

# City of Durham Parish Council

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14<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Dear Councillor,

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 I hereby give you notice that a **MEETING** of the **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** will be held in **OFFICE 2, CLAYPORT LIBRARY BUILDING, DURHAM, DH1 1WA on 21<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2019 AT 17:15** to transact the following business: -

- 1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
  - 2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS**
  - 3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 1<sup>st</sup> MAY 2019.**
  - 4. MATTERS ARISING**
  - 5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.**
- 6. DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE PRIORITIES**
- i) Update on DSU Good Neighbour Voluntary Project**
  - ii) Update on Clean and Green tasks: -**
    - **Advertising for a contractor**
    - **Neighbourhood Warden (esp street rubbish)**
    - **Gum removal and prevention**
  - iii) Involving young people**
    - **Youth Parliament**
    - **Shadow Environment committee**
    - **Instant gardens**
    - **Buses**
    - **Recycling**

**iv) Business frontages**

**v) A167**

**9. AOB** (Please note for discussion only, not decision making)

**10. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS.**

18 June – 17:30pm

16 July – 17:30pm

And pursuant to the provisions of the above-named act, I Hereby Summon You to attend the said meeting.

Adam Shanley  
Clerk City of Durham Parish Council

# CITY OF DURHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of the Environment Committee held on 1st May 2019 at 12:30 in Room 2, Alington House, 4 North Bailey, Durham, DH1 3ET.**

Present:

Councillors V Ashfield (Chair), J Atkinson, E Ashby and M Ross.

Also present: Parish Clerk A Shanley and Belinda Snow (DCC Officers).

## **1. WELCOME AND RECEIPT FOR APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE**

The Chair welcomed all attendees. Apologies were received from Cllrs S Cahill, J Elmer and R Ormerod.

## **2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS**

None received.

## **3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None received.

## **4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 16TH APRIL 2019.**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 16th April 2019 were accepted as a true and accurate record of proceedings, subject to "E Ashby" being changed to "J George" in reference to the request to have the bins and backyards numbered by DCC.

## **5. MATTERS ARISING**

No matters arising from the Minutes of 16<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

## **6. DISCUSSION ON ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE PRIORITIES**

The following items were discussed and the agreed action points were taken.

### **Proactive, more of the things we like:**

<b>Agreed action</b>	<b>Cost (pa)</b>
We have become a partner with Durham in Bloom and have contracted to finance a flower exhibit for 2019.	<b>2.500</b>
We are planning to provide floral panels in Millennium place in 2020.	(2020)
We have contracted grass cutting, sustainable planting and the provision of bike racks/ flower tubs in Walkergate, below Milburngate Bridge opposite the back of the Indoor Market;	Tba
We have negotiated a contract with DCC to tidy up land at Highgate and potentially turn the area into sensory garden/park.	Cost-free this year

We will maintain the upkeep of this land in future years.	Maintenance costs in future years
We are liaising with the Students Union to progress a Good Neighbour project to support residents with a range of needs including snow clearance in the DCC designated "Priority 2 and 3" areas (which DCC does not cover) for the winter of 2019/20.	<b>1,000</b>
We have established liaison with local secondary schools (primary schools to follow) to investigate the ways in which pupils can influence our proposed programme and support our environmental activities, (eg by litter picking, improving flower beds etc).	<b>500 for first project</b>
We have planned an award for the best kept business frontage, including a competition for the best Christmas display by: independent businesses; chains stores; indoor market stalls.	<b>500 plus costs of awards event (2,000?)</b>

**Reactive, remove / reduce some of the things we don't like.**

<b>Agreed Action</b>	<b>Cost (pa)</b>
We have agreed to contract an Environmental Enforcement Officer with statutory powers to issue fines to individuals and businesses which contravene environmental laws, e.g. litter, abandoned rubbish bins, dog fouling and dangerous parking. The Clerk is to meet with Belinda Snow to agree a Service Level Agreement and report back to the next Environment meeting.	<b>5,000</b> recurring annually (plus, grant requested from AAP of 5,000)
Subject to full PC agreement, we are advertising for an employee for 15 hours per month to improve the physical environment by litter picking on road sides and riverbanks; washing street signs and highways signs; possibly also street weed control;	Approx. <b>2,500</b>
We will bring to full PC costs of carrying out gum removal and provide an anti-gum surface on the lower part of North Road and across Framwellgate Bridge.	<b>10,000 – 12,000</b>
We have asked for an estimate for cleaning the pillars outside the Freemans Quay swimming pool (not carried out by DCC)	Cost tba

Belinda Snow asked the Committee to define what exactly they wished the Neighbourhood Warden to do. The Committee felt that littering, dog fouling, industrial and residential fly tipping and enforcement ought to be prioritised. It was agreed that the Clerk should meet with Belinda Snow and define the SLA to be put in place.

Members also discussed the idea of subsidising public transport for under 18s on a particular day and a particular bus route. It was agreed that Cllrs Ashfield and Ross should meet with School Councils and discuss this further to pinpoint exactly where would have the most benefit. Cllr E Ashby advised that the Parish Council would need to get DCC and the bus operators involved with this.

Cllr Ross also reported that she had received feedback following visits to Durham Johnston and St Margaret's that the pupils were particularly concerned about recycling and were looking for assistance to set up some sort of recycling scheme.

#### **7. AOB**

None received.

#### **8. TO IDENTIFY FUTURE TOPICS FOR DEBATE WITH DCC OR OTHER PARTNERS.**

The Committee agreed that the current list of projects was sufficient at this time and further projects should be looked into at a later stage.

#### **9. DATES OF FUTURE MEETING**

The Chair advised that the next meeting of the Environment Committee would take place on 21<sup>st</sup> May at 17:30pm.

The Chair thanked Members for their attendance and closed the meeting.

Signed

Chair City of Durham Parish Council Environment Committee.