

Greencroft Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 28 June 2022 at 6.00pm at Lynwood House,
Lanchester

Present: Sandra McDonagh, Dorothy Parry, Jane Cain, Vivien Self, Gavin Jarvis, County Councillor Douglas Oliver, Paul McAdam (Clerk)

Apologies: Barbara Jamieson, John Johnson – both noted and accepted

79/22 Declarations of Interest

None.

80/22 Public Participation

None.

81/22 Minutes of the last Meeting

Resolved that the Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 31 May 2022 be **AGREED** as a correct record.

Resolved that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 31 May 2022 be **AGREED** as a correct record

82/22 Co-option of New Councillor

Discussion with Gavin Jarvis who had responded to the Information Leaflet attempting to fill vacancies on the council. It was **AGREED** that Gavin met the criteria and he completed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office form.

83/22 Planning and Road works

DCC reports had been circulated – no matters raised.

84/22 County Councillor Update

County Councillor Douglas Oliver updated the meeting:

- Within full council there was increasing attention on road safety across wards
- Consett Swimming Pool re-opening with extra sessions in holiday for children and families
- An application had been submitted for a Solar Array near Burnhope and there had been some complaints mainly regarding loss of views and re-routing of walkways. Any comments could be made to the County Councillors or via the portal. It was **AGREED** that comments by Greencroft Parish Council would be considered later when more details were known.

85/22 Clerk Update

Flower Bed – It had been clarified that the quote from DCC of £678.23 plus VAT for the bedding work was for only 1 planting and no maintenance work. The revised quote for 2 plantings and maintenance was £1,105.

It had been agreed that councillors would look to plant and maintain the flower bed rather than source an organisation. Vivien and Jane had purchased plants and had planted these in the flower bed.

It was **AGREED** that the situation will be monitored and further purchasing of flowers and trees will be arranged as the budget is now projected to underspend in that area.

Additionally a £100 grant from the County Councillors has been received from the Queens Jubilee Fund to purchase a floral tribute during 2022.

White Fence Repair – Mid Durham AAP had confirmed that there had been some funding set aside for these matters and they were trying to establish whether this was still available or had been used on other fences/gates in the area – such as the one at the bottom of the village that was previously damaged, creating a hazard and therefore replaced.

The damaged white fence at the top of the village has been totally removed.

Awaiting further update from Mid Durham AAP.

Parish Map – Clerk had contacted Durham County Council and sourced a new Parish Map which had been circulated for comments. It was **AGREED** that the map was much clearer and that arrangements should be made to add it to the Parish Website.

Christmas Lights – Clerk had carried out some research and there was a massive variety of options available. It was **AGREED** that the clerk would carry out further research and provide details at the next meeting.

Hours Worked – Estimated 15 hours for June, making 43.5 hours worked in the quarter and it was **AGREED** for these to be paid at the end of the quarter.

86/22 Budget

2022/23 budget position circulated prior to meeting.

Spreadsheet to be reviewed to check all formulas correct and to show costs excluding VAT

87/22 Accounts for Payment

Refund to Jane Cain for flowers purchased - £90.78 plus £18.13 VAT

Ink required for printer – approx. £40.00 for genuine ink from HP

Clerk Salary for quarter - £384.68

Clerk tax - £96.00

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

88/22 Risk Assessment and Asset Register

Risk Assessment and Asset Register were circulated prior to the meeting and were discussed and **AGREED**. It was noted that they had been incorrectly dated and it was **AGREED** that the clerk would amend review date to 28/6/22.

89/22 Nominations for County Durham Association of Local Councils

Discussion around any nominations and there was nobody who wished to be nominated. Further discussion around other meetings and it was felt that the Smaller Councils Forum was one of the most relevant and it was **AGREED** that without appointing a particular representative, any councillor could attend if possible.

90/22 Seat and Fence Inspections

Jane Cain had carried out the monthly check and identified no further changes in conditions since last month. All appeared safe and sound although some in the park would benefit from some sanding work.

91/22 Questions from Members

None received.

92/22 Chair Announcements

None.

93/22 Next Meeting

Tuesday 26th July at 6.00pm at Lynwood House and also via Zoom