

Greencroft Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26 October 2021

Present: Sandra McDonagh, John Johnson, Jane Cain, Vivien Self, Dorothy Parry, Councillor Michael McGaun, Councillor Douglas Oliver, Paul McAdam (Clerk)

Apologies: Barbara Jamieson – Noted and accepted.

122/21 Declarations of Interest

None.

123/21 Public Participation

None.

124/21 Minutes of the last Meeting

Resolved that the Minutes of the last meeting held on 28 September 2021 be **AGREED** as a correct record.

125/21 Planning and Road works

DCC reports had been circulated – no matters raised.

126/21 Budget

2021/22 budget position circulated prior to meeting and Clerk provided a verbal summary.

127/21 Clerk Update

Online Banking – Clerk has applied to Barclays for online access and has just received the equipment and should now have online access to view statements, payments etc but has not yet tested.

Duel Authorisation payments will be possible when Chair and Vice Chair are also set up and registered.

Traffic / Parking – Comments submitted to Durham County Council regarding problems at Pip Stop. Reply received confirming that DCC is unable to take enforcement action re dangerous parking and obstruction and that these matters should be reported to Durham Constabulary via the non-emergency 101 number.

Discussion took place in which it was raised that other factors were not helping with the situation such as the lack of PACT meetings at present as well as the fact there is currently no Neighbourhood Warden for the area.

Flower Beds – It was raised that the flower beds had not been managed by Durham County Council as well as had been hoped and there had been no evidence of maintenance during the summer. It was **AGREED** that clerk would contact DCC to request that everything be pulled out and re-bedded for the winter and also to comment on the lack of satisfaction with the service provided.

Budget 2022/23 – Council Tax bases for next year would soon be available and budget planning will need to be arranged to be agreed before January 2022.

Hours Worked – Anticipated to be 13-14 for October and it was AGREED for payment to be made at the end of the quarter.

128/21 Accounts for Payment

Andy Purves – Grass Cutting £472.00 + £94.40 VAT = £566.40

Lanchester Community Centre – Room Hire 26th October - £14.50

It was **AGREED** for payments to be made.

129/21 Local Government Pay Claim 2021

Clerk informed the meeting that the Local Government Pay Claim had still not been settled and he had been advised to remind councillors of this as the increase had not therefore been felt in budgets – although not a major consideration for Greencroft Parish.

130/21 Seat and Fence Inspections

Jane Cain had carried out the monthly check. Maintenance work was still required but there had been no further deterioration noted.

The hiring of equipment was not feasible due to the time it would be needed and plans were in place to hand sand the seats and tables when weather permits it.

131/21 Questions from Members

None received.

132/21 Chair Announcements

None.

133/21 Any Other Business

There had been notification of a Consultation regarding some leisure facilities in County Durham – the nearest one being at Pity Me, Durham.

It was **AGREED** that there were no comments to be made by Greencroft Parish but there was a general discussion regarding the fact leisure facilities were still not back to pre-COVID levels.

134/21 Next Meeting

Tuesday 30th November 6.00pm at Lanchester Community Centre and also via Zoom