

Greencroft Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held at Lynwood House, Lanchester on
Tuesday 24 February 2015 at 7.00p.m.

Present Mr J Johnson – Chair
Mr C Lee, Mrs V Self and Mrs D Parry

Councillors C Burton and O Johnson (observers)

Apologies
Mr D Quayle - family commitments
The above apologies were received and accepted

16/15 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest

17/15 **Public Participation**

No members of the public were present at the meeting

18/15 **Minutes of the last meeting**

Resolved - that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 20 January 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair

19/15 **Correspondence**

- (i) Neighbourhood Warden Report**
Resolved - that the report for December 2014 be received
- (ii) Parish Councils Committee**
Resolved - that the minutes of the meeting held on 17 January be received
- (iii) Traffic Survey – Speed profiles**
Members discussed information received on traffic surveys carried out on Lanchester Road, Maiden Law in September 2014 and March 2010.
Members questioned whether the two speed profiles for 2010 and 2014 had been undertaken on the same basis. It was also noted that there had been an increase in traffic flow recorded in 2014.
Resolved that:
 - (i)** the information be received

- (ii) a letter be sent:
- thanking the Police for the information
 - asking when the next survey will be carried out
 - seeking clarification that the two existing surveys were undertaken on the same basis

In addition Members discussed the crossroads at Maiden Law and that following recent road works by the County Council that the road markings had not been re-instated.

Resolved - that a letter is sent to the County Council and the Area Action Partnership informing them of this

(iv) **Durham County Council – (Reorganisation of Governance) Order**

Members were informed that a sealed Durham County Council Order had been received reflecting the reduction in size of the Parish Council. However there may be an error on the document. The County Council are considering the document and will re-issue it if necessary.

Resolved - that the information be received

20/15 Planning Matters

Members were informed of the following decisions of the planning authority:

- (i) **Erection of detached dwelling house and garage including access, Howden Bank Works, Howden Bank (DM/14/02421/OUT) - Refusal**

Resolved - that the information be received

**21/15 Northumbrian Water - Compensation
- Water Pressure (min 6/15)**

Members were advised of the receipt of a cheque for £470 in relation to the compensation claim.

Further correspondence had been received from Northumbrian Water regarding the reported issue of low water pressure. In order to progress this issue, Northumbrian Water would wish to visit the properties identified to carry out further investigations, following which they will update the Parish Council on their findings.

Resolved that:

- (i) the information be received
(ii) the details of the properties affected are passed to Northumbrian Water

22/15 Lanchester Wines Ltd – Damage to Fence (Min 5/15)

It was reported that Lanchester Wines Ltd had confirmed that it was their intention to make good the damage to the boundary fence

Resolved – that the report be received and the position noted

23/15 Fence around Recreation Area (min 7/15)

Members were informed that following the last meeting a letter had been sent to Durham County Council asking them to consider an increased S106 grant allocation following the increase in the cost of the project.

A decision on this request is awaited.

Resolved that:

- (i) Emerson Fencing Ltd. be appointed to replace the fencing at a cost of £2,894.40 as soon as possible
- (ii) the increased grant allocation be pursued with DCC

24/15 Grass Seeding – Recreation Area (min 8/15)

Members were informed that a quote to fill in and reseed the hole on the recreation area had been received.

Resolved - that the quotation of £30 from Paul Snowden for the filling of the hole with topsoil and seeding be accepted

25/15 Purchase of a Live Christmas Tree – Recreation Area (min 8/15)

Members were informed that the tree had been ordered and a site visit would be arranged to identify the location for the tree.

It is expected that the tree will be planted in March / April.

Resolved - that the information be received

26/15 Grass Cutting

Consideration was given to the grass cutting requirements for 2015 and to the quotes received to undertake the work.

Resolved that:

- (i) A D Purves be appointed to undertake 10 cuts of the grass in the 'blue' area at a cost of £27.50 per cut

- (ii) A D Purves be appointed to apply herbicide to the 'blue' area on two occasions through the season at a cost of £23.50 per application
- (iii) A D Purves be appointed to apply herbicide around the seats in the 'yellow' area on two occasions through the season at a cost of £17.50 per application
- (iv) The Parish Council meet the cost of 8 cuts in the 'green' area to top up cutting carried out by Durham County Council on land in its ownership. The eight cuts to be carried out by Durham County Council at a cost of £51.56 per cut

27/15 National Speed Limit Sign

Members discussed the recent erection of a national speed limit sign which has been located near Rose Cottage on Lanchester Road, within a short distance of a 30mph sign. Members feel that the sign has been located in error and should in fact be facing traffic which is travelling out of Maiden Law towards Stanley.

Resolved – that this situation is reported to the County Council

28/15 Donations

Consideration was given to requests for donations from Great North Air Ambulance; Real Care Ltd., and County of Durham School Benevolent Fund

Resolved – that a donation of £50 be given to the Great North Air Ambulance

29/15 Financial Information

Consideration was given to the report of the Clerk

Resolved - that the report be received

Members discussed the new Christmas Tree and the possible lighting requirements and ongoing financial commitment that this may bring.

Resolved - that this is included in any future budget planning

30/15 Clerk – Hours Worked

Resolved - that approval be given for payment for 14½ hours worked in February and 10 hours in March

31/15 Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that approval be granted for payments to be made as follows:

Durham County Council	- Grass Cutting	- £480.55
CCL Office Ltd	- Stationery	- £25.30
S Laverick	- Expenses	- £31.92
Great North Air Ambulance	- Donation	- £50.00

32/15 Chairperson's Announcements

Resolved - that the date for the meeting to be held in April be moved to Wednesday 29 April

33/15 Questions from Members

There were no questions from members

34/15 Date of Next Meeting

Resolved - that the next Ordinary meeting of the Council be held in Lynwood House on Tuesday 31 March 2015 at 7.00pm

Meeting ended at 8.15pm