

BRANDON AND BYSHOTTLES PARISH COUNCIL

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

**6 GOATBECK TERRACE, LANGLEY MOOR, DURHAM
ON FRIDAY 21ST JUNE 2013 AT 6.30 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor J Grantham (in the Chair)

and Councillors Akins, Mrs Akins, Bell, Mrs Bonner, Mrs Chaplow, Clegg, Mrs Clifford, Mrs Gates, Graham, Jamieson, Jones, Nelson, Rippin, Mrs Rodgers, Sims, Stoddart, Taylor, Turnbull and Mrs Wharton

36. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of interest were received from:

Councillors Bell, Mrs Bonner and Chaplow - Item 13 Esh Winning Former Infant School Site

Councillor Clegg - Item 10 Town & Country Planning

RESOLVED: To receive the declarations of interest.

37. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

38. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs Leckenby

RESOLVED: To receive the apologies.

39. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17TH MAY 2013

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 17th May 2013 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

40. MINUTES OF ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 4TH JUNE 2013

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

41. MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 5TH JUNE 2013

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

42. PRESENTATION OF DONATIONS

The Chairman presented donations to the following:

Brandon United F.C
County Durham Stroke Club
Durham Samaritans
Thomas Naylor
New Brancepeth Homing Society - did not attend

43. POLICE

The Police sent a written report of crime throughout the Parish.

RESOLVED: To receive the report.

44. REPORT FROM UNITARY COUNCILLORS

The Unitary Councillors reported on the following:

- 624 children in care across County - County increasing number of foster and adoptive parents
- Seminars held on Common Land and Village Greens
- Seminar on Adult Health Scrutiny to be held on 27th June 2013
- Lindisfarne Gospels and Brass Festival held over summer
- Lumiere Festival taking place later in year
- Super authority proposal for region
- Contract awarded to 3 companies looking after East Durham Homes
- Trialing later opening hours for Park and Ride Scheme at Belmont

RESOLVED: To receive the report

45. TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING

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

4/13/00518/FPA	Mr M Burnside	Erection of 1no. detached dormer bungalow Arbour House, Back John Street North, Meadowfield, Durham DH7 8RT
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List of planning approvals and refusals had been received.

RESOLVED: To object to planning application 4/13/00518 proposed erection of 1 no. detached dormer bungalow at rear John St.North, Meadowfield on the following grounds:

- loss of public open space and amenity
- access pose threat to highway safety
- to request application be called to the Planning Committee

The Clerk reported that correspondence had been received from Durham County Council enquiring whether the Parish Council had any comments on the proposed sale of land to the rear of John Street North, Meadowfield to resolve an encroachment issue.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council object to the sale of the land on the following grounds:

- Land already subject to encroachment - would set a precedent if land was sold to overcome this issue
- loss of public open space would be detrimental to public amenity

To suspend Standing Orders while the Chairman presented a donation.

The Chairman presented a donation to Durham Samaritans.

46. CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATION BY THE CHURCH COMMISSIONERS FOR ENGLAND TO REGISTER MINES AND MINERALS BENEATH USHAW MOOR VILLAGE GREEN WITH THE LAND REGISTRY

The application to register the mines and minerals required a response by 10th June 2013. Consequently the Clerk consulted with the Chairman regarding a response which objected to the application on the grounds that the village green was protected by 2 nineteenth century acts and the surface could not be interfered with. A further letter had been received indicating that the objection by the Parish is groundless. The letter states there is no right of appeal against this decision other than to challenge the decision by applying to court for a judicial review which is potentially a difficult and expensive process. The Clerk explained that the mines and minerals are registered and at some point in the future the Church Commissioners apply to mine the land or wish to develop the land in any way the usual planning process would have to be adhered to. This would mean the Parish Council would be informed as part of the consultation process and would be able to object on the grounds that the land is village green.

RESOLVED: To obtain further advice and then liaise with the Chairman to make a final decision.

47. APPROVAL OF RENEWAL OF I.T. SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE CONTRACT FOR 2013/14.

Approval for renewal of the contract at £210 per annum was requested.

RESOLVED: To approve the renewal of the contract.

48. ESH WINNING FORMER INFANT SCHOOL SITE- REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON PROPOSALS BY DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL TO DISPOSE OF PLAYING FIELD LAND AT THE FORMER SCHOOL SITE

A letter had been received from Durham County Council which proposes that the land is to be sold on the open market.

RESOLVED: To make no objection to the sale of the land.

49. LOCAL COUNCIL ADVISORY SERVICE ANNUAL SEMINAR 26TH SEPTEMBER 2013 AT SHOTTON HALL PETERLEE- APPROVAL OF DELEGATES

RESOLVED: That Councillors Mrs Gates and Jamieson attend.

50. DONATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

a) Open Spaces Society

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

RESOLVED: To donate £50 in this instance (Central Fund)

b) New Community Network in County Durham

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

RESOLVED: To arrange a meeting.

c) Silver Courts Over 60's

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

RESOLVED: To donate £200 in this instance (Brandon Ward)

51. ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL

Authorisation was requested to pay accounts amounting to £11,340.52.

RESOLVED: To approve payment of the accounts.

52. CIVIC FUNCTIONS FOR APPROVAL

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

Durham C.C.	Civic Dinner	21.6.2013
Shildon T.C.	Charity evening	25.6.2013

RESOLVED: To approve attendance at the functions.

53. QUARTERLY ALLOTMENT REPORT FOR APPROVAL

The quarterly allotment report was presented to Council for approval.

RESOLVED: To approve the report.

54. **REPORT OF CLERK**

The Clerk presented a report to Council for information. The following issues arose:

- **Brandon Village**

RESOLVED: To invite other Ward Members to the meeting with Durham County Council regarding grasscutting so that proposals for planting in other areas of the Parish can be discussed.

- **Grasscutting - St. Andrew's Church, Brandon**

RESOLVED: To approve that the grass at the front of the Church be included in the contract.

- **Remembrance Service**

RESOLVED: To arrange a meeting in September with the British Legion to discuss the order of service for Remembrance Sunday and to speak with the contractors working on developments in Brandon Village about issues with parking at the Service.

- **Internal Audit Report 2012/13**

RESOLVED: To receive the Internal Audit Report

- **Parish Council Utilities**

The Clerk presented information on tariffs for telephone, gas and electricity for Axis which could potentially save the Council money.

RESOLVED: To enquire whether there is a tie in period with the Company before progressing.

- **Freedom of Information Request**

The Clerk reported that a letter had been received requesting information from the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: To respond to the letter within the specified time.

The meeting closed at 7.00 pm

Signed

Date