Greencroft Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 30 November 2021

Present: Sandra McDonagh, John Johnson, Jane Cain, Vivien Self, Barbara Jamieson, Councillor Michael McGaun, Paul McAdam (Clerk)

Apologies: Dorothy Parry and Councillor Douglas Oliver – Noted and accepted.

135/21 Declarations of Interest

None.

136/21 Public Participation

None.

137/21 Minutes of the last Meeting

Resolved that the Minutes of the last meeting held on 26 October 2021 be **AGREED** as a correct record.

138/21 Planning and Road works

DCC reports had been circulated – no matters raised.

139/21 Budget

2021/22 budget position circulated prior to meeting and Clerk provided a verbal summary which was that the budget was currently projected to underspend but mainly because planned work on an information leaflet had not yet happened and no invoice had yet been received for maintenance of the flower bed.

Discussion around the production of an information leaflet for the general public of the parish and it was **AGREED** that Barbara Jamieson would produce a draft leaflet for consideration at the next meeting.

For 2022/23 there would be an increase in precept available for Greencroft Parish of approximately £1,200 due to extra housing in the parish – this would be without asking for any increase from the public.

Suggestions regarding ideas for any spending increases to be made by 10th December to allow a draft budget to be prepared and circulated with agreement required at the next meeting on 18th January 2022.

140/21 County Councillor Update

Councillor Michael McGaun provided an update.

Storm Arwen – had caused substantial damage and left parts of the ward without power. Powergrid overwhelmed with work and generators were being rolled out but were in limited supply. Lanchester Community Centre was staying open later than usual until 9pm to provide warmth and light to those that wanted it.

COVID19 – The infection rate in County Durham was currently below the national average.

Remembrance Sunday – 3 x celebrations attended by County Councillors

Consett Swimming Pool – re-opening Spring 2022

Lumiere – had taken place again and drawn a large number of visitors to the area

141/21 Clerk Update

Online Banking – Clerk has registered and has all the necessary equipment and has online access to view statements, payments etc
Chair has registered and is waiting for equipment to be delivered.
Vice Chair has tried to register but has been told that he has already been issued with equipment back in 2017.
Clerk to check through old correspondence, files for any information.

Flower Bed – No further information from DCC re maintenance – clerk to chase up

Section 106 Funding – Maiden View – Some information provided by Mid Durham AAP but not clear as to whether any funding was received. It was **AGREED** that the clerk would make further enquiries.

Hours Worked – 12 for November and it was AGREED for payment to be made at the end of the quarter.

142/21 Accounts for Payment

Lanchester Community Centre – Room Hire 30th November - £14.50

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

143/21 White Fencing at Parish Boundary

It had been reported that the white fencing at the border of Greencroft Parish (when entering from Annfield Plain) had been damaged and it was **AGREED** that Clerk would report the damage to Durham County Council and request repairs to be carried out.

144/21 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.

145/21 Questions from Members

None received.

146/21 Chair Announcements

None.

147/21 Next Meeting

Tuesday 18th January 2022 at 6.00pm at Lanchester Community Centre and also via Zoom