

## Greencroft Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26 July 2022 at 6.00pm at Lynwood House,  
Lanchester

**Present:** Sandra McDonagh, Dorothy Parry, Vivien Self, County Councillor Douglas Oliver,  
County Councillor Mike McGaun, Paul McAdam (Clerk)

**Apologies:** Jane Cain, Barbara Jamieson, Gavin Jarvis, John Johnson – all noted and  
accepted

### **94/22 Declarations of Interest**

None.

### **95/22 Public Participation**

None.

### **96/22 Minutes of the last Meeting**

**Resolved** that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 28 June 2022 required 2  
amendments – Gavins name being spelt incorrectly and an amendment of the section on  
the Flower Bed (85/22).

### **97/22 Planning and Road works**

DCC reports had been circulated – no matters raised.

Discussion around the proposed Solar Farm in which it was noted that there had been 200  
separate letters from Burnhope residents handed in via County Councillors, most of which  
objected to the scale of the scheme such as the size of the fences.

Discussion clarified that an individuals view being affected was not a valid objection but  
points such as the blocking of a right of way were valid.

Letter submitted by Greencroft Parish Council includes that the application only actually  
meets one of the 21 objectives within the Spatial Vision for County Durham included in the  
County Durham Plan.

### **98/22 County Councillor Update**

County Councillors Douglas Oliver and Mike McGaun updated the meeting:

- Durham University had successfully made a Change of Use Application to use the site  
formerly intended as the new County Hall to be used as a university facility so the  
sale would now proceed.
- There is an ongoing issue concerning the culvert within the Maiden View  
development which does not appear to have been built to specification and there is  
a concern about a child falling into ponds which are forming.
- After the extreme temperatures of last week there had been further weather  
warnings for more hot weather in the coming weeks.

### **99/22 Clerk Update**

White Fence Repair – Still awaiting further update from Mid Durham AAP and it was discussed that there had been significant staffing changes within Highways Teams in general within DCC which were causing issues locating historical information/details. It was **AGREED** that the clerk would continue to request updates.

Hours Worked – Estimated 13 hours for July and it was **AGREED** for these to be paid at the end of the quarter.

### **100/22 Christmas Lights for Park**

Clerk had circulated information regarding potential Christmas Lights for the park area which would not require an electrical source. There were a few options which included connectable sets of lights so decisions would be required on how much was required.

It was **AGREED** that the clerk would make enquiries with other smaller councils about any Christmas Lights that they may have including how they were erected in tree areas.

### **101/22 Budget**

2022/23 budget position circulated prior to meeting.

Discussion around the flower beds and there was a verbal request to County Councillors if they could help with any funding towards new bulbs for the park as part of a 'Jubilee Flower Bed' and it was suggested that £200 would cover these costs.

### **102/22 Accounts for Payment**

Durham County Council – Grass Cutting £445.60 plus £89.10 VAT = £534.60

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

### **103/22 Advert for Vacant Councillor Role**

One vacancy had been filled recently with the co-option of Gavin Jarvis to the Parish Council but there was still one vacancy. There was an out of date advert on the website regarding vacancies and it was **AGREED** that the clerk would update this advert to make it an open ended advert on the website until such time as the vacancy was filled and also display the advert on the noticeboard.

**104/22 Seat and Fence Inspections**

No update available as Jane Cain was not present.

**105/22 Questions from Members**

None received.

**106/22 Chair Announcements**

None.

**107/22 Next Meeting**

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 6.00pm at Lynwood House and also via Zoom