

Minutes of the meeting of the **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 22nd FEBRUARY 2012** at **7.15 p.m.**

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

IN ATTENDANCE Councillors W M Blenkinsopp and G R Gray

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

64. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs. D. Bowman, B. Haigh, Mrs. S. Haigh Mrs. K. Hopper, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson and W. Iveson.

65. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Declarations of interest were declared by Councillors Mrs J Gray and Mrs E Paylor for item No 10 (Planning Application) on the agenda as members of Durham County Council's Development Committee.

66. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from members of the public.

67. **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor B Hall, seconded by Councillor Mrs M Dalton and

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on the **11th January 2012** be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

68. **PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE**

It was proposed by Councillor B Hall, seconded by Councillor Mrs V Raw and

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Sub- Committee held on the **25th January and 15th February 2012** be confirmed as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

69. **ALLOTMENTS REPORT**

The Works Manager submitted his report for the six weeks ended the 12th February 2012. The report detailed inspections and general maintenance to the allotments.

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

70. **ENVIRONMENT REPORT**

The Works Manager and the Environment Officer submitted their report for the six weeks ended the 12th February 2012. The report set out details of the volunteer and community group initiatives, community events which had taken place and a progress report on Jubilee Woodland.

Information on burials was also set out in the report.

RESOLVED - that it be recommended that the report be received

71. **GRANTS OF GRAVE SPACE**

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

West Cemetery

Grave No. J 150	William Davies
Grave No. K 134	Paul Hogan

Stephenson Way Cemetery

Grave No. A 562	Steven Gillham and Joanne Webb
Grave No. F 114	Anita Gray

72. **JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS – TREE ON THE VILLAGE GREEN**

Members considered a letter from the Aycliffe Village hall Association (Jubilee Committee) which requested permission to plant a commemorative tree on the Village Green to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

RESOLVED - that it be recommended that:

- i) The letter be received.
- ii) Permission be given to plant a tree with a plaque to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee subject to Officers' agreement regarding the type and placement of the tree with members of the Jubilee Committee.

73. **PLANNING APPLICATION**

Declarations of personal interests were submitted by Councillors Mrs J Gray and Mrs E Paylor as members of Durham County Council but they remained in the meeting during the discussion.

The Committee considered a planning application which had been referred by the Planning Sub-Committee from its meeting on 25th January 2012:

Construction of 182 houses with associated infrastructure and landscaping works – Site O – Cobblers Hall, Newton Aycliffe.

RESOLVED - that it be recommended that agreement to the scheme be noted with the proviso that the Council's concerns regarding the drainage requirements of the area are addressed.

CHAIRMAN.