

**BRANDON AND BYSHOTTLES PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD IN NEW BRANCEPETH VILLAGE HALL  
ON FRIDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 2016 AT 6.30 PM**

**PRESENT**

**Councillor Mrs S Nelson (in the Chair)  
and Councillors Bell, Mrs Bonner, Mrs Chaplow, Mrs Gates, Grantham, Mrs  
Leckenby, Nelson, Rippin, Mrs Rodgers, Stoddart, Sims, Taylor and Turnbull**

**166. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Declarations of interest were received from:

Councillors Mrs Chaplow – Item number 9 Town & Country Planning application  
number DM/16/00103

**RESOLVED:** To receive the declaration of interest.

**167. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

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

**168. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Akins, Mrs Akins, Clegg,  
Graham, Jamieson and Jones, Councillor Mrs Wharton was attending a civic  
function.

**RESOLVED:** To receive the apologies.

**169. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2016**

**RESOLVED:** To approve the minutes as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**170. PRESENTATION OF DONATION**

The Chairman presented the following donation:-

Ushaw Moor Cricket Club F.C.

**171. POLICE REPORT**

The Police gave a report of crime throughout the Parish.

The Sergeant was asked his views on the proposed licence for sale of alcohol for Penny Petroleum at Meadowfield Filling Station. Sgt. Mallatrath indicated that he would contact the Alcohol Harm Reduction Team for their stance on the issue and informed the meeting that licensees undergo a probationary period when they are granted a licence.

**RESOLVED:** To receive the report and comments from the Police.

The Chairman agreed to take the following item at this point which had been received too late for the Agenda.

**172. APPLICATION FOR NEW PREMISES LICENCE FOR PENNY PETROLEUM AT MEADOWFIELD FILLING STATION FOR THE SALE OF ALCOHOL**

The consensus of the meeting was that it is totally inappropriate for a garage to sell alcohol to drivers of vehicles. In addition concerns were expressed regarding an increase in underage drinking and anti-social behaviour around this vicinity.

**RESOLVED:** To object to the application on the following grounds:

- Inappropriate to sell alcohol to drivers
- Possible increase in underage drinking and anti-social behaviour
- Possible increase in adults purchasing alcohol for underage drinkers.

In addition

- To write to Ron Hogg regarding the Police's stance on objecting to licences for sale of alcohol

**173. CONSULTATION ON YOUTH SERVICES BY DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

Drew Watson, a member of Carrside Youth Club gave an overview of the proposals made by Durham County Council and how the opportunities he has had at Carrside have had a positive impact on his life. Drew informed the Members that he had begun a petition against the County Council's proposals and members signed the petition. The Chairman thanked Drew for his excellent presentation.

The meeting went on to further discuss the proposals made by Durham County Council and the impact the changes would have on the youth provision in the Parish area.

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

- Current youth provision and engagement provided by Carrside is excellent with a proven history of successful achievements by the young people.

**173. CONSULTATION ON YOUTH SERVICES BY DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL (Continued)**

- The current informal access to the service will be taken away, young people won't want to engage as much if there is a more formal structure. Consequently young people will suffer.
- Schools don't have the capacity to give enough time to the service.

**174. REPORT FROM UNITARY COUNCILLORS**

The Unitary Councillors report included the following:-

- Durham County Council has to make further cuts of £104m by 2019/20. The Council did not receive any of the additional £215m from the Government's financial settlement, whilst Shire Counties and authorities in the south received substantial payments.
- County Council's precept increase will be 3.9% for 2016/17 which includes a 2% increase to be spent on Adult Social Care
- Big Spring Clean 29<sup>th</sup> February – 17<sup>th</sup> April
- Smoking not tolerated in County Durham bus stations – staff will issue fines to anyone caught smoking
- Durham County Council's Fair Trading Team have recovered suspected counterfeit items in Newton Aycliffe and Bishop Auckland
- 21.7% response to the recent Devolution Poll
- Ice cream man fined for selling cigarettes to children
- The Council has recently seized 6,600 illicit cigarettes
- Fire Authority has received £6-7k of Government grants whilst the South of England has received £9m - £24m.

**RESOLVED:** To receive the report.

**175. TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING – APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

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

Permissions and refusals had been received.

DM/15/03957/VOC

Car Construction

Variation of Condition 2 (approved plans) for the introduction of a second floor including increase in height of the dwelling, introduction of Velux rooflights, alter facing bricks, and

**175. TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING – APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION (Continued)**

		amend condition 6 for surface water drainage to use public drains rather than soakaways WJM Quigley, 1 Brandon Road, Esh Winning, Durham DH7 9PH
DM/16/00055/FPA	JKL Mouldings	Enlargement of existing car park, change of use to grassed area to staff/ visitor car parking. JKL Mouldings, St. Johns Road, Meadowfield Industrial Estate, Meadowfield, Durham DH7 8XQ
DM/16/00096/LB	Mr P Sedgewick	Internal Refurbishment of existing farmhouse, erection of staircase with handrail to rear and replacement windows and doors New Ivesley Farm, Ivesley Lane, Waterhouses, Durham DH7 9HD
DM/16/00103/FPA	Mr J Chambers	Change of use from public open space to residential curtilage Land Adjacent to 36 Coppice Hill, Esh Winning, Durham DH7 9QQ
DM/16/00091/FPA	Mr Brian Stobbs Durham Aged Mineworkers' Homes Association	Construction of 5 no. 2 bed bungalows and associated external works Land to the North West of 10 Esh Wood View, Ushaw Moor, DH7 7FE
DM/16/00150/FPA	Mr J Potter	Change of use from open space and upgrading of existing hard surfacing to shared use off street parking areas Land Adjacent to 22-34 Croft Rigg, Brandon, Durham DH7 8BA
DM/16/00177/FPA	Mr S Bartlett	Erection of freestanding information board Land to the North of 1 Grove Road, Brandon DH7 8AW
DM/16/00178/FPA	Durham City	Erection of freestanding information board Land to the North West of 14 Rowley Close, New Brancepeth, DH7 7JR

**175. TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING – APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION (Continued)**

DM/16/00199/FPA	Mr S Bartlett	Erection of freestanding information board Land to the North of 10 The Larches, Esh Winning, DH7 9AF
DM/16/00255/PA	Littleburn Holdings	Method statement for demolition of single storey office accommodation consisting of Suites 1 – 5 Skillion Business Centre, Littleburn Road, Littleburn Industrial Estate, Langley Moor, DH7 8HG
DM/16/00236/FPA	Mr Peter Tiplady	Erection of workshop, 13 Alum Waters, New Brancepeth, Durham DH7 7JL
DM/15/03821/FPA	D Field	Erection of first floor extension with balcony at rear of dwelling (partly retrospective). 45 Station Road, Ushaw Moor, Durham DH7 7PY
DM/15/03823/FPA	Lidl UK GmbH	Extension to existing foodstore (Use Class A1) and associated works including reconfiguration of car park and landscaping Lidl, High Street South, Langley Moor, Durham DH7 8EU
DM/16/00197/FPA	Durham City	Erection of freestanding information board Land to the South of 21 Chestnut Grove, Broom Lane, Ushaw Moor
DM/16/00370/FPA	Mr Daniel O'Hara	Demolition of ground floor rear garage and construction of single storey extension 79 High Street South, Langley Moor, Durham DH7 8EX
DM/16/00046/FPA	Mr Gary Barlow	Erection of two-storey/part single-storey extension at rear of dwelling. 51 Brandon Village, Durham DH7 8SU

**175. TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING – APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION (Continued)**

DM/16/00156/OUT	Mr P Fullard	2 detached bungalows (outline – all matters reserved) Land South of New Brancepeth between Plantation View and School House, Durham DH7 7EY
DM/16/00318/FPA	Mr D Cowie	Erection of part two-storey/part first floor extension at side of dwelling and porch to front. 90 Cavendish Court, Brandon, Durham DH7 8UW

A letter had been received from a local resident with regard to application DM/16/00103 Mr J Chambers Change of use from public open space to residential curtilage, 36 Coppice Hill, Esh Winning.

**RESOLVED:** To send a letter to Durham County Council stating that should the application be approved the PROW at the rear of the property should not be altered in any way or blocked whilst work is in progress.

: To send letters of support for application number DM/16/00091/FPA – construction of 5 no. 2 bed bungalows, Durham Aged Mineworkers Homes Association, Ushaw Moor and application number DM/16/00156/OUT - 2 detached bungalows, Mr P Fullard, New Brancepeth.

**176. APPROVAL OF DELEGATES FOR CONFERENCE ‘TACKLING FAMILY POVERTY’ 26<sup>TH</sup> -28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2016 IN WAKEFIELD**

Councillor Bell had already been approved as a delegate.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Mrs Bonner and Grantham attend.

**177. CILCA MENTORING – REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST TO UNDERTAKE THE CILCA MENTORING SESSIONS COMMENCING APRIL 2016**

**RESOLVED:** To receive the information.

**178. REQUEST FOR APPROVED ABSENCE FROM PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS BY COUNCILLOR DEREK JONES DUE TO ILL HEALTH**

A letter had been received from Councillor Jones. Requesting approved absence from meeting due to ill health.

**RESOLVED:** To approve Councillor Jones absence from meetings due to ill health and review the position in 3 months.

**179. FLY A FLAG FOR THE COMMONWEALTH- DECISION REQUIRED ON VENUE FOR EVENT TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2016 AT 10.00 AM.**

**RESOLVED:** To arrange an event to be held at Brandon Community Hall, inviting representatives from local schools and churches and to arrange a photographer for the event.

**180. DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL CONSULTATION ON PROPOSAL TO REMOVE STREET LIGHTS ON U18.23 FROM NEW BRANCEPETH TO BROADGATE FARM- REQUEST FOR INFORMATION WHICH MAY INFORM THE RISK ASSESSMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSAL**

A letter from Durham County Council had been received regarding the above. Councillor Bell indicated that the lights had not been working for a number of years.

**RESOLVED:** To make the County Council aware that the lights are not working.

**181. SMALLER AUTHORITIES AUDIT APPOINTMENTS (SAAA) - DECISION REQUIRED ON WHETHER TO OPT IN OR OPT OUT OF THE SAAA ARRANGEMENTS**

The Clerk informed the meeting that the Audit Commission ceased to exist on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 and a new company, Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments Ltd (SAAA) had been created to take over the appointment of external auditors and setting of audit fees for smaller authorities from 2017. The SAAA will formally appoint external auditors for a 5 year period from financial year 2017/18. This will happen automatically unless the Council decides to opt out, in which case the Council would have to set up an Independent Audit Panel to procure an external auditor. By law every authority will still have to complete and publish an annual financial return regardless of whether it is opted in or opted out. The deadline for Councils wishing to opt out is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council opts in to the SAAA arrangements.

**182. PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE HOSTING – DECISION REQUIRED WHETHER TO TAKE OUT DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL’S SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT (SLA) TO CONTINUE TO HOST AND SUPPORT PARISH WEBSITE**

The Clerk informed the meeting that the County Council will no longer host the Parish Council website after 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 unless the Parish Council purchases the SLA proposed by the County. The cost of this agreement is £575 per annum.

By the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 the website will be moved from Sharepoint to WordPress, to ensure security and compliance with new guidance. This will include the transfer of all content of the site. The Council has until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 to make a decision whether to take out the SLA.

**RESOLVED:** To wait until the Council’s website has been transferred to Word Press then reconsider the situation.

**183. DONATIONS FOR APPROVAL**

**a) Durham Youth F.C. Under 18's**

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

**RESOLVED:** To donate £250 in this instance (£150 Brandon ward, £50 each Meadowfield and Langley Moor wards)

**b) Esh Winning Library Easter Egg Competition**

A request for a donation had been received from the above and an invitation for a Ward Member to present the prizes.

**RESOLVED:** To donate £250 in this instance (Esh Winning ward)

**c) The Children's Foundation**

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

**RESOLVED:** To receive the letter.

**d) Durham Vineyard- Brandon Family Fun Day**

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

**RESOLVED:** That as Councillors Turnbull and Taylor were funding the cost of the Fun Day through their County Council budgets, the Parish Council would fund any unexpected costs which may arise.

**e) Citizens Advice Bureau**

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

**RESOLVED:** To donate £3,600 in this instance (Brandon, Meadowfield & Langley Moor £360 each, New Brancepeth, Ushaw Moor & Esh Winning £540 each, Central Fund £900)

**184. PROPOSED SCULPTURE WHITEHOUSE LANE- APPROVAL OF BUDGET AND QUOTATION**

A quotation had been received from Graeme Hopper breaking down the costs of the project.

A pre planning application enquiry has been submitted to Durham County Council to confirm whether planning permission is needed.

**RESOLVED:** To accept the quotation from Graeme Hopper, without the Council's usual procurement procedure as the work was of a specialist nature by a local artist who had been commissioned for the original sculpture.



**185. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES:**

- a) Grievance Policy
- b) Disciplinary Policy

The above policies are due for review and approval.

**RESOLVED:** To approve the policies

**186. BRANDON VILLAGE GREEN- CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST TO CROSS VILLAGE GREEN TO ALLOW ACCESS FOR SERVICES TO PROPOSED NEW DWELLING SUBJECT TO PLANNING PERMISSION**

A letter had been received regarding the above.

**RESOLVED:** To grant permission for the works but to stipulate the green should be reinstated to its former condition should the development go ahead.

**187. CIVIC FUNCTIONS FOR APPROVAL**

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

Spennymoor T.C.	Valentine's night (TBC)	12.2.2016
Hartlepool B.C	Civic Dinner	26.2.2016
Ferryhill T.C.	Mayor's Band Concert	27.2.2016
Hartlepool B.C.	Mayoress At Home	3.3.2016
Sedgefield T.C.	Civic dinner	4.3.2016
Ferryhill T.C.	Charity evening	11.3.2016
Seaham T.C.	Seaham Past & Present	17.3.2016
Spennymoor T.C.	Race Night (TBC)	18.3.2016
Sildon T.C.	Quiz Night	1.4.2016
Ferryhill T.C.	Civic Dinner (TBC)	8.4.2016
Bishop Auckland T.C.	Mayor's Ball (TBC)	9.4.2016
Sedgefield B.C.	Sedgefield Showcase (TBC)	9.4.2016

**RESOLVED:** To authorise Chairman or Vice Chairman's attendance at the above.

**188. ACCOUNTS FOR APPROVAL**

Authorisation was requested to pay accounts amounting to £12,850.67.

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

**189. ALLOTMENTS**

**Hamilton Row –consideration of request by tenant to erect structures and plant willow trees**

An email had been received regarding the above.

**RESOLVED:** To grant permission to erect the structures but not the willow trees.

**190. REPORT OF CLERK**

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

- **Proposed War Memorial, Esh Winning**

The Clerk had made investigations into the procedures to commission a new war memorial, following a letter from a local resident. It was important that the local community had an input into the process.

**RESOLVED:** That the possibilities are further explored by Esh Winning Residents Association involving the local community.

- **Learn Direct – Business Administration Apprentice**

The Clerk informed the meeting she had been approached by Learn Direct regarding employment of a Business Administration Apprentice.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council do not proceed with this.

- **Durham County Council Chairman’s Medal**

Nominations had been invited for this year’s Durham County Councils Chairman’s Medal. This year a new award had been introduced for Young People.

**RESOLVED:** To nominate Drew Watson from Carrside Youth Project.

The meeting closed at 7.55 pm

Signed .....

Date .....