

Minutes of the meeting of the **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **Wednesday 15th OCTOBER 2014 at 7.15 p.m.**

PRESENT Councillor J D Clare, (Chairman) and
Councillors E Adam, J Atkinson, A M Chandran, Mrs B A Clare,
J Clark, N Collinson, Mrs M Dalton, M A Dalton, R S Fleming, I
Gray, G C Gray, Mrs S Haigh, B Hall, K Henderson, Mrs I
Hewitson, J P Hillary, Mrs W P Hillary, M Iveson, Mrs S J Iveson,
W Iveson, P Kjenstad, Mrs V M Raw, D Summers.

OFFICIALS Mr D Austin (Finance Manager)
Mr A Bailey (Town Clerk)
Mr S Cooper (Environment Officer)
Miss A Corner (Community Neighbourhood Engagement Officer)
Mrs M J Robinson (Leisure & Environment Assistant)
Mrs J Thexton (Leisure Manager)
Mr D Thompson (Works Manager)
Miss J Welch (Golf Manager)

43. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of B Blenkinsopp and R Bowman.

44. **MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS**

No applications for dispensations had been received.

45. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest submitted.

46. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from the public.

47. **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor B Hall seconded by Councillor M Iveson and

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on the 3rd September 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

48. **ALLOTMENTS REPORT**

The Works Manager submitted his report for the 6 weeks ended 5th October 2014. The report detailed inspections and general maintenance to the allotments.

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

49. **ENVIRONMENT REPORT**

The Works Manager and Environment Officers submitted their report for the 5th October 2014. The report updated members on the work being undertaken by volunteer groups as well as burials and vandalism.

The report also advised that de-silting and removal of excess reed and weed build up from the pond at School Aycliffe had been undertaken. Encroaching and overhanging vegetation along the whole route of the Aycliffe Way had taken place.

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

50. **GRANTS OF GRAVE SPACE**

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

West Cemetery

Grave No. R 51

Grave No. I 218

Graham Steele

Terry Richmond

Stephenson Way Cemetery

Grave No. C 132

Deborah Shaw

51. **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE**

The Community Neighbourhood Engagement Officer submitted a report which updated members on the progress made to date on the Neighbourhood Plan.

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

52. **2015/16 DRAFT ENVIRONMENT REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS**

The Finance Manager had submitted a draft Revenue and Capital Budget for 2015/2016 for members' consideration in respect of the Environment Committee.

Members considered each section of the Budgets for the Environment Committee and

RESOLVED – that it be recommended that the report and draft Revenue and Capital Budget figures for 2015/16 be received.

53. **LADY BEVERIDGE ROSE BOWL**

The Works Manager requested that due to its condition, members consider replacing the Lady Beveridge Rose Bowl which had been awarded to local residents for the best gardens since 1953.

RESOLVED - that it be recommended

- i that the report be received.
- ii that a suitable replacement rose bowl be purchased.
- iii that the name 'Lady Beveridge Rose Bowl' be retained.
- iv that the original rose bowl be retained on display.

54. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

(1) The Committee considered the undermentioned planning applications:

- (a) Replacement signage throughout external areas of Newton Aycliffe Town Centre Shopping District.
- (b) Erection of external gas cylinder screen – South West Durham Training Ltd. – Durham Way, Aycliffe Business Park.
- (c) Erection of single storey extension and pitched roof to front – 4 Wynyard Court, Newton Aycliffe.
- (d) Single storey rear extension and pitched roof over existing garage – 17 The Garth, School Aycliffe, Newton Aycliffe.

(2) The Council received 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) Prior notification of demolition of former Police Station – Central Avenue, Newton Aycliffe.
- (b) Prior notification of demolition of Nos 1-4, 7-10, and 13-18 Brough Close, Newton Aycliffe.
- (c) Prior notification of single storey rear extension – 15 Elwick Avenue, Newton Aycliffe.
- (d) Prior notification for the erection of a conservatory to rear of 7 Surtees Walk, Newton Aycliffe.

(3) The Council received for information the undermentioned planning applications, prior notice of which had been circulated to all Members of the Council. Durham County Council had been notified of the listed comments on each application:-

- (a) Erection of 4 no. 3 metre high lighting columns at Aycliffe Village Primary School.
No objections.
- (b) Sub-division of existing B2 unit into 8 no. industrial units with external alterations comprising first floor extension and two storey side and rear extension – Cardboard Cores, Leaside North, Aycliffe Business Park.
No objections.
- (c) Erection of stand-alone storage unit – Tyne Tees Packaging, Grindon Way, Aycliffe Business Park.
No objections.
- (d) Erection of Development V Board – The Woodlands, Wellhouse Drive, Newton Aycliffe.
No objections.

- (e) Garage conversion and new driveway (resubmission of previously approved ref. (DM14/01299/FPA) – 15 Carwardine Close, Newton Aycliffe.
No objections.

RESOLVED - that it be recommended:

- (i) Applications 1 (a) to (d) – no objections
- (ii) Application 1a - that the Town Clerk write to the Town Centre Manager to request that the lettering on the Town Centre signs be rotated vertically.
- (iii) Applications 2 (a) to (d) - that the applications be received.
- (iv) Applications 3 (a) to (e) - that the applications be received.

CHAIRMAN