

Minutes of the meeting of the **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY, 27<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2013 at 7.15 p.m.**

**PRESENT**                    **Councillor V Crosby** (Chairman) and  
Councillors W.M. Blenkinsopp, Mrs. D. Bowman, Mrs. B.A. Clare, J.D. Clare, W. Curtis, P. Gittins, G.C. Gray, I. Gray, Mrs. J. Gray, B. Haigh, Mrs. S. Haigh, B. Hall, K. Henderson, Mrs. W.P. Hillary, Mrs. K. Hopper, M. Iveson, Mrs. S.J. Iveson, W. Iveson and Mrs. V.M. Raw.

**IN ATTENDANCE** Councillor J. Hillary

**OFFICIALS**                Mr. A. Bailey (Town Clerk)  
Mr. D. Thompson (Works Manager)  
Mrs. J. Thexton (Leisure Manager)  
Mr. N. Whinham (Golf Professional)  
Miss C. Ryder (Senior Admin Officer)

56.    **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors T.R. Bowman, Mrs. M. Dalton, R.S. Fleming, Mrs. A. Palmer and A. Warburton. Apologies were also received from Mr. S. Cooper (Environment Officer)

57.    **MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS**

No applications for dispensations had been received.

58.    **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest submitted.

59.    **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from the public.

60.    **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor B. Hall, seconded by Councillor J.D. Clare and

**RESOLVED** - that the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

61.    **ALLOTMENTS REPORT**

The Works Manager submitted his report for the six weeks ended the 17<sup>th</sup> February 2013. The report detailed inspections and general maintenance to the allotments together with the current waiting list for an allotment.

**RESOLVED** - that it be recommended that the information be received.

62. **ENVIRONMENT REPORT**

The Environment Officer and Works Manager submitted their report for the six weeks ended the 17<sup>th</sup> February 2013. The report set out details of the volunteers' activities together with public and community events which had been held. An update was given on the 'Chalara' (Ash Dieback) disease within the area.

Information on burials and an act of vandalism to the toilet door window at the Town Park was reported.

**RESOLVED** - that it be recommended that the information be received.

63. **GRANTS OF GRAVE SPACE**

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

Stephenson Way Cemetery

Grave No. A 563 Sarah Giles and Richard Mitchell  
Grave No. E 75 Donald Hallimond

64. **NEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

A letter from the Neville Community Centre had been circulated thanking the Council's Work Force for the excellent job they have carried out ensuring that the main footpaths were cleared of snow and ice.

**RESOLVED** – that the letter be received.

65. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

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

- (a) Change of use from B1(Business) to B2 (General Industrial) A1 (Retail) and A3 (Café) – Unit 3B, Sapphire House, IES Centre, Horndale Avenue, Aycliffe Industrial Estate.
- (b) Single storey side extension – 1 the Post Horn, Newton Aycliffe.
- (c) Retention of rural workers dwelling including alterations to roof, erection of conservatory, creation of garden and pond, retention of staff facilities, kennels and run and cattery, erection of reception/office and isolation kennel building and associate. – Coatham Kennels, Coatham Mundeville.
- (d) Erection of conservatory to rear – 39 Lockyer Close, Newton Aycliffe.

**(2) To receive for information the undermentioned planning applications, prior notice of which had been circulated to all Members of the Council. Durham County Council have been notified of the listed comments on each application:-**

- (a) Erection of conservatory to the rear – 3 Windlestone Walk, Newton Aycliffe.

*No objections.*

- (b) Minor amendment to planning permission 7/2011/0406/DM – erection of a dwelling at 1 Congreve Terrace, Aycliffe Village.

*No objections.*

- (c) Replacement shop frontages – Unit 2, Beveridge Way, Newton Aycliffe.

*The Council would have no objection to the proposal and encourages the continued redevelopment of the Town Centre.*

- (d) Substitution of house types from 3 bedroom to 2 bedroom at Elmfield Place, Newton Aycliffe.

*No objections.*

- (e) Amendment to previously approved application – ref. No. AS/2012/0440/DM to increase the length of single storey side extension by 300mm – 1 Barnard Close, Newton Aycliffe.

*Received on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2013 for consultation – approved by D.C.C. on the 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2013.*

- (f) Installation of dual-pitched roof – 163 Hallington Head, Newton Aycliffe.

*No objections.*

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

- (i) Applications 1 (a), (b) and (d) - *No objections.*
- (ii) Application 1(c) - that the following objection be made to D.C.C.:-

Coatham Kennels, Coatham Mundeville.

*'That this Council would wish to object to the proposal and recommend that the application be refused and that the necessary consequential steps be enforced by Durham County Council.*

- (iii) The comments previously made on items 2 (a) to 2 (f) be noted.

**CHAIRMAN.**