

Greencroft Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26 April 2022

Present: Sandra McDonagh (Chair), Jane Cain, Vivien Self, Dorothy Parry, Councillor Mike McGaun, Paul McAdam (Clerk)

Apologies: John Johnson, Barbara Jamieson, Councillor Douglas Oliver – All noted and accepted.

43/22 Declarations of Interest

None.

44/22 Public Participation

None.

45/22 Minutes of the last Meeting

Resolved that the Minutes of the last meeting held on 29 March 2022 be **AGREED** as a correct record.

46/22 Planning and Road works

DCC reports had been circulated – no matters raised.

47/22 Budget

2021/22 final budget position circulated prior to meeting, which showed an underspend of £1,200 – mainly due to budgeted work to flower beds that had not been paid due to quality of work.

Balance held at year end of £8,000, of which £1,200 is Election Reserves.

Budget for 2022/23 also circulated – precept had been received but no payments made yet.

48/22 County Councillor Update

County Councillors Mike McGaun provided an update.

On a countywide level the City of Culture bid is moving at pace with the bid focussing on the fact it is a bid for a county not just a city.

It has been confirmed that the building which was developed as the new County Hall will be sold to Durham University, subject to planning permission for its change of use.

Road Safety continues to be an issue – with councillors still awaiting a response from Highways regarding issues in Greencroft Parish and on a wider basis.

49/22 Clerk Update

Flower Bed – Meeting arranged for 30th March with DCC at the flower bed to discuss plans for future maintenance and also details obtained of another contractor if DCC plans are not satisfactory.

White Fence Repair – Lanchester Parish Council had not had any issues with these gateways so were unable to advise. Contact made with AAP to try and establish arrangements but awaiting a full response.

Damaged Tree – Quote received from Olivers of £240 to remove the remains of the damaged tree and also remove dead trees from the flower bed.

It was **AGREED** to give Olivers agreement to proceed with the work and circulate the date this will take place to enable the fence to be checked as Olivers will not touch the fence.

Hours Worked – 15 hours worked in April, higher due to extra calls and work associated with flower bed, gateway fence and tree damage.

50/22 Accounts for Payment

Information Commissioner – Data Protection Fee 2022/23 - £40.00

CDALC – Subscription Charge 2022/23 - £41.10

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

51/22 Information Leaflet

Delays with Barbara Jamieson getting access to the website to update but this has now been resolved and Barbara will check and update the website as soon as possible to ensure it is up to date and that leaflets can be delivered before the meeting in May hopefully.

52/22 Grass Cutting

Quote received from A.D Purves for grass cutting in 2023.

Individual prices on breakdown had risen by between 6.25% and 29% but overall, for the same work as in 2022 this would see an increase in cost from £472 to £522.50, an increase of 10.7%.

It was also **AGREED** to proceed with this work and that the clerk would make contact to arrange.

53/22 Future Meeting Format

Lynwood House was now available for meetings again but it was **AGREED** that Zoom would also be used for councillors who still felt unwilling to attend due to COVID concerns.

54/22 Seat and Fence Inspections

Jane Cain had carried out the monthly check and identified no further changes in conditions since last month. It was **AGREED** that councillors would meet in the park prior to the next meeting to then discuss any repairs or replacements required.

55/22 Questions from Members

None received.

56/22 Chair Announcements

None.

57/22 Next Meeting

Tuesday 31st May at 6.00pm at Lynwood House