

City of Durham Parish Council

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4th June 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 **ROOM 1, ALINGTON HOUSE, DURHAM, DH1 3ET on 18th JUNE 2019 AT 18:00** to transact the following business: -

- 1. ELECTION OF CHAIR**
- 2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR**
- 3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 4. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS**
- 5. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 21st MAY 2019.**
- 6. MATTERS ARISING**
- 7. PRESENTATION BY AMY MYCOCK, PROJECT OFFICER AT OASES (OUTDOOR AND SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION SPECIALISTS).**
- 8. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.**
- 9. ENVIRONMENT AWARDS 2019** (report attached)
- 10. DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE PRIORITIES,**
 - i) Update on Good Neighbour scheme**
 - ii) Update on Clean and Green tasks**
 - iii) Involving young people**
 - iv) Business frontages**

v) Update on Neighbourhood Warden SLA following meeting with Belinda Snow, DCC Neighbourhood Warden Manager.

vi) A167

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

12. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS.

16th July 2019 – 17:30pm – venue TBC

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 21st May 2019 at 17:15 in Office 2, Clayport Library Building. Durham. DH1 1WA.

Present:

Councillors V Ashfield (Chair), J Atkinson, S Cahill, J Elmer and M Ross.

Also present: Parish Clerk A Shanley

1. WELCOME AND RECEIPT FOR APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

The Chair welcomed all attendees. Apologies were received from Cllrs E Ashby and R Ormerod.

2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS

Cllr S Cahill declared an interest in all matters pertaining to the Durham Students Union.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None received.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 1st MAY 2019.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1st May 2019 were accepted as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

5. MATTERS ARISING

The Chair updated the Committee to advise that, in the report to Full Council, relating to the Business Frontage Awards, a criterion for awards had been added to include non-retail frontages. The Clerk reported that the full figure being requested from Full Council as part of the report was £3,000, which is £2,000 less than originally budgeted for.

6. DISCUSSION ON ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE PRIORITIES

i) Update on DSU Good Neighbour Voluntary Project

The Clerk reported that he and Cllr E Ashby had met with Charlie, the officer leading on this project at the DSU. Charlie intends to advertise for a project leader who will manage the snow clearing with a group of volunteer students. The Clerk advised that the DSU were fully covered from an insurance perspective. The Clerk is to contact the local residents' groups and Cllr E Ashby agreed at the meeting with Charlie to contact Age UK to help identify those residents who are particularly vulnerable during snow. Charlie also advised that the DSU could provide some funding for this project too and it may be that the mini bus which the DSU have could be used to transport students to the vulnerable areas.

ii) Update on Clean and Green tasks: -

- Advertising for a contractor**

The Clerk advised that none of the neighbouring Parish Councils contracted this service and he had been advised to employ someone on the living wage for 1 day per fortnight. Cllr M Ross also advised that she had not received any interest in the advert for this, however felt that more information in the advert may be needed.

The Committee discussed the possibility of contacting the local job centre to see if they could support this. The Clerk agreed to take this forward.

- **Neighbourhood Warden (esp street rubbish)**

The Clerk advised that he had yet to meet Belinda Snow to discuss the SLA with her due to her being away on holiday. The Clerk promised to update the Committee as soon as this took place.

Cllr M Ross reported that she had noticed a lot of street rubbish from local businesses over the bank holiday period.

- **Gum removal and prevention**

The Clerk advised that there was a recommendation going to full Council on Thursday for the cleaning and treatment of part of North Road.

iii) Involving young people

- **Youth Parliament**

The Chair reported that she had been contacted by a young gentleman at one of the local schools who is involved with the youth Parliament. The Chair advised that she was waiting to hear back on dates when he is available to come and speak to the Parish Council.

- **Shadow Environment committee**

The Chair reported that a school she had visited recently were keen to set up their own Environment Committee to assist in feeding ideas to the Parish Council Environment Committee on priorities. Cllr M Ross advised that she felt that a multi-school approach to this would be a good idea.

- **Instant gardens**

The Chair advised that she had put together a leaflet to go out to residents by the Sands to carry out some gardening near their houses. The Chair reported that DCC would provide the plants for free and it was hoped that this would take place after the school pupils had completed their A-levels so as to take part in this voluntary project in June/July.

- **Buses**

The Chair and Cllr M Ross agreed to speak with local school pupils (16-18-year olds only) about what bus routes and timings they used most frequently for sports and recreation in the City centre. It is hoped that following this feedback, the Clerk could look to speak with local bus operators to see if a subsidised service for 16-18-year olds would be an option they would consider.

- **Recycling**

The Chair and Cllr M Ross reported that they had recently attended a local school and were exceptionally impressed at how keen and well-thought out the pupils' proposals for recycling had been. It was agreed to look to see what the Parish Council could do to support this initiative.

iv) Business frontages

The Clerk reminded Councillors that a report was on the Agenda for the Full Council meeting to agree to proposed budget of £3,000 towards awards and a civic reception for best Christmas frontages.

v) A167

The Chair advised that she felt that this project seemed to be managed by others and it was felt by the Committee that this ought to be removed from the list of priorities for the Environment Committee.

7. AOB

The Clerk reported that he that the City centre had a significant problem of cigarette butts being thrown on the floor which were having a detrimental impact on the local environment. It was agreed that the Clerk should investigate further a scheme to help resolve this issue.

8. DATES OF FUTURE MEETING

18 June – 17:30pm

16 July – 17:30pm

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

Signed

Chair City of Durham Parish Council Environment Committee.

ITEM 9: ENVIRONMENT AWARDS 2019

Nominations are now open for the County Durham Environment Awards which reward great design, environmental guardianship and community spirit in County Durham. To coincide with world environment day, nominations have now opened for the County Durham Environment Awards. 2019 will mark the 30th year that the awards have been open to environmental champions.

The County Durham Environment Awards is an annual event rewarding projects that demonstrate great design, environmental guardianship and community spirit across the county. Nominations are now open for the 30th anniversary County Durham Partnership Awards. Applications can be done online until 19 July.

Self-nomination is permitted in all but the two individual volunteering categories. All projects or work must have been undertaken within the Durham County Council area.

The Awards are hosted by the County Durham Environment Partnership, with the aim of recognising the efforts of a range of organisations and individuals through the award categories below. Please see the attached brochure for more details of the awards and the available categories:

- **Built environment**
- **Climate change**
- **Community partnership**
- **Craftsmanship**
- **Greener business**
- **Natural environment**
- **Places and spaces**
- **Schools and colleges**
- **Volunteer group of the year**
- **Volunteer of the year - under 18**
- **Volunteer of the year - over 18**
- **Waste management**

DECISION REQUIRED	Councillors are asked to consider any organisations they may wish to nominate for these awards.
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