

Greencroft Parish Council

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 25 March 2025 at 6.00pm at Lynwood House,
Lanchester**

Present: Dorothy Parry (Chair), Jane Cain, Vivien Self, Ann Bell, Gavin Jarvis, Paul McAdam (Clerk), County Councillor Mike McGaun

Apologies : Sandra McDonagh, County Councillor Doug Oliver

35/25 Declarations of Interest

Ann Bell has an interest in Greencroft Park site and will leave the meeting for that item.

36/25 Public Participation

None.

37/25 Minutes of the last Meeting

Resolved that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 18 February 2025 be **AGREED** as a correct record

38/25 Planning

DCC reports had been circulated.

39/25 County Councillor Update

County Councillor Mike McGaun updated the meeting.

- Election period commencing prior to County Council and Parish Council elections on 1st may
- Businesses encouraged to sign up for food waste collections
- Durham Story launched – an new approach to promoting the county
- Durham Brass Festival and Durham City Run Festival to return in 2025
- Work with police to increase taxi safety
- The Story now holds the war medals of the Fighting Bradfords – a highly decorated family from Co Durham
- Planning permission for the BP Solar Farm has been rejected following a planning meeting

40/25 Clerk Update

Maintenance Nathan Waters has not yet commenced work on the seats.

Park Area – Fred Emmerson has repaired fence as agreed and it was **AGREED** to pay his agreed invoice when it arrived.

He had identified further work was required but this would need tractor access to the field so permission of the landowner would be required.

It was **AGREED** that Paul would pay the appropriate fee and enquire with Land Registry who owns the field.

Hours Worked – Anticipated to be 14 for March and it was **AGREED** for these to be paid at the end of the quarter.

41/25 Budget

2024/25 budget position circulated prior to meeting – no questions regarding position.

Final budget to be shared after 31st March and also the budget for 2025/26.

42/25 Accounts for Payment

None – awaiting invoice from Fred Emmerson of £100 +VAT which it was **AGREED** to pay Clerk salary to be paid as previously agreed.

43/25 Traffic Issues in Village

There was a discussion around the Vehicle Activated Signage following the recent meeting between DCC Traffic Management and Parish Councillors. Greencroft Parish Council had previously indicated that the proposed locations by DCC would be acceptable but after further discussion it was **AGREED** that this was not the case.

It was **AGREED** that Paul would contact DCC to confirm that Greencroft Parish Council did not feel that these locations would be appropriate and that the work should not proceed at this stage.

Due to the changes following the Boundary Review, it was **AGREED** that this would be discussed with the new county councillors after the election in May.

It was noted that a speed van had recently been monitoring vehicles in Maiden Law and it was **AGREED** that Paul would contact Durham Police to request data.

44/25 Greencroft Holiday Park

Ann Bell left the meeting for this discussion

This matter had been added as a standing agenda item but it was **AGREED** that this was not necessary now as the objection had been submitted and the matter would be added to future agendas as and when necessary.

45/25 AGAR Return – New Auditor

AGAR return will be prepared during April and our previous auditor has confirmed that he no longer has capacity to carry out this work.

Paul had contacted Lanchester Parish Council for details of their auditor and contacted Gordon Fletcher who had said he could carry out the exercise for his minimum fee of £100.

It was **AGREED** that Paul would contact him and ask that he carries out this piece of work.

46/25 Seat and Fence Inspections

Jane had carried out the inspection and no further issues had been identified.

Ann would circulate details of the seat that had been identified as a potential purchase.

47/25 Questions from Members

None received.

48/25 Chair Announcements

None.

49/25 Any Other Business

None

50/25 Next Meeting

Tuesday 29th April at 6.00pm at Lynwood House.