

Greencroft Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 29 March 2022

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

Apologies: John Johnson – Noted and accepted.

28/22 Declarations of Interest

None.

29/22 Public Participation

None.

30/22 Minutes of the last Meeting

Resolved that the Minutes of the last meeting held on 22 February 2022 be **AGREED** as a correct record.

31/22 Planning and Road works

DCC reports had been circulated – no matters raised.

32/22 Budget

2021/22 budget position circulated prior to meeting, as well as a projection of the overall spend if other payments are approved and made.

Clerk provided a verbal summary which was that the budget was currently projected to underspend by £1,200 which was mainly due to the underspend on Flower Beds due to issues with the work, although this was still not fully resolved and some payment could still be due.

33/22 County Councillor Update

County Councillors Douglas Oliver and Mike McGaun provided an update.

On a countywide level the County of Culture bid is progressing well with Durham down to the last four on the shortlist. If successful it would be a great opportunity to showcase County Durham to the rest of the country.

On a local level the Council has agreed that the DLI Museum will be redeveloped and reopened as a DLI Museum and Art Gallery with an exhibition centre, gallery and hospitality venue.

Discussions are ongoing about the building which was developed as the new County Hall and Cabinet will be meeting about the options.

Road Safety continues to be an issue – with the main road in Greencroft Parish being one of the areas of concern. Meetings with Highways have taken place to discuss the position and further discussions are planned.

34/22 Clerk Update

Flower Bed – Clerk had tried via telephone calls and emails to discuss further with DCC but had not received any replies at all.

Regarding 2022/23 it was **AGREED** that the clerk should contact Esh Parish Council to enquire who maintains their flower beds.

White Fence Repair – No success locating any previous correspondence/emails regarding maintenance of the White Fences so it was **AGREED** that the clerk should contact Lanchester Parish Council and possibly other councils to enquire who has repaired their fences when necessary.

Hours Worked – 12 hours worked in March, making a total for the quarter of 42.

35/22 Accounts for Payment

Lanchester Community Centre – Room Hire 29th March - £15.50

CP Print Services – Leaflet Printing - £65.00

Paul McAdam – Clerk Salary for Jan to Mar 2022 - £485.95

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

36/22 Information Leaflet

Information leaflet had now been printed and examples were circulated at the meeting.

2 quotes had been received for the printing - £55 and £79.

It was felt that the quality of the second option was better value overall and CP Print Services were asked to complete the work.

Leaflets will be distributed after website has been updated – which Barbara agreed to check and update.

It was **AGREED** that the clerk would contact web site host to arrange website access for Barbara.

37/22 Risk Review Report and Asset Register

Risk Review Report and Risk Assessment were discussed and **AGREED**. The Asset Register was **AGREED** and it was also **AGREED** that the clerk would retain the old laptop with Parish files and documents.

38/22 Storm Damage

Local resident Dixon Thomas had been given authority at the last meeting to remove the fallen tree and keep the wood on condition that all of the wood was cleared and the fence repaired. However, before he had done so, somebody else has removed the large pieces of the tree but left the smaller branches and a mess and also not repaired the fence.

It was **AGREED** that the clerk would contact Olivers and ask if they could remove the remainder of the tree.

39/22 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 should individually check seats in the park prior to the next meeting to then discuss any repairs or replacements required.

40/22 Questions from Members

None received.

41/22 Chair Announcements

None.

42/22 Next Meeting

Tuesday 26th April at 6.00pm at Lynwood House