

BRUNSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 14th MARCH 2018

Present: Councillor E. MacKinlay (Chairman)
Councillors Laverick, J. MacKinlay and Ramsey.

In attendance: R.J. Gray – Clerk
City Councillor Graham
PC 1650 & PC 1174 – Northumbria Police
A Boyce & R Wilson

69. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Chambers and City Councillors Hunter & Lower.

The Chairman reported that it was with sadness that he had to advise the meeting of the death of Councillor Chamber's partner.

Members of the Parish Council and those present at the meeting expressed their sympathy and support for Councillor Chambers during this difficult time.

70. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

- RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 14th February 2018 be approved as a correct record subject to: -
- The attendance list being amended to read "R. Wilson" (not R Boyce as stated)
 - The first paragraph of minute 64 (a) being deleted, and signed by the Chairman.

71. ENVIRONMENT AND HIGHWAYS

(a) Sandy Lane under A1 Flyover - Flooding

This part of the highway was flooding and there was a very large pot hole emerging in this area. Reference was made to damaged that had been caused to a vehicle tyre due to the pot hole.

Reference was made to problems in getting requests for repairs for this section of highway to the correct organisation and some had to be referred to Highways England for action.

RESOLVED – That the information be noted and the problems reported to the Highways England

(b) Grey Street Unloading Bay – Pot Hole

Complaints had been received regarding a large pot hole that had appeared in the highway at the loading bay in front on the One Stop shop.

RESOLVED – That the City Council be requested to inspect/repair the pot hole.

(c) Overgrown/Damaged Trees/Bushes – Robert Allan Court

Although the trees/bushes had been trimmed/pruned some of the vegetation looked like it needed removing as they appeared to be diseased/dead. The surface of the footpath was slippery due to falling leaves/debris from the vegetation.

Reference was made to the City Council's policy not to cut down/remove trees unless they were dead/causing a danger to the public.

RESOLVED – That the concerns be referred to the City Council

(d) Banks Group – Community Funding Meeting

RESOLVED – That the information regarding the change of date of the next meeting from 20th to 27th March be noted.

(e) Car Boot Licence – Industrial Estate

RESOLVED – That the information regarding the application for a licence to hold car boot sales on the industrial estate be noted.

(f) Kevin Carruthers – Snow Clearing

RESOLVED – That the City Council be advised of the appreciation of the residents in the bungalows in Cheviot View for the snow-clearing and gritting work that Kevin had carried out during the recent spell of bad weather.

72. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Gyms on Industrial Estate

There was a discussion about retrospective applications for planning consent for two gyms that were operating on the industrial estate.

City Councillor Graham referred to the discussions the Assistant Director Planning was having in relation to these applications and the impact it could have in relation to other similar facilities that were operating/proposed across the City.

Investigations were on-going.

RESOLVED – That the information be noted.

(b) Prior Notification for Planning Consent for Information Only – 19 Brookside Avenue, 18/00069/NPA – Erection of Single Story Extension to Rear

RESOLVED – That the information be noted.

(c) Application for Planning Consent – 54 Westfield Avenue, 2018/0145/01/DET – Erection of First Floor Extension to side above existing garage & porch to front

RESOLVED – That the application be noted and not objections raised.

73. HOUSING MATTERS

19 Grey Street Overgrown Hawthorn Bush

There were a number of complaints made at the meeting about the problems pedestrians were having when using the pavement in front of this house. The hawthorn bush was overgrown and as a result, pedestrians were having to move onto the road to avoid coming into contact with it. The Clerk confirmed that the problems had been reported to YHN on a number of occasions during 2017 but it appeared that the bush had not been cut back.

Reference was also made to the untidy state of the garden.

RESOLVED – That YHN be requested to investigate the situation and arrange for the overgrown hedge to be pruned and the garden to be tidied up.

74. POLICE MATTERS

PC 1650 reported that there had been two recorded crimes since the last meeting These were: -

- Damage to Motor Vehicle
- Domestic Violence

PC 1650 agreed to follow up on the incident involving mini-motos being ridden around the football pitches and to check to see if there was any useable CCTV footage available to help identify the perpetrators. It was confirmed the incident took place on 11th February 2018.

Used CO2 cartridges had been found in the area and reported to the police

RESOLVED – That the information be noted.

75. BRUNSWICK PARK CENTRE

A. Boyce referred to on-going investigations into the management and operation of the Centre. R Wilson stated that it appeared Sure Start had signed over the operation and management of the centre to Brightlines and so any future lease/lettings had to be arranged through that Centre Manager of that organisation and not the City Council.

As a result of this change in management and the charging rates for room hire they could no longer class it as a community facility. There was once again nothing in the Village that the community could use, no activities for young people, mothers and toddlers etc. There was a very limited programme of activities to maintain the “Sure Start” badge ensuring that the grant clawback clauses relating to the funding of the building did not come into play. If you wanted to use/access such facilities Fawdon was the nearest place that offered affordable facilities.

During a recent visit to the Centre they had been surprised by the poor state of repair of the building considering its age. It did not appear to be being maintained. Potential users would be put off from hiring the building due to its condition/appearance.

The Chairman clarified the position in relation to the funding that had been provided to construct the building including funding from Sport England in relation to the changing facilities for the football teams.

RESOLVED – That the concerns regarding the management of the facilities and the lack of provision for those in need and the wider community in Brunswick Village be raised with the relevant Portfolio Lead at the Newcastle City Council.

74. AUTISM AWARENESS WEEK

As part of the activities organised around Autism Awareness Week R. Wilson and A. Boyce had organised a photographic competition. The subject had been “Big Waters”.

The winning photographs would be displayed in the Central Library Newcastle.

The Chairman was requested to judge the photographs

RESOLVED – That when the Chairman had judged the photographs the results be shared with the Parish Council

76. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Internal Audit Report

RESOLVED – That the findings/information of the annual internal audit/risk assessment carried out in 2017/18 financial year be noted.

b) Cheques for Signature

Cheque No	Amount £
001196	14.50
001197	318.00
001198	216.00

Bank Balance at 7th February 2018 £6,559 (subject to pending transactions)

78. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED – That the next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council be held at 7:00 pm on 11th April 2018.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Signed: -.....Chairman

Date: -.....