

Minutes of a meeting of **NORTH GOSFORTH PARISH COUNCIL** held at St. Aidan's Community Centre, Brunton Park on Wednesday 20th April 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Councillors D. Phillipson (Chairman), Dr. B. Agnew, E. Alder, A. Cooke, Miss V. Hay, Mrs. A. Mears and Mrs. H. Robinson.

Also in Attendance: City Councillors Mrs. D. Packham and J. Shipley.

1. APOLOGIES

Councillors J. Gray and Mrs. P.M. Spearing.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 16th March 2011, copies of which had previously been circulated to members, were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3. COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

The consultation period for Brunton Park and Melton Park residents had closed on 21st March. City Council staff had yet to analyse the responses but informal indications were that there had been in the region of 200 individual submissions and the vast majority supported the Parish Council's case for boundary review to remove the Great Park area from the parish.

An officer's report would be submitted to the City Council's Constitutional Committee in June.

It was agreed that the report be noted.

4. ONGOING ISSUES

Reference was made to the following issues:

- No progress on repairs to the fence in the lay by to the east of the Great North Road.
- It was hoped that work on the road and pavements in Greenfield Road would start shortly.
- There had been several complaints from Great Park residents about the operation of the new shop in Featherstone Grove. The licence application was due to be heard on 17th May.
- It was suggested that the repairs needed to the private pavement outside Jan Forsters could be carried out at the same time as the City Council undertook work in Greenfield Road.

It was agreed that these matters be noted and pursued, as appropriate.

5. PLANTING AND MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

The City Council had carried out the shrub planting in the Parish Council planters and at the entrance to Melton Park. There were concerns about the 22 planters at Brunton Park shops and the City Council had been asked to revisit these planters and undertake further planting, in accordance with the agreed contract.

Further work was scheduled for the end of the month.

It was agreed that the invoice for the work be paid, in light of the latest assurances received from City Council staff.

6. NORTHUMBRIAN WATER – BRUNTON PARK FLOODING

Northumbrian Water was still holding meetings with interested parties before finalising a preferred solution to alleviate flooding problems in Brunton Park.

It was agreed that Northumbrian Water be asked for regular updates with a view to a scheme being costed and finalised as quickly as possible.

7. LOCAL COUNCIL REGISTRATION AS PAYE EMPLOYERS

Interpretation of latest advice from HMRC was ongoing but it appeared likely that the Parish Council would have to register as a PAYE employer for the 2011/12 tax year. In practice, this meant that the Clerk would be paid monthly net of tax and HMRC would be paid directly by the Parish Council. The Clerk's tax coding would be revised to remove the Parish Council's salary from his personal tax assessment.

It was agreed that the Clerk liaise with HMRC about making the necessary arrangements to comply with the latest guidance.

8. ELECTION MAY 2011

No Parish Council election would be needed as 9 nominations had been received by the City Council for the 10 Parish Council places. There would be one vacancy and the Parish Council could fill this quickly by co-option. Councillor J. Gray had missed the deadline date for submission of nominations but wished to continue as a Parish Councillor.

It was agreed that the Clerk be asked to put in motion the necessary arrangements for filling the vacancy by co-option.

9. MOBILE GENERATOR FOR ROYAL WEDDING CELEBRATION

Councillor Dr. B. Agnew reported that he had spent considerable time trying to make his mobile generator operational for use at the Royal wedding event. Despite his best efforts, he had been unable to get the generator to work properly.

It was understood that Great Park residents had made alternative arrangements.

It was agreed that Councillor Dr. B. Agnew be thanked for his efforts on behalf of the Parish Council.

10. PARKING IN POLWARTH DRIVE/PRINCES ROAD

Cars were still being parked on both sides of Polwarth Drive and disabled residents were experiencing difficulty in using the dropped kerbs as they were regularly obstructed by parked vehicles.

It was agreed that the City Council be asked to introduce no parking restrictions on Polwarth Drive on one side along the length of Lincoln Green.

11. DOG CONTROL ORDERS

The City Council intended to introduce Dog Control Orders for the Great Park. The orders would bring the Great Park in line with most of the City area and allow the Dog Warden to take action against dog owners who failed to control their dogs and/or allowed them to foul without picking up afterwards.

It was agreed that the proposed orders be welcomed.

12. NEWCASTLE GREAT PARK

Councillor Miss V. Hay reported that the next Great Park Advisory Committee meeting would be held in June. She had reminded Turney-Wilde about the need to seed the kick about area. There had been a meeting last week about the bus gate.

Councillor D. Down had supplied the Chairman with a map which showed adopted highway at the top of Greenfield Road/Brunton Lane. It clarified that the end of Netherwitton Way leading on to Greenfield Road was not adopted.

It was agreed that the Great Park report be received.

13. CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence were reported:

- CE Electric consultation events.
- Community Action Northumberland – request for donations.
- Parish/Town Council training.
- E-mails about trees at the Scout Hut and Chapel Close. It was noted that bark chippings left near the Scout Hut were a fire hazard.

It was agreed that the correspondence be noted and pursued, as appropriate.

14. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 2010/11

Arrangements were being made for the annual audit and the appropriate advert would be displayed in May. It was intended to ask the Parish Council to approve the

accounts at the next meeting, prior to sending them to the external auditor for the audit in June.

It was agreed that the arrangements for the audit be noted.

15. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were approved for payment:

Clerk's salary for month ended 31 st March 2011	£400:00
Postages, phone calls, stationery etc	10:00
	£410:00
Newcastle City Council – Shrubs, bedding and annual maintenance	£1,910:33
VAT at 20%	382:07
	£2,292:40
Zurich Insurance Annual Premium 2011/12	£291:50

16. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

No comments on applications at 134, Warkworth Woods, 17, Queensway, 50, Clayworth Road, 36, Princes Road, 51, Barmoor Drive and TPO application at Gosforth Steadings.

Application granted at 38, Park Drive and application refused at 6, Heathfield Place.

17. OTHER ISSUES

The following issues were raised;

- Landscaping and infrastructure work ongoing on the Great Park.
- Dog dirt on Greenfield Road.
- Proposals to convert Three Mile Inn into a hotel.

It was agreed that these matters be noted.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the annual Parish Council meeting be held on Wednesday 18th May 2011 at 7:05 p.m., immediately following the annual parish meeting.