

Blakelaw and North Fenham Community Council



Council Office,
Blakelaw Centre,
Binswood Avenue, Blakelaw,
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE5 3PN.
Tel: 07588154441
E-mail: bnfcc@outlook.com

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

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE HELD: Thursday 9 March 2017

TIME: 6.00 pm.

Present:

Councillors: Cllrs Ron Clarke(RC), Violet Rook(VR), James Gill(JG), John Wears(JW), Irene Teasdale(IT), Doreen Jardine(DJ) and Karen Ferry(KF)

In Attendance:

Helen Richardson(HR) – Clerk to the Community Council (minutes)
Debbie Playford – Resident
Joyce Bell – Resident
Jean McCarthy – Resident
Mary Kilpatrick – Resident
Helen Richardson – Resident
Maureen Large – Resident
Malla McGregor – Resident
Peter Hewitt – Resident
Sheila Walker – Resident
Joan Gill – Resident
Kate Codling – Hattricks
City Councillor Sue Pearson
City Councillor Oskar Avery

26/17. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ann Keenan, Ann Fullen and City Councillor Nora Casey.

27/17. 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
James Gill – Blakelaw Ward Community Partnership
Doreen Jardine – Blakelaw Ward Community Partnership

28/17. Grant Applications

Success4all

Following some very lengthy discussion regarding this grant application, the Community Council agreed that they would award Success4all £2000.00.

Whilst the award was not the full amount the Community Council does recognise the good work that Caroline Afolabi and her team do.

Hat-Tricks

Kate Codling took the Community Council through her grant application for funding. Kate confirmed that she already ran a 16+ health and fitness session for up to 15 women in the Blakelaw Neighbourhood Centre however they wished to commence a leadership program. Kate explained that it was often difficult to get women involved in exercise.

JG asked where those women who were attending lived? It was confirmed that 90% of those attendees were from the Blakelaw area.

VR queried where else this program was running. Kate confirmed that they ran sessions at Simonside, in the East of the City and at St John's.

JG expressed the importance of the grant funding being used within the parish boundary of Blakelaw and North Fenham.

Kate confirmed that they those attending were contributing £1 towards the cost of the hall. The Clerk queried that if that was the case would they still require the amount of £120 as detailed in the application as that would cover that-Tricks contribution to the use of the hall. Kate confirmed that they were keeping that in reserve. The Clerk expressed her concern to another Community Councillor stating that this wasn't how it should work.

Following a brief discussion the grant was agreed in the sum of £795.

29/17. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on the 9 February 2017 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

30/17. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

31/17. Police

The Police were not in attendance but it was acknowledged there had been some change and hopefully the Police would be in attendance at the next meeting.

32/17. Review of Asset Register 2016-2017

The Clerk took the meeting through the current asset register which included notice boards, laptop and a printer.

The Asset Register was agreed by the Community Council.

33/17. Review of Risk Assessment 2016 - 2017

The Clerk took the meeting through the Risk Assessment for 2016 – 2017. The Clerk confirmed that there was little if any change.

The Risk Assessment was agreed by the Community Council.

34/17. Vacancies for the role of Community Councillor

The Clerk confirmed that Notices in relation to the role of Community Councillor had been up for the necessary period of time and that a petition had not been received. The Clerk confirmed that it was it would be possible to co-opt to the positions and anyone interested should contact the Clerk. The Clerk confirmed she would clarify that this was the position with Newcastle City Council Electoral Services.

35/17. Update on Sub Groups

Communications Group – The newsletter had been delivered but once again despite using a different delivery company there seemed to have been issues. One of the residents queried why the Community Council hadn't delivered them as they had discussed. The Chair explained that on further discussion it was decided that due to a number of Councillors with ill health it wouldn't have been practical. It was agreed that the Clerk would drop newsletter off in the flats for residents.

Employment Group – A meeting had been arranged for the end of March 2017.

Environmental Group – No update

36/17. To received Correspondence and Communications

The Clerk confirmed that there had been a wide range of informative emails and correspondence sent out to all, in particular:

- An email from Sheila Howe regarding lack of advertising in relation to trips arranged in the area.
- Survey for Councillors
- Free "Get on Line" Champions course – Cllr Avery gave his insight to this course. Cllr Avery said with a variety of changes happening across the city where residents were being encouraged to use online services, it was important that residents attended these free courses so they were not left behind. Debbie Playford talked to the meeting about undertaking this training and commented that it had been very helpful and encouraged people to attend.
- NALC Portal
- NALC Enews

37/17. Consider Planning Applications

There were no planning applications to discuss.

38/17. Financial Matters

As per transactions relating to 10 February 2017 – 9 March 2017

Per Bank:

Account 1		£500.00
Account 2		£16,534.12
	Total	£17,034.12

Less: Payments:

BWCP – Room Hire(100469)		£18.75
Helen Richardson – March 2017 Salary(100470)		£444.00
Helen Richardson – Laptop Cover(100470)		£5.00
HMRC – March 2017(100471)		£88.80
	Total	£556.55

Closing balance as at 9 March 2017 (account 2)	£15,977.57
Closing balance as at 9 March 2017 (account 1)	£500.00

39/17. AOB

The Chair read a letter from the Blakelaw Ward Community Partnership. It advised the Community Council that they had changed their name to Newcastle Community Asset Trust. This would enable them to have more access to community funding. The letter also confirmed that the Children in Need grant application had been approved in the sum of £85k over 3 years. The Community Council acknowledged that this was excellent news.

Peter Hewitt fed back to the Community Council following Holly Courts Christmas festivities that the Community Council had part funded together with their own fund raising. They had all had a brilliant time and Peter shared photographs of the day with the meeting.

There was then some general discussion regarding parks in the City and in particular Blakelaw Park and Leazes Park. Both parks suffering major damage through fire and vandalism. Cllr Pearson confirmed that in relation to Blakelaw Park funding raising was currently at £20k but it was still just not enough.

VR queried whether the current Parks consultation would include these 2 parks. It was confirmed that it would and people were encouraged to take part.

40/17. Date, time and venue of next meeting: Thursday 13 April 2017 at 6.00pm in the Blakelaw Centre, Binswood Avenue, Blakelaw