

Blakelaw and North Fenham Community Council



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Chairperson of Council: Ann Keenan
Clerk to the Council: Helen Richardson

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE HELD: Thursday 9 February 2017

TIME: 6.00 pm.

Present:

Councillors: Cllrs Ann Keenan(AK), Ron Clarke(RC), Violet Rook(VR) and James Gill(JG)

In Attendance:

Helen Richardson(HR) – Clerk to the Community Council (minutes)
City Councillor Nora Casey
Caroline Afolabi – Success4all

13/17. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Irene Teasdale, Doreen Jardine, Ann Fullen, John Wears and Karen Ferry.

14/17. Declaration of Interests

Violet Rook – Governor at Thomas Walling School
Ron Clarke – Blakelaw Ward Community Partnership, 165 Estate TARA, Trading Arm of the BWCP, Trading Arm of the Blakelaw Post Office
Ann Keenan – Credit Union and Volunteer of the Blakelaw Ward Community Partnership
James Gill – Blakelaw Ward Community Partnership

15/17. Grant Applications

Success4all

Caroline Afolabi attended following the request for further information at January's meeting. However JG explained to Caroline that as there were only 4 Community Councillors at the February meeting it would not be appropriate to consider the grant application without the majority of Councillors present. It was agreed that the

application would be carried over to the March meeting when a decision would be made.

Caroline confirmed that they had made a grant application to the Ward Committee to help with rent following a conversation with City Councillor Casey and they had started to sell old text books on ebay.

16/17. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on the 12 January 2017 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

17/17. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

18/17. Police

The Police were not in attendance but there was a general discussion regarding an increase in off-road motorcycles ie unlicensed, usually more than one rider without helmets. No one had seen any evidence of racing though.

It was also reported that there had been approximately 50 youths smashing windows, drinking and causing a disruption on Southmead. The Police had not been called as residents had been frightened.

It was agreed that the Clerk would highlight these concerns to the Police.

19/17. Review of Grant Funding Process

The Community Council held a discussion regarding grant funding for the financial year 2017/18.

It was confirmed that a maximum of 10% of the grant fund pot could be applied for by an individual group. It was proposed that only one application could be made in the year however after some discussion it was agreed that this would not work.

It was agreed that the guidance notes and form would be updated. The Community Council felt it was important that recognition was given to the Community Council for their support to the community groups that applied.

The Community Council and City Councillor Casey then held a discussion regarding the Ward Committee meetings, their budget and the need for information regarding Ward Councillors and the Community Council to be updated and available to all.

RC confirmed that he had been chasing the Blakelaw Ward Community Partnership Manager for up to date items to go in the notice boards. A discussion was then held around the condition of the notice boards and whether the Ward would be able to help pay for the renewal of them.

20/17. Vacancies for the role of Community Councillor

The Clerk confirmed that we now had 3 vacancies, one in Blakelaw, one in Cragston and one in North Fenham. Notice of the vacancies had been placed in notice boards

and if anyone knew any residents who wished to become a Community Councillor, they should be encouraged to come along to meetings.

21/17. Update on Sub Groups

Communications Group – The newsletter had been printed and was awaiting delivery within the next week.

Employment Group – No update

Environmental Group – JG confirmed that he had spoken to Glenn Pendleton regarding the community garden, the poly tunnel and the green house. Glenn had confirmed that Mike Nelis had not wished to continue with the garden. Volunteers were returning at the end of the month. Jean who had been working with Mike Nelis, together with another male had been tending the garden and it had been prepared for winter.

Leanne Risk had been in talks with Hylton School regarding the use of the poly tunnel as they had lost theirs.

RC expressed concern that the poly tunnel and greenhouse were secure. He had thought he had seen the doors open. If it became damaged there would be no funding to fix it. RC would go and look the following day to ensure it was secure.

22/17. To received Correspondence and Communications

The Clerk confirmed that there had been a wide range of informative emails and correspondence sent out to all.

23/17. Consider Planning Applications

There were no planning applications to discuss. The Community Council asked the Clerk to remind the Planning Department at Newcastle City Council to inform them of any planning applications that were relevant to the Parish area.

24/17. Financial Matters

Bank reconciliation:

As per transactions relating to 13 January 2017 – 9 February 2017

Per Bank:

Account 1		£500.00
Account 2		£20,301.55
	Total	£20,801.55

Less: Payments:

NPS (Newsletters) (100464)		£944.97
Helen Richardson – Salary February 2017 (100465)		£444.00
Helen Richardson – Consumables (100466)		£289.66
HMRC – February 2017 (100467)		£88.80
NUFC – Kicks Project (100468)		£2000.00
	Total	£3767.43

Closing balance as at 9 February 2017 (account 2)	£16,534.12
Closing balance as at 9 February 2017 (account 1)	£500.00

**25/17. Date, time and venue of next meeting: Thursday 9 March 2017 at 6.00pm
in the Blakelaw Centre, Binswood Avenue, Blakelaw**