

Greencroft Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 30 April 2024 at 6.00pm at Lynwood House,
Lanchester

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

Apologies: County Councillor Mike McGaun

53/24 Declarations of Interest

Ann Bell declared a potential interest regarding the Greencroft Park development as she lives on the estate.

54/24 Public Participation

None.

55/24 Minutes of the last Meeting

Resolved that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 26 March 2024 be **AGREED** as a correct record

56/24 Greencroft Park Development

Presentation by Cllr David Smith from Lanchester Parish Council regarding the potential afforestation scheme at Greencroft Park, the potential implications and his understanding of some of the facts quoted by the developers, particularly around carbon capture. It was **AGREED** that Paul would be provided with the presentation by Lanchester Parish Council and circulate to councillors.

It was noted that the tree planting scheme and the accommodation lodges are 2 very different proposals on the estate and should be thought of as separate.

57/24 Planning and Road works

DCC reports had been circulated.

58/24 County Councillor Update

Not applicable as none present

59/24 Clerk Update

Damaged Seat

Still waiting for feedback from gardeners insurers.

Noticeboard

Design received from suppliers and approved – awaiting details of installation.

Park Work

Ann is still waiting to hear from Nathan Waters about cost of his time for work carried out and his willingness to carry out future work.

Solar Farm

Spoke with clerk at Burnhope Parish Council. They feel currently in state of limbo following Judicial Review until any further plans from developer. It was **AGREED** that we would keep in touch and link up when any further plans are made public.

Audit

Struggling to find an auditor due to potential unavailability of previous auditor. Paul has tried several options with Durham County Council unsuccessfully. It was **AGREED** to try previous auditor once again and explain the lack of success in finding a replacement and ask if he would consider doing it one last time.

It was also **AGREED** to contact Lanchester and Burnhope Parish Councils to enquire about their auditors and if any may be interested in carrying out another one.

Barbara Jamieson Attendance

It was noted that Barbara had not been able to attend meetings for several months now due to work commitments but had not sent apologies since November and was now approaching 6 months without attending and therefore at risk of being suspended as a councillor. It was **AGREED** that Paul would get in touch to explain this to her.

Hours Worked – 12 hours for April and it was **AGREED** for these to be paid at the end of the quarter.

60/24 Budget

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

2024/25 budget position so far circulated prior to meeting – no queries.

61/24 Accounts for Payment

CDALC 24/25 Subscription - £47.46

Total Results Ltd – Domain Renewal and Website Hosting - £105.00

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

It was also noted that the Data Protection Fee of £35.00 would be collected by direct debit on 22/5/24 as agreed last year.

62/24 Traffic Issues in Village

A complaint had been made to a councillor from a resident about parking by visitors to the pub – where people had been parking on the road and even on residents lawns. It was **AGREED** that any photographs could be sent to Paul to be retained and reported to DCC as

necessary. However, residents should also be encouraged to report incident themselves to DCC and/or Durham Police.

However, they should also be reminded that any restrictions imposed would also affect residents as well.

It was **AGREED** that it may be possible to publicise parking reporting methods on the new noticeboard or on the Parish Council website.

63/24 Neighbourhood Plan

Discussion on a Neighbourhood Plan and the fact that there is not one in place and Lanchester Parish Council, for example, have a very good one.

It was **AGREED** that the issue should be explored further and the item should be left on the agenda to discuss further.

It was also **AGREED** that Paul would try and find examples of any plans for similar sized parish councils to Greencroft.

64/24 Seat and Fence Inspections

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

The work that Vivien had carried out on the raised border was discussed and the chair expressed her appreciation for the work that had been carried out.

65/24 Questions from Members

None received.

66/24 Chair Announcements

None.

67/24 Any Other Business

None

68/24 Next Meeting

Tuesday 28th May at 6.00pm at Lynwood House, Lanchester.