

Minutes of the meeting of the **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2010** at **7.15 p.m.**

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

**OFFICIALS**    Mrs C Walton (Corporate and Policy Officer)  
Mr S Cooper (Environment Officer)  
Mr D Snowball (Leisure Manager)  
Mr D Thompson (Works Manager)  
Mrs M J Robinson (Leisure & Environment Assistant)

10.    **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors S Bambridge, Mrs J Gray, B Haigh and Mrs S Haigh.

11.    **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Declarations of interest were declared by Councillors Mrs E Paylor and Mrs S J Iveson for Agenda item No 10 (Planning Applications) as members of Durham County Council's Development Committee.

12.    **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from members of the public.

13.    **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 26<sup>th</sup> May 2010 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

14.    **ALLOTMENTS REPORT**

The Works Manager submitted his report for the six weeks ending 27th June 2010. The report detailed inspections and general maintenance to the allotments.

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

15. **ENVIRONMENT REPORT**

The Works Manager and Environment Officer submitted their report for the six weeks ending 27<sup>th</sup> Jun 2010. The report outlined community and group activities planned for the summer months and gave details of vandalism and burials.

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

16. **ADOPTION OF NEWTON AYCLIFFE TRAIN STATION**

The Corporate and Policy Officer submitted a report with regard to a request from Robert Whitehouse the Community Rail Officer of the Bishop Line to adopt Newton Aycliffe Train Station.

**RESOLVED** - that it be recommended:

- i. That the report be received.
- ii. That Mr Whitehouse be invited to a future meeting of the Committee to provide further information.

17. **BYERLEY PARK / FINCHALE ROAD ALLOTMENT FENCING**

The Works Manager submitted a report which requested members to consider replacing the fencing at Byerley Park and Finchale Road Allotments.

**RESOLVED** - that it be recommended:

- i. That the report be received.
- ii. That a site visit be arranged to all allotments sites and to inspect the existing fences at Byerley Park and Finchale Road as soon as possible.
- iii. That the Allotments' Charter be reappraised.
- iv. That allotment charges be reviewed.

18. **GRANTS OF GRAVE SPACE**

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

West Cemetery

Grave No. J 93	Dorothy L. Currie
Grave No. J 123	Maureen Shelton
Grave No. N 63	Margaret Lee
Grave No. R 47	Alan Mawdsley

19. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Declarations of interest were declared by Councillors Mrs E M Paylor and Mrs S J Iveson for this item on the agenda (Planning Applications) as members of Durham County Council but they remained in the meeting during the discussion.

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

- (a) Erection of front porch and single storey extension to rear – 33 Kestral Court, Newton Aycliffe.

**(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) Erection of two storey side extension & single storey rear extension – 4 Lockyer Close.
- (b) Erection of 2.4m fence (retrospective application) – Emeral Biogas, land at Preston Road, Aycliffe Industrial Estate.
- (c) Installation of internally illuminated double sided appendage sign, McDonalds Restaurant, Newton Park.
- (d) Installation of free standing ATM and anti ram bollards – Total Garage, St. Cuthberts Way.
- (e) Conversion of garage into lounge – 2 Aycliffe Gates, Aycliffe Village.

**RESOLVED** - that it be recommended:

- (i) Application 1 (a)– no objections.
- (ii) Applications 2 (a) - (e) - that the applications be received.

**CHAIRMAN**