Langley Moor, Meadowfield, New Brancepeth, Ushaw Moor and Esh Winning Wards) (Power of Well Being)

**114. CIVIC FUNCTIONS FOR APPROVAL**

Ferryhill T.C.	Mayoress at Home	20.8.10
Durham County Council	Fish & Chip supper	26.8.10
Peterlee T.C.	Peterlee Show	4.9.10

**114. CIVIC FUNCTIONS FOR APPROVAL (Cont.)**

Spennymoor T.C.	Civic Service	12.9.10
Durham County Council	Civic Dinner	8.10.10
Spennymoor T.C.	Civic Service	17.10.10
Peterlee T.C.	Charity night	22.10.10
Shildon T.C.	Charity night	29.10.10
Peterlee T.C.	Mayor's Ball	5.11.10

**RESOLVED:** To approve the functions (LG Act 1972 Sec 111)

**115. ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL**

Authorisation was requested to pay the accounts amounting to £12,366.79.

**RESOLVED:** To approve the accounts.

**116. A. MAX GARDEN & HANDYMAN SERVICES**

The above contractor had requested to be included on the Parish Council's tender list for grounds maintenance.

**RESOLVED:** To add to tender list subject to satisfactory references and request a copy of their public liability insurance.

**117. ALLOTMENTS**

Approval was requested for the quarterly allotment report.

**RESOLVED:** To approve the report.

**118. DIRECT INFORMATION SERVICE**

Issues 738 - 742 were available at the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

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

Information had been received on the following:

- a) Charter Review Event - County Hall 2nd October 2010 at 10.00 am. Two representatives invited.
- b) NALC E-bulletins
- c) Decisions on electoral boundary changes for County Durham delayed.
- d) Larger Local Councils Forum met on 13th August to discuss Charter Review.
- e) Police Community Consultative Group meetings
- f) The future of Standards for England
- g) August Newsletter

**119. COUNTY DURHAM ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (Cont.)**

**RESOLVED:** To take for information and that Councillor Bell and the Clerk attend the Charter Review Event on 2nd October at County Hall.

**120. BROOMPARK ACTION AGAINST SPEED**

Ward Members were informed of a meeting at The Loves on 13th July 2010 at 7.00 pm.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**121. MID DURHAM AAP**

Information had been received on the following:

- a) Small Grants applications updated - July and August
- b) Update on Playbuilder Scheme projects
- c) Neighbourhood Budget Application Summary - Parking Bays, Deerness Grove, Esh Winning.
- d) Neighbourhood Warden meeting - 5th August 2010
- e) August 'Heads Up'.
- f) Board Meeting to be held on 15th September had been cancelled due to 'purdah'. The meeting had been re-arranged for 6th October 2010
- g) Altogether Greener Survey identified dog fouling as main concern. The Pride In Durham Thematic Working Group identified the area around Brandon football ground as one of three hotspots. The 3 areas would be the focus of a campaign in September/ October to control the problem.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**122. BRANDON VILLAGE**

- a) Permission had been requested from Durham County Council to complete tree works on the village green. Telephone wires to properties had been affected by trees. Brambledown Landscapes would commence the work free of charge once permission had been granted.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

- b) An invitation had been received from The Residents Association to the opening of the community garden on Thursday 30th September 2010. Viewing of the garden would be from 5.30 pm and would be formally opened by Roberta Blackman-Woods.

**RESOLVED:** To accept the invitation.

- c) A letter had been received from Whitbread's in reply to the Parish Council's letter following meeting in May with Durham County Council and Andy Coulthard. The Clerk informed the meeting that a meeting had been arranged with Andy Coulthard and Durham County Council on the 24th September 2010 to discuss the matter.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**123. DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL HOUSING STRATEGY AND SETTLEMENT STUDY**

A working group was held on 30th July 2010 to discuss the above. A response had been made to Durham County Council based on the working group's comments.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**124. N.A.C.**

Nominations had been invited for the Certificate of Councillors course.

**RESOLVED:** To receive the invitation.

**125. EARLY WARNING NETWORK**

Reports from the above had been received.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**126. BRANDON COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP**

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 8th September 2010 at 6.00 pm in Brandon Cricket Club. Minutes of the meeting held on 7th July 2010 and the AGM on 10th June 2009, had been received.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**127. BRANDON UNITED WELFARE GROUND PROJECT**

A meeting would be held on Tuesday 14th September with Bill Fisher from Brandon United for an update on the project. Two small skips had been provided over the summer period to assist with the tidying up of the area. The Clerk provided the meeting with an update from a meeting with Brandon United.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**128. A690 - LOBLEY HILL, MEADOWFIELD**

A letter had been received from a resident of Lobley Hill, Meadowfield regarding speeding traffic on A690. A copy has been forwarded to Durham County Council and the Police. The Clerk responded to Mr Yarrow explaining the Community Speed Watch initiative and he has since volunteered to be present when the SID is deployed. PCSO Andy Childs would arrange the necessary checks on the resident.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information and to request that the County Council repaint white lines on this stretch of highway.

**129. ADDISON PARK, MEADOWFIELD**

The Parish Council had written a letter of support to Groundwork North East for the proposed improvements to Addison Park.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**130. BRANDON PARK**

Brandon Park Celebration Event was held on 19th August 2010 to officially open the new phases to the park.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**131. DURHAM CITY NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING NEWSLETTER**

A copy of the above had been received.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**132. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

The incident report 23rd June - 11th August 2010 had been received.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**133. DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL - ROAD CLOSURES**

Notification of various road closures had been received.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**134. BRANDON HOUSE**

A letter had been received from Simon Bartlett, Durham City Homes in response to the Parish Council's letter regarding possible closure of Brandon House together with the document regarding the review of both Brandon House and Oversteads House

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**135. BEAUTIFUL DURHAM AWARDS**

An invitation had been received to attend the Awards Presentation on Wednesday 6th October 2010 at 7.00 pm in the Town Hall.

**RESOLVED:** That the Chairman, his consort and Councillor Stoddart attend.



**136. DURHAM CITY HOMES UPDATE**

A letter had been received from the above updating the Parish Council on progress at Durham City Homes.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**137. RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES CONSULTATION**

A letter had been received from Durham County Council regarding the above.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**138. PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP - PROW 68a**

The work on the above PROW will begin with the installation of a metal spring back gate at the New Brancepeth entrance. Further improvements to the PROW would take place later in September. The Parish Council would receive a grant from Durham County Council for the work.

**RESOLVED:** To take for information.

**139. OVERGROWN LAND NEAR NEW BRANCEPETH**

A further e-mail regarding the above had been received.

**RESOLVED:** That the New Brancepeth ward Members would arrange a meeting.

**140. THANK YOU LETTERS**

Mencap  
Durham CAB  
1st Meadowfield Guides  
Durham Horticultural & Craft Show  
Finchale Training College  
Butterwick Hospice  
County Durham Society for Blind and Partially Sighted  
Lourdes Pilgrimage - Postcard  
Silver Courts Over 60's  
Mayor of Durham  
Brandon United - skips

**RESOLVED:** To receive the letters.

The meeting closed at 7.55 pm