

City of Durham Parish Council

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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 **15th OCTOBER 2019 AT 17:15** to transact the following business: -

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS**
- 3. DISCUSSION WITH GED LAWSON, DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL OFFICER ON TREE PLANTING PROPOSALS**
- 4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 24th SEPTEMBER 2019**
- 5. MATTERS ARISING**
- 6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
- 7. CLIMATE CHANGE CONSULTATION** – report to follow
- 8. DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE PRIORITIES** – report included
- 9. USE OF SECTION 106 FUNDS IN THE CITY OF DURHAM PARISH AREA**
- 10. AOB** (Please note for discussion only, not decision making)
- 11. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS.**

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 24th September 2019 at 17:15 in Office 2, Clayport Library Building, Durham. DH1 1WA.

Present: Councillors V Ashfield (in the Chair), E Ashby, S Cahill, J Elmer and M Ross.

Also present: Parish Clerk A Shanley.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs L Brown and D Freeman

2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS

None received

3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 27th AUGUST 2019.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 27th August were unanimously agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

4. MATTERS ARISING

None received.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None received.

6. UPDATE ON TREE PLANTING AT THE SANDS

The Clerk reminded Councillors that there was a report on the September Full Council Agenda to approve the scheme. The Clerk reminded Members that this was all subject to written confirmation from the Freeman to allow this works to go ahead.

Cllr J Elmer advised that he was in favour of the scheme but felt the budget of £500 was overestimated. He advised that tree whips were very cheap indeed and the cost would be nowhere near £500.

Cllr E Ashby advised that the County Council ought to be encouraged to replant the trees equivalent if not more so than those lost due to the development of the new County Hall Headquarters. Cllr E Ashby felt that this ought to be a cost to the County Council rather than coming out of the Parish Council budget.

The Clerk also reported that, following a meeting with DCC officers and representatives of the Parish Council, Lorraine O'Donnell had promised to look again at the line of trees still in place between the coach park and the grass land with a view to hopefully retain those trees.

7. DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE PRIORITIES

i) Update on Good Neighbour scheme

Cllr E Ashby advised that she had received further correspondence from Jess Dunning at the Durham Students' Union (DSU) to state that she felt that a DSU society may be the best way to move forward with the scheme. The original proposal of having a professional member of staff to lead on the scheme was unfortunately not a possibility. Cllr E Ashby advised that she would like to seek further clarification about how this would work.

The Clerk advised that he had received confirmation from Jess that such a society would still be covered by the Students' Union's own insurance.

ii) Update on Clean and Green tasks

The Chair advised that she had been contacted a lot about bins from local residents and she had been dealing with this directly but she would like the Neighbourhood Warden to have more input.

The Clerk advised that the funds from the AAP were imminent and Nicola's working hours would be increased as a result. The Clerk also reminded everyone that the first report from Nicola had been circulated. Cllr J Elmer advised that he felt the report should include some key performance indicators and ought to be quantified too. The Chair advised that she and the Clerk had a meeting with the Neighbourhood Warden team and the University to discuss how the Service Level Agreements were working and she would update the Committee following this meeting.

The Chair reported that she, Cllr E Ashby and the Clerk had recently met with the Clean and Green team to try and create a service level agreement with the DCC team for an enhanced service for litter picking, sweeping, etc. This was not possible as the City already had a number of personnel working on these issues from Durham County Council and the Clean and Green team were in the process of establishing a rapid response team to tackle these issues more quickly and improve civic pride.

As an alternative to this SLA, Cllr E Ashby proposed that the Parish Council fund a "Quiet Zone Officer" in order to tackle excessive noise which everyone is aware happens in the City and noise too is a pollutant. It was **agreed** that the Clerk should investigate this further and report back to Committee.

On Business Frontage awards, it was agreed that the Environment Committee should start to advertise these awards from the beginning of October. It was also agreed that the Committee should work with a number of key stakeholders from Durham BID, the AAP, the City Centre Manager and the Durham Indoor Market Company to further promote the awards. The Clerk advised that he felt the work would be in organising the Christmas Civic party. It was proposed that Cllr J Atkinson and Cllr E Ashby support the Clerk in his work on this initiative.

The proposal to fund some bike racks/ flower tubs was shelved by the Committee. However, Cllr E Ashby proposed that the Parish Council fund some flower tubs from the company Woodpile on land adjacent to Fowler's Yard. The Clerk advised that he would investigate this further.

- iii) Involving young people – Terracycle project and UN Climate Change teaching training

The Chair reported that she and the Clerk had written to all local schools about these schemes and the schemes were on the Full Council Agenda for September for Full Council approval.

- iv) A167 – Working Group update

Cllr E Ashby advised that there had not yet been another meeting of the Working Group. Cllr E Ashby advised that she would like to seek clarification from the Officer at DCC on what signage would be possible for the scheme.

11. AOB

The Clerk reported that he had been looking into the proposals of heritage signage. It was felt that further street furniture would not be welcome in Durham City. The Clerk reported that he had been working on a similar project with Anna Lawson to promote the work of Dr Fenwick Lawson. The Chair proposed that some of £5,500 in the budget for heritage signage could be allocated to the development of the app which could firstly be used primarily for the work of Dr Lawson and then expanded to include other heritage sites. The Clerk advised that a decision could not be taken on this at this Committee but a report would be going to Full Council on the Fenwick Lawson project.

Cllr V Ashfield advised that she would be attending a Climate Change event in Durham City as a Parish Council representative.

Cllr J Elmer also encouraged Councillors to attend the Churches Together event on 17th October.

12. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Environment Committee should take place at 17:15pm on 15th October.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked Members for their attendance and closed the meeting.

Signed,

Chair City of Durham Parish Council Environment Committee.

ITEM 8: DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE PRIORITIES

PRIORITY 1: Involving Young People - £5,500 budget

	Actions	Who	What	Actual spend
1.	Arrange for Council / Committee meetings held in schools	MR & VA	Visit schools	£0
2.	Young people involved in recycling issues	MR & VA	Visit / contact schools	£1,000
3.	Schools involved in UN Climate emergency Training	AS & VA	Contact schools	£1,500
				Total: £2,500

Priority 2: Clean and Green - £30,000 budget

	Actions	Who	What	Actual spend
1	Neighbourhood Warden contract	AS	Litter, rubbish bins, dog fouling	£5,000
2.	Invite Oliver Sherratt to attend EC meeting	VA	Durham in Bloom Future plans	£2,500
3.	Grass cutting / cleaning SLA Sustainable planting	VA	Meet Andrew Jackson Discuss future plans and our ideas	£0
4.	Business Frontages	JA	Establish competition, awards and plaques	£3,000
5.	Pocket Ashtray	AS	Order for circulation in Dec 2019	£3,650
6.	Invite Dave Wafer to attend meeting	VA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask him to outline his planning programme Present our issues Consider other aspects 	£0
7.	Cleaning North Road	AS		£14,487
8.	Replanting trees at The Sands	AS / VA	Present to Full Council for agreement	£500 allocated
9.	Bike Racks / Flowertubs / under Milburngate Bridge	EA	Order tubs	£1,500 allocated
10.	Quiet Zone Officers			TBC
				Total: £30,637

Priority 2A: Clean and Green: Good Neighbour - £1,000 budget

	Actions	Who	What	Actual spend
1.	Build partnership with DSU / SCA	EA	Discussions with the Students' Union and Student Community Action	
2.	Work with Neighbourhood groups to identify needs			
3.	Create strategy to meet need			
4.	Purchase of equipment			£1,000 allocated
				Total: £1,000

Priority 3. A167 Traffic Calming - £3,500 budget

	Actions	Who	What	Actual spend
1.	Create Working Group	EA/ ES/ LB	Include neighbourhood groups	
2.	Refuges	Working Group	Liaise with DCC	
3.	Flower Towers	EA / LB		
				Total: £0

Priority 4: Heritage Signing - £5,500 budget

	Actions	Who	What	Actual spend
1.	Propose consider the Fenwick Lawson App trail in conjunction with partners	Full Council	Receive input from Anna Lawson	£3,500
2.	Work to engage partners ...	Env Cttee	
				Total: £3,500

Items in **green** are those which have been completed or are well under way. Those in **black**, are in progress or under consideration.