

# Blakelaw and North Fenham Community Council



Meeting held at:  
The Community Room  
Moorland House, Moulton Place  
Blakelaw, Newcastle upon Tyne  
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Chairperson of Council: John Wears  
Clerk to the Council: Helen Richardson

## **MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**DATE HELD: Thursday 14 June 2018**

**TIME: 6.00 pm**

### **Present:**

Councillors: Cllrs Violet Rook(VR), John Wears(JW), Lorraine Birkett(LB), Irene Teasdale(IT) and Rowena Spencer(RS)

### **In Attendance:**

Helen Richardson(HR) – Clerk to the Community Council (minutes)  
Cllr Nora Casey – Blakelaw Ward Councillor  
Margaret Kilpatrick – Resident  
Debbie Playford – Resident  
Amy Stillwell – Newcastle City Council  
Su Cumming – Newcastle City Council  
PC Martin Golightly – Police

### **74/18. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Community Councillors Karen Ferry, Ron Clarke, Doreen Jardine, Ann Keenan, Ann Fullen and Jimmy Gill

Apologies were also received from Newcastle City Councillors Oskar Avery and Linda Hobson.

### **75/18. Declaration of Interests**

Violet Rook – Governor at Thomas Walling School and Governor with the North East Ambulance Service  
Irene Teasdale – Owner of Mrs T's Café and member of the Trading Arm of Newcastle Community Asset Trust(NCAT)  
Rowena Spencer – Member of the Newcastle Standards Board

## **76/18. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 10 May 2018 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

## **77/18. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

## **78/18. Chairs Report**

JW shared his most recent Chair's Report with the Community Council (copy attached). The Chair focused on his recent meeting with NCAT. The Community Council had been allocated a space on the noticeboard within the centre and the centre manager was keen to meet with the Chair on a regular basis. The Chair confirmed he had written to Aldi with regards to having a defibrillator placed outside of their store in North Fenham. JW had also chased the NEAS as we were still awaiting a response to the emails sent to them.

## **79/18. Police Update**

The Police were in attendance and confirmed that they had undertaken an operation at the beginning of the month with partners to try and tackle ASB. The confirmed that those who had been spoken to had received letters and on the whole crime and disorder seemed to have declined in the area.

JW stated that this was promising to hear. Police were still making regular visits to Binswood Avenue and people riding quads has been a problem but on the whole it had been relatively quiet.

## **80/18. Parklife Presentation – Su Cumming, Newcastle City Council**

Su Cumming and Amy Stillwell attended from Newcastle City Council to provide an update in relation to the Parklife scheme. SC provided an update in that 12 months ago an application was submitted to develop parks within the area where football was being played. Blakelaw Park had been identified as an area that would benefit from this development. SC and her team will be developing plans for the area whereby football will be the primary use for the facility but there will also be a gym and a retail opportunity. There will be 2 sites including Blakelaw in the City. The facility would use synthetic grass which enable clubs to play more regularly during poor weather. It was hoped that within 8 weeks there would be some visuals of the development and SC would return to discuss those with the Community Council.

SC commented that there were a lot of questions to resolve over the coming weeks but she was hoping that by engaging with the community and those who used the current facility they would be able to create an area that suited as many people as possible.

All options for future funding were currently being looked at but it was hoped that a managing company would look after the management and running of the facility. The facility would be open to all with other activities taken place there.

SC confirmed that the play area and skate park were to be kept but need to find out how often the tennis courts and basketball area were used. Residents and

community councillors stated that whilst they were used it was not excessively. Security and access of the area was also under consideration.

SC confirmed that she had been discussion with Blakelaw Club Juniors Football Club. NC queried what would happen to the path. SC commented that they would need to have a look at the options but it maybe that it would be re-routed but it was not a public right of way.

SC and AS confirmed that once visual plans had been drawn up it would be easier to discuss. There was then some general discussion around the park and it's current facilities.

### **81/18. Attendance at Meetings and Review of Code of Conduct**

JW confirmed that the Code of Conduct had been sent to all community Councillors and requested that everyone read it and to ensure that they understood it. Any queries should be directed to the chair.

In relation to training, following general discussion it was agreed that some bespoke new councillor training should be organised for the coming months.

### **82/18. Grant Applications**

There were no grant application's but the community council held a discussion around the lack of them. It was hoped that there would be a larger uptake following the article in the newsletter once it was delivered.

### **83/18. Update from Blakelaw Ward Councillors**

NC updated the community council on a number of issues within the area. In response to litter within the area, NC confirmed that she had spoken to Envirocall and she encouraged others to contact them as well.

There had been a consultation on waste and new litter bins were going to be fitted with sensors so that they could report back when they were full, this would assist bins crews with their workloads and focus on those more used bins.

NC confirmed that NCAT had received the keys to take over the Cowgate community centre.

NC thanked those residents for re-electing her at the recent election.

A resident queried what was happening with the paths in the newly refurbished 165 estate. It was thought that the company who were undertaking the work had gone bust and left the job – NC will look I to this.

LB queried what was happening with the piece of land near Drumheugh Place, it was believed that it was owned by the water board but the grass was overgrowing and it was unsightly but the land was fenced in.

NC confirmed that she had requested the grass was cut in the bunker area as it was starting to grow long again. It was officially YHN land so they had been requested to undertake the work.

NC briefly updated on the budget cycle however their current ward budget was 12k. It was suggested that there may be times when the community council can joint-fund some grants. The ward councillors were also due to hold their annual ward event in September.

There were lots of different awareness weeks in particular some parts of the City were attempting to become dementia friendly and this week was carers week. The community council are keen to learn more about this. NC will contact the relevant people and ask them to contact us.

VR also advised that Blakett Street would be closed to buses for the next 10 weekends during the Exhibition of the North. VR thought this was a great idea and the general consensus was that it should be made a permanent arrangement.

#### **84/18. Sub Committee**

The Chair confirmed that he had sent around the dates of the meetings of the sub groups. There was also a new template to use for the notes when typing them up.

**Communications Group** – JW is the chair of this group and took the Community Council through the notes of the meeting. VR provided an update regarding the website, JW provided some background as to why a website was required.

It was confirmed that the newsletter was going to the printers and would be distributed within the next few weeks.

**Environmental Group** – The next meeting of this group is 5 July 2018

#### **85/18. To Receive Correspondence and Communications**

The Clerk confirmed that she had sent out a number of different items of correspondence that should be passed on to those that may be interested in attending.

#### **86/18. To Consider Planning Applications**

There was 1 demolition notice to be considered for flats on Reestones Place and HAZeldene Avenue.

#### **87/18. Financial Matters**

##### **Bank reconciliation:**

As per transactions relating to 11 May 2018 – 14 June 2018

Per Bank:

Account 1	£500.00
Account 2	£22,262.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£22,762.00</b>

##### **Less: Payments:**

Blakelaw Pensioners Association(100532)	£800.00
NALC Subscription(100533)	£651.11
HMRC(100534)	£88.80

Helen Richardson – June 2018 Salary(100535)	£444.00
Helen Richardson – Laptop Cover(100535)	£5.00
Zurich Municipal(100536)	£406.46
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2395.37</b>

Closing balance as at 14 June 2018 (account 2)	£19,866.63
Closing balance as at 14 June 2018 (account 1)	£500.00

**88/18. Date and time of the next meeting**

The date and time of the next meeting is 12 July 2018 at 6pm in the Community Room, Moorland House, Moulton Place.