

Minutes of the meeting of the **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2010** at **7.15 p.m.**

**PRESENT** Councillor V Crosby (Chairman) and  
Councillors S Bambridge, W M Blenkinsopp, Mrs B A Clare, J D Clare, W Curtis, Mrs M Dalton, P Ducker, R S Fleming, G C Gray, I Gray, Mrs J Gray, B Haigh, Mrs S Haigh, B Hall, K Henderson, M Iveson, Mrs S J Iveson, W Iveson, Mrs E M Paylor, Mrs V M Raw and A Warburton

**OFFICIALS** Mr A Bailey (Town Clerk)  
Mr S Cooper (Environment Officer)  
Mrs M J Robinson (Leisure & Environment Assistant)  
Mr D Thompson (Works Manager)  
Mr D Austin (Finance Manager)

42. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs D Bowman, T Hogan and Mrs A Palmer.

43. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**Declarations of interest were declared by Councillors Mrs E M Paylor and Mrs S J Iveson for item No 13 (Planning Applications) on the agenda as members of Durham County Council's Development Committee.**

44. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no public questions.

45. **WARM HOMES CAMPAIGN**

The presentation by Mr J Martin had to be postponed as he was unable to attend the re-scheduled meeting.

**RESOLVED** –that it be recommended

- i) that Mr Martin be invited to a future meeting of the Environment Committee.

46. **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor R S Fleming, seconded by Councillor B Hall and

**RESOLVED** - that the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on the 20<sup>th</sup> October 2010 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

47. **ALLOTMENTS ANNUAL MEETING**

The Works Manager submitted notes recorded at the Allotment Annual Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2010.

**RESOLVED** – that it be recommended:

- i) That the notes of the meeting of the Allotment Annual Meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> November 2010 be received.

48. **ALLOTMENTS REPORT**

The Works Manager submitted his report for the six weeks ended the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2010. The report detailed inspections and general maintenance to the allotments as well as the waiting list figures for allotments.

**RESOLVED** - that it be recommended that the report be received

49. **ENVIRONMENT REPORT**

The Works Manager and Environment Officer submitted their report for the six weeks ended the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2010. The report set out details of burials and the work undertaken recently by the Environment Officer and volunteers.

**RESOLVED** - that it be recommended that the report be received

50. **WITHDRAWAL OF DURHAM COUNTY FUNDED DOG WASTE BAGS**

The Environment Officer submitted a report which advised that Durham County Council were withdrawing free dog waste bags.

Voting took place on the proposal for the Council to provide dog waste bags.

For	16
Against	4

**RESOLVED** – that it be recommended:

- i) that the report be received.
- ii) that the Council agree in principle to provide dog waste bags.
- iii) that officers liaise with other town and parish councils in the County with a view to bulk purchase bags.

51. **GRANTS OF GRAVE SPACE**

**RESOLVED** - that it be noted that the undermentioned grants of grave space have been issued:

West Cemetery

Grave No. R86	Anthony Savage
Grave No. R88	John Cousins
Grave No. R118	Nicola Clough
Grave No. J152	Susan Bulman

52. **ENVIRONMENT AGENCY**

Members considered a briefing note from the Environment Agency following the fire at Aycliffe Business Park.

**RESOLVED** – that it be recommended that the report be received.

53. **GREAT AYCLIFFE AND MIDDRIDGE PARTNERSHIP**

Members were requested to consider the notes and any matters arising from a meeting of the Environmental and Street Cleansing Task and Finish Group held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2010.

**RESOLVED** – that it be recommended that the notes be received.

54. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**Declarations of personal interests were submitted by Councillors Mrs E M Paylor and Mrs S J Iveson as members of Durham County Council. Councillor Mrs S J Iveson left the meeting during discussions, Councillor Mrs E M Paylor remained in the meeting during the discussion.**

**(1) The Committee considered the undermentioned planning application:**

- (a) Erection of single storey side extension to form annex, two storey rear extension and first floor extension to front – 25 The Bridle, Newton Aycliffe.
- (b) Erection of single storey sun room to rear – 32 Hurworth Hunt, Newton Aycliffe.
- (c) Change of use from retail use (Class A1) to estate agents office use (Class 2) – 80 Beveridge Way, Newton Aycliffe.
- (d) Change of use from waste land to domestic garden land to the rear of – 1 Bickford Terrace, Aycliffe Village.
- (e) Substitution of house type for plots 81/83 and 84 of previously approved planning application – Wakenshaw Drive, Site J, Cobblers Hall, Newton Aycliffe.
- (f) Change of use from grassed area to garden & erection of single story extension with disabled ramp, 78 Guthrum Place

- (g) Alteration to previously approved P/A 7/2010/0317/DM to create flat roof with balcony above the family room
- (h) Installation of broadband cabinet (prior approval determination)land at Heighington Lane/High Street, Aycliffe Village
- (2) The Council received for information the undermentioned planning applications, prior notice of which had been circulated to Chairman, Vice-Chairman and appropriate Ward Members. Durham County Council have been notified that the Council has no adverse comments:-**
  - (a) Change of use from open space to allotment site with the creation of 43 additional plots and erection of boundary fence – St. Oswald’s Allotments.
  - (b) Change of use from pre-school building to residential – 1 & 2 Village Close, Newton Aycliffe.
  - (c) Erection of shed (retrospective) – 3 Village Close, Newton Aycliffe.
  - (d) Erection of single storey extension – St. Josephs RC Junior and Infant School – Garburn Place, Newton Aycliffe.
  - (e) Erection of 2 conservatories and 2 car ports for display purposes – Bermingham House, Bluebridge Centre – Newton Aycliffe.
  - (f) Erection of additional wood pole with existing section of high voltage overhead line – Land at Aycliffe Quarry, Aycliffe Village.

**RESOLVED** - that it be recommended that:

- (i) applications 1(a) to 1(c) and 1 (e) to 1 (h) no objections
- (ii) application 1(d) that a comment be made to restrict use of the land to domestic garden only.
- (iii) applications 2(a) to 2(f) that the position be noted.

**55. PROPOSED ALDI SUPERMARKET**

Councillor R S Fleming advised members of an objection to the building plans for a proposed Aldi Supermarket in the Town Centre.

**RESOLVED** - that it be recommended:

- i) that the Town Clerk attend the meeting of the Area Planning Committee (South and West Durham) on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December to represent the views of the Town Council.

**CHAIRMAN.**