

Greencroft Parish Council

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 27 February 2024 at 6.00pm at Lynwood House,
Lanchester**

**Present: Sandra McDonagh, Jane Cain, Vivien Self, Ann Bell, Gavin Jarvis, Paul McAdam
(Clerk)**

Apologies: Dorothy Parry, County Councillor Mike McGaun

23/24 Declarations of Interest

None.

24/24 Public Participation

None.

25/24 Minutes of the last Meeting

Resolved that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 30 January 2024 be **AGREED** as a correct record

26/24 Planning and Road works

DCC reports had been circulated.

27/24 County Councillor Update

Not applicable as no County Councillors in attendance.

28/24 Clerk Update

Risk Assessment / Asset Register

Not yet updated since last comments at last meeting.

To update at future meeting.

Damaged Seat

Information on seat requested had been provided to contractor who has passed to his insurers.

Checked again with contractor prior to meeting and still no response from insurers.

Noticeboard

Confirmation of order has been made and payment forwarded to start the production process. Awaiting installation details.

Lay By

Condition of the lay by had been reported to Durham County Council via Do It Online and awaiting a response

Hours Worked – 11 hours for February and it was **AGREED** for these to be paid at the end of the quarter.

29/24 Budget

2023/24 budget position circulated prior to meeting – no queries received about contents.

Discussion about expenditure.

Projected underspend of approximately £2,500 but there were factors around this.

£800 has been budgeted for costs associated with traffic calming measures but this work has not yet commenced by Durham County Council.

£600 grant received from Kings Coronation Fund for work to be carried out on borders but waiting until after winter to carry out any work.

£100 budgeted for donations – but no donation yet made.

It was **AGREED** that the clerk would follow up with Durham County Council regarding the delays to the installation of the speed visors as it is now over a year since the initial and the exact locations have not yet even been finalised and it could be embarrassing explaining to public why funds have not been spent and need to be carried over.

It was **AGREED** that the clerk would also contact Willowburn Hospice about donating £100 to the organisation.

It was discussed and **AGREED** that the clerk would also contact Chapmans Well Fishery to visit the park to discuss and advise on work that could be carried out.

Total budget for 2024/25 has been agreed but there would be discussion at the March meeting about the breakdown of the budget.

30/24 Accounts for Payment

None

31/24 Traffic Issues in Village

No further update on speed visors – clerk to contact DCC (as per 29/24 above).

Vivien had been approached by a local resident about 2 separate road traffic incidents

One – driving in the car coming up from Lanchester and was almost stationary and signalling right to turn into his lane – when a car travelling in the same direction overtook him, driving at speed on the right hand side he was about to turn across.

Second one – walking his dog at night and crossing Lanchester Road above the bus shelter when a vehicle was speeding up the road. The driver then stopped to remonstrate with him for crossing the road.

Additionally there have been further examples of unacceptable parking at the Pip Stop creating dangerous situations for pedestrians by completely blocking the path – photographic evidence to be sent to clerk and it was **AGREED** that the clerk will write to Durham County Council about all of these concerns.

32/24 Ultrafast Full Fibre Broadband

It had been identified by a resident that Ultrafast Full Fibre broadband is not available in their post code (DH7 0QS) and is not currently in the build plans of Openreach and isn't covered by the UK Governments subsidised programme.

There is an alternative way to bring Ultrafast Full Fibre broadband to the area which would involve the community identifying and securing further funding.

Discussion about broadband issues – now, and in the future, and it was **AGREED** that Gavin would make further enquiries about the issue.

33/24 Seat and Fence Inspections

Jane Cain had carried out the monthly check and identified that there was nothing further to report.

Nathan Waters had agreed that he could look at repairing the damage previously reported so it was **AGREED** that Ann would contact him again to ask for a quote for the work which could then be discussed by council and, if agreed, the work could be carried out and potentially he could be used for further work.

34/24 Questions from Members

None received.

35/24 Chair Announcements

The Chair updated that Burnhope residents had won their Judicial Review and that the planning permission had been unlawfully granted by Durham County Council.

This is unlikely to be the end of the matter in respect of a large development which, although not within Greencroft Parish, it is intended for the surrounding area.

It was **AGREED** that the clerk will contact Burnhope Parish Council to ask if they are undergoing any work around this issue and to offer the support of Greencroft Parish Council to any efforts.

36/24 Any Other Business

It was pointed out that there is no Neighbourhood Plan for Greencroft Parish and it was **AGREED** that this would be added to the agenda for the next meeting..

37/24 Next Meeting

Tuesday 26th March at 6.00pm at Lynwood House, Lanchester.