

City of Durham Parish Council

Office 3 D4.01d
Clayport Library
8 Millennium Place
Durham
DH1 1WA

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81783667777>

Meeting ID: 817 8366 7777

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 **via Zoom** on **Tuesday 13th July at 1.00pm** to transact the following business:

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS

3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 9th JUNE 2021

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

5. DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE PRIORITIES:

5a. To note:

- i) Installation of Mosaic art work
- ii) Progressing the blue plaques scheme
- iii) Progressing the cigarette butt campaign
- iv) Young People's Challenge update

5b. To complete:

- I) Durham In Bloom priorities for 2021-22.
- II) History and wildlife information boards at Riverwalk.
- III) *Shhh...* campaign update.
- IV) Update on improving "unloved" areas of the City – Bridge Street, John Street and Freemen's Quay.

5c. To decide:

- I) 7 Hills of Durham project – to agree the company for the production of the map and update on including this in the Heritage app.
- II) Invitation to Stagecoach to discuss electric buses to Environment Committee meeting in September.
- III) Progressing the following projects from the Environment Committee's work programme for 2021-22:

Climate lobbying - £1,500
Encourage Walking, Cycling & Sustainable Travel (active streets) -
£1,000
Encourage a green infrastructure - £2,000
Encourage electric vehicles - £1,000
Reduction in Plastic Use - £1,000
Explore and encourage sustainable food - £1,000

**6. PROPOSED MOTION TO FULL COUNCIL ON CLIMATE CHANGE BY
CLLR R FRIEDERICHSEN** - report attached.

7. AOB (please note for information only and not for formal decisions).

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 14th September 2021 at 2pm

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 9th June 2021 at 14:00pm via Zoom

Present: Councillors V Ashfield, R Hanson, S Walker, R Freiderichsen, C Lattin and D Freeman

Also present: Parish Clerk A Shanley, Assistant Clerk C Thompson, Cllr Alan Doig, Cllr E Ashby and Hannah Shepherd (Durham University)

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Cllr C Lattin was elected as Chair of the Parish Council's Environment Committee. Proposed by Cllr D Freeman and seconded by Cllr R Hanson.

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Cllr V Ashfield was elected as Vice Chair of the Parish Council's Environment Committee. Proposed by Cllr D Freeman and seconded by Cllr R Friederichsen.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received.

4. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS

None received.

5. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 16th MARCH 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th March 2021 were unanimously agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Cllr Alan Doig advised that he was attending to hear the discussions at the meeting.

Cllr Esther Ashby advised that she was attending the meeting to hear the discussions on the *Shhh...* campaign and with a general interest in the work of the Committee.

Hannah Shepherd advised that she was attending the meeting to hear the discussions of the *Shhh...* campaign.

7. WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL'S ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Cllr V Ashfield presented the work programme for the Parish Council's Environment Committee over the present financial year, this includes elements

taken from the Looking Forwards document agreed by Full Council. Members **approved** this programme as the Committee's work for the present financial year. The Chair thanked Cllr V Ashfield for her work in setting this programme. It was also **agreed** that Cllr R Friederichsen would format the programme into a user-friendly diagram as previously proposed to the Clerk.

8. DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE PRIORITIES:

8a: To complete

i) Durham In Bloom priorities for 2021-22

The following priorities were **agreed** as part of Durham in Bloom 2021-22.

Durham in Bloom priorities	Estimated costs
Bishops Mitre display in Durham Market Place. This was agreed and is currently on order with DCC.	£2,500
Floral displays (potentially of CoDPC logo). It was agreed that the alternative location of the gradient area by the Railway station should be considered for this.	£1,000
Creation of a wildflower meadow at Aykley Heads. The Clerk and Cllr R Friederichsen agreed to work together on this project and to find a suitable location for this at Aykley Heads.	£1,000
Hanging baskets on Claypath x 12 @ £40 each. A floral tower to replace the hanging baskets was agreed at Clayport Library.	£480
Purchase of bulbs for community planting. Planting Oct – Nov 2021 was agreed	£1,000
Wash bridge over A167 and introduce 2xfloral towers either end. This was agreed and the floral towers are on order.	£1,500
Floral display (potentially CoDPC logo) at Gilesgate roundabout. Agreed	£1,000
Floral planting at Hallgarth Street roundabout Agreed	£500
Floral planting at Potters Bank roundabout Agreed	£500
Community planting projects with bedding plants to go to Resident Groups / graveyards/ common areas. It was agreed that the Clerk should purchase these bedding plants from a local supplier and distribute these via the local Residents' Associations.	£1,500
Flower towers on North Road x 2 (outside CEX and outside Sainsbury on corner of Highway). This was agreed and the floral towers are on order.	£1,500

The Clerk reminded Members that the Council had agreed to allocate further funding as applicable over and above the previously agreed £10,000 budget for

Durham in Bloom, drawing from the fund agreed for the improvements to unadopted areas of land.

Cllr V Ashfield **agreed** to take on the logistics of the planting.

ii) Young People's Challenge

Cllr V Ashfield is currently liaising with local schools and will report back to the next meeting of the Committee. Cllr V Ashfield advised that the Young People's Environment Committee had been established prior to the Covid-19 pandemic and she hoped that this could commence in September.

iii) Climate change commitment and plan

Cllr V Ashfield and R Friederichsen **agreed** to work together to make amendments and report back to the Committee.

8b. To decide:

i) Proposal to install wildlife signage at Riverwalk

The Clerk advised that he was liaising with Riverwalk on this proposed signage, in particular over the issue of land ownership at the agreed location of below Thai River at the riverbank and he hoped to have a positive response for the next meeting of the Committee.

ii) Proposal to install historical signage at Riverwalk

The Clerk advised that he was liaising with Riverwalk on this proposed signage and hoped to have a positive response for the next meeting of the Committee.

iii) Seven hills of Durham trail

The Clerk presented the proposal for the seven hills of Durham trail. The Clerk advised that this project had been commenced by Mr David Miller, former member of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party and had been agreed as the Parish Council's heritage project for 2021-22. The Clerk advised that the proposal would include cost proposals from producers of maps and also costs for the installation of the gates and signposts, as requested by Durham University in exchange for the use of their land at St. Aidan's college and Whinney Hill.

iv) To decide on next steps for electric buses at Durham bus station.

The Clerk contacted the bus companies and Arriva responded that they won't be renewing their bus fleet due to financial implications from Covid. They would be happy to support it in the future. It was **agreed** the Clerk would arrange a meeting with Go North East and the Committee and it will be on the next agenda.

v) To decide on unadopted areas to improve in the parish

It was **agreed** that the areas to be focused on would be: John Street, Bridge Street, St. Nic's churchyard at Providence Row (possibly for the next financial year) and Freeman's Quay.

It was **agreed** that costs should be investigated for having the areas highlighted at John Street and St. Nic's churchyard cleared so that some planting/ community based projects could take place.

It was **agreed** that floral planting could be an option for Freeman's Quay and Bridge Street.

vi) To decide on when and how to promote the cigarette butt campaign.

The Clerk presented the final video promoting the cigarette butt campaign. Members commended the previous Committee for this excellent video and campaign. It was **agreed** that 3,000 of the cigarette butt pouches be distributed by the Assistant Clerk to pubs, clubs, betting shops and the passport office (hotspot areas for this sort of litter) over summer and the remaining 2,000 be allocated to the college bars for distribution to students.

vii) To decide on when and how to promote the *Shhh...* campaign

It was **agreed** that the proposal of having *Shhh...* campaign signage installed at various hot spot areas of the parish be presented at the next Full Council meeting.

It was agreed that this should be launched in September/ October time when the students return for the next academic year. The areas this will be launched in include: Sheraton Park, Whinney Hill, the Viaduct area and Claypath.

9. AOB (please note for information only and not for formal decisions).

The provision of alternative bins for recycling in the marketplace was discussed. The Clerk advised that he has discussed a proposal for alternative bins with the County Council's Clean and Green team and this is not possible. Cllr Victoria Ashfield advised that she is hoping to engage with the Markets Company and local schools to promote proper usage of these recycling bins.

10. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The Chair advised that the next date of the Committee would be Tuesday 13th July 2021.

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

Signed,

Chair of the Parish Council's Environment Committee

ITEM 6: PROPOSED MOTION TO FULL COUNCIL ON CLIMATE CHANGE BY CLLR R FRIEDERICHSEN

Cllr Rupert Friederichsen wishes to proposed the following motion to Full Council in July.

Given that this is very much aligned to the programme of work and commitments of the Parish Council's Environment Committee, it is proposed that the wording of this motion be debated by the Environment Committee ahead of it going to Full Council.

Motion - A Partnership between Local Government and National Government to tackle Climate Change

Background

In 2018, at COP24, the UK Government signed up to having 'domestic institutional arrangements, public participation and engagement with local communities' so localities can play their part in delivering the UKs 'Nationally Determined Contributions' in the Paris Climate Agreement.

In May 2021 Alok Sharma MP, President of COP26 said Collaboration would be a key objective of the climate summit

"Governments, business and civil society (sometimes called 'non-state actors' and including local government) need to work together to transform the ways we power our homes and businesses, grow our food, develop infrastructure and move ourselves and goods around"

Despite these agreements and statements there is still no formal relationship allowing a joint partnership working between Local and National Government on climate action.

This Council resolves to

- in this year of COP26 add our voice to calls by the Local Government Association and the Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning and Transport & others for a joint local & national government Task Force to plan action to reach 'net zero' emissions. Such a partnership can set appropriate regulations, benchmarks and targets and create the much needed long-term funding mechanisms to enable local communities and economies to decarbonise whilst remaining resilient and sustainable.

- write to Alok Sharma MP, President for COP26, the Prime Minister and the Leadership Board of the LGA informing them of our support for a joint Local/National Government Climate Change Partnership Taskforce and asking for one to be established as soon as possible.

DECISION REQUIRED	For Members to agree to support the proposed motion, subject to any agreed amendments to its wording, going to Full Council in July.
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