

BRANDON AND BYSHOTTLES PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBERS
6 GOATBECK TERRACE, LANGLEY MOOR, DURHAM
ON FRIDAY 18TH MARCH 2011 AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT

Councillor T Akins (in the Chair)
and Councillors Bell, Mrs Bonner, Mrs Catterson, Dowsey, Mrs Gates, Grantham, Jones,
Kelley, Mrs Kitching, Taylor, Turnbull, Venn, Wilkinson and Mrs Wilkinson

243. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following interests were declared:

Cllr. D Bell - Item 15c Ushaw Moor Community Association
Cllr Mrs A Bonner - Item 15c Ushaw Moor Community Association
Cllr J Turnbull - Clerks Report - Brandon Partnership and Friends of the Park

244. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

245. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Allen, Nelson, A Smith, Mrs M
Smith and Stoddart.

RESOLVED: To receive the apologies.

246. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 18TH FEBRUARY 2011

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 18th February 2011 be confirmed as
a true record and signed by the Chairman.

247. MINUTES OF ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 1ST MARCH 2011

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

248. MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 2ND MARCH 2011

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

249. PRESENTATION OF DONATIONS

The Chairman presented donations to the following:

Brandon Cricket Club
Broompark & District WI
5th Durham Scouts
The Samaritans - Proceeds from Chairman's Charity Evening

250. POLICE

There were no Police in attendance.

251. UNITARY COUNCILLORS REPORT

The unitary report included the following:

- Durham County Council's Medium Term Finance Plan identified County will have to make almost £70m cuts in 1st year. This represents £100 cut for each resident in County Durham
- Will protect Adult Services and Winter Maintenance as far as possible.
- Proposals for fortnightly twin bin collections
- 50p charge for concessionary bus travel before 9.30 a.m to be introduced 1st April 2011
- County news to be reduced from 10 issues to 4 issues per year
- Replacement dustbins will cost £24
- Brandon Primary school - development will begin 2nd April 2011
- Esh Winning Primary school - development will begin 28th March 2011

252. TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING - APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

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

RESOLVED: To take for information.

253. TRAINING CONFERENCE 'THE LOCALISM BILL & THE BIG SOCIETY - 8TH - 10TH APRIL 2011, SCARBOROUGH

Approval of delegates was requested for the above.

RESOLVED: To approve Councillors Mrs Bonner, Grantham, Nelson and Wilkinson (LG Act 1972 Sec. 111)

254. APPROVAL OF SPECIFICATION FOR FLORAL CONTAINERS FOR 2011

Approval of the 2011 specification for summer planting of floral containers was requested.

RESOLVED: To approve the specification and add planting for the proposed beds at The Roundy and Eshwood View.

255. CONSULTATION ON CLOSURE OF LEISURE CENTRES - INVITATION TO COMMENT

Information had been received from Durham County Council regarding consultation on the potential closure of six leisure centres, one of which is Deerness Leisure Centre. The consultation runs until 26th May 2011. A copy of the Executive Summary of the Draft Sport and Leisure Strategy has also been received. The Clerk informed the meeting that an Action Group had been set up comprising of representatives of the Parish Council and the Gymnastics Club. The Group would be meeting on 24th March 2011 to discuss an Action Plan.

RESOLVED: To organise a Parish Council working group to discuss the Council's response to the consultation.

256. DONATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

a) GREAT NORTH AIR AMBULANCE

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

RESOLVED: To donate £340 in this instance (£60 each Brandon, Meadowfield, Langley Moor and New Brancepeth, £50 each Esh Winning and Ushaw Moor) (Power of well being)

b) USHAW MOOR CRICKET CLUB F.C

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

RESOLVED: To pay the pitch fee of £483 (Ushaw Moor Ward) (LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976 Sec. 19)

c) USHAW MOOR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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

Councillors Bell and Mrs Bonner left the meeting.

RESOLVED: To donate £200 in this instance (Ushaw Moor Ward (LG (Misc Prov Act) 1976 Sec. 19)

Councillors Bell and Mrs Bonner returned to the meeting.

d) AGED MINERS RESIDENTS, ESHWOOD VIEW, USHAW MOOR

A letter had been received indicating that the Christmas Party was cancelled due to the bad weather and could the donation be used for a coach trip.

RESOLVED: To agree that the donation of £100 could be used for a coach trip.

256. DONATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION (Cont.)

e) CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

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

RESOLVED: To donate £1,800 for continuation of outreach service (£500 between Brandon, Meadowfield and Langley Moor, £250 each New Brancepeth and Ushaw Moor, £500 Esh Winning, £300 Central Fund) (LG Act 1972 Sec. 142)

Also to enquire if the Outreach service which is currently located at Brandon House, can be re-located to Silver Courts Community Hall, as Brandon House will be closing

The Council suspended Standing Orders to take Mrs Blackman-Woods address.

257. MRS ROBERTA BLACKMAN-WOODS MP

Mrs Blackman-Woods addressed the meeting regarding an item on her agenda, namely a proposal by Hunters Gate Residents Association (now Ushaw Moor Action Group) for a Community Garden at Ushaw Moor on land next to the Catholic Club. She enquired whether the Parish Council would be supportive of such a project. The Parish Council confirmed that they had not been contacted about the proposal but would support the project.

258. PARISH COUNCIL VACANCIES FOR LANGLEY MOOR WARD

Two vacancies have arisen in the Langley Moor Ward due to a members failure to attend a meeting within a 6 month consecutive period. In addition, Councillor Alan Smith has tendered his resignation.

RESOLVED: To notify the Electoral Officer at Durham County Council.

259. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF FOLLOWING POLICIES

- a) Protocol on Member/Officer Relations
- b) Anti Fraud & Corruption Policy
- c) Effectiveness of Internal Audit
- d) Document Retention Policy

RESOLVED: To approve the policies

260. DURHAM RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL - EVENT 'COUNCILS IN THE COMMUNITY'

Delegates are requested for the above which will be held on Monday 11th April 2011 at Park House, Lanchester.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Mrs A Bonner and the Clerk attend (LG Act 1972 Sec.111)

261. APPROVAL OF CONTRIBUTION TO INSTALLATION OF BUS SHELTER AT NEW ACRES, USHAW MOOR

Following Durham County Council's request to assist in funding the above shelter, Ward Members had agreed on a contribution of £500.

RESOLVED: To approve that a £500 contribution be made (LG Act (Misc Prov) Act 1953 Sec 4).

262. ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL

Authorisation was requested to pay the accounts amounting to £10,514.81.

RESOLVED: To authorise payment of the accounts.

263. CIVIC FUNCTIONS FOR APPROVAL

Approval was requested for the Chairman or Vice Chairman to attend the following:

Hartlepool B.C.	Charity evening	4.3.11
Shildon T.C.	Charity evening	11.3.11
Chilton T.C.	Civic Dinner	21.4.11

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

264. REPORT OF CLERK

The Clerk presented the monthly report for information. The following issues arose:

- **Brandon Village Residents Association**

The Residents Association are currently developing a website and have enquired whether the Parish Council would write an endorsement for the site.

RESOLVED: To write the endorsement and to link the Parish Council website to the Residents Association website.

- **Proposed Cuts to Subsidised Bus Services**

RESOLVED: To write to Durham County Council and Arriva regarding the proposed cuts to Sunday evening services on 48, 49 and 50 routes indicating that this will isolate the villages of Brandon, Ushaw Moor and New Brancepeth. Also, the proposal will affect members of the public who rely on public transport to go to work or visit relatives in hospital.