

# 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 the annual meeting of the **FULL COUNCIL** will be held in the **LANTERN ROOM, DURHAM TOWN HALL, MARKET PLACE, DURHAM, DH1 3NJ** on **THURSDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2022 at 7:00pm** to transact the following business:

- 1. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE (OR NOT) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE FROM TODAY'S MEETING**
- 2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS**
- 3. APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2022**
- 4. PRESENTATION BY THE NATIONAL TRUST ON FUTURE PLANS FOR CROOK HALL**
- 5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
- 6. COMMITTEE UPDATES**

- Planning Committee minutes from meetings held on 20<sup>th</sup> May and 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

Copies of all approved minutes from these meetings can be found here:

<http://cityofdurham-pc.gov.uk/agendas-minutes/planning-committee/>

- Report providing an update on the Sniperley Park development

- Environment Committee minutes from meetings held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

Copies of all approved minutes from these meetings can be found here:

<http://cityofdurham-pc.gov.uk/agendas-minutes/environment-committee/>

- Report on the installation of further blue plaques in the parish
- Report on the renewal of the enhanced Neighbourhood Warden service SLA with Durham County Council

- Licensing Committee minutes from meetings held on 3<sup>rd</sup> May and 30<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

Copies of all approved minutes from these meetings can be found here:

<http://cityofdurham-pc.gov.uk/agendas-minutes/licensing-committee/>

• **Finance Committee minutes from meetings held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

Copies of all approved minutes from these meetings can be found here:  
<http://cityofdurham-pc.gov.uk/agendas-minutes/finance-committee/>

**7. CHAIR'S UPDATE**

The Chair will provide a verbal update on matters arising since the Full Parish Council meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

**8. 2022/23 ALLOCATION OF GRANT FUNDING TO LOCAL VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS**

**9. REQUEST FOR A CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE MAYOR'S CHARITY APPEAL**

**10. PROPOSAL TO FUND THE PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF AN INFORMATION LEAFLET FOR RESIDENTS BY DURF**

**11. OPTIONS FOR ENHANCED POLICING OF DURHAM CITY**

**12. MOTION BY COUNCILLOR E ASHBY ON LEGAL ACTION BY PUBLIC SERVICE WORKERS**

**13. UPDATE FROM BRIEFING ON LEVELLING UP FUNDING BID BY DCC**

**14. REPORTS FROM THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS 2022**

- Report on Parish Council/ Durham Markets Company led events
- Correspondence from Crossgate Community Partnership on the street party at Hawthorn Terrace

**15. REPORT FROM PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON LOCAL ORGANISATIONS**

- Report by Cllr C Lattin on the latest meeting of Durham University's Engagement Task Force Lived-Environment sub-group

**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 the meeting of the City of Durham Parish Council held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 19:00 in the Lantern Room, Durham Town Hall.**

**Present:** Councillors A Doig (in the Chair), L Brown, E Ashby, V Ashfield, N Brown, D Freeman, R Friederichsen, R Hanson, G Holland, C Lattin, R Ormerod, E Scott and H Weston.

**Also present:** Parish Clerk Adam Shanley, Councillor Mark Wilkes (DCC), Mr John Ashby, Mr John Lowe and Mr John Pacey (members of the public).

## **1. ELECTION OF CHAIR**

Councillor A Doig was elected as Chair of the Parish Council. Nominated by Cllr R Ormerod and seconded by Cllr G Holland. Councillor A Doig thanked Members for their support and read out and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of this Office.

## **2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR**

Councillor L Brown was elected as Vice-Chair of the Parish Council. Nominated by Cllr D Freeman and seconded by Cllr V Ashfield.

## **3. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE (OR NOT) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE FROM TODAY'S MEETING**

Apologies were received from Councillors G Nair and S Walker.

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

Cllr E Scott declared an interest in item 6 on the Agenda as planning forms part of her portfolio on the County Council and she took no part in the discussions on this item.

## **5. APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 28<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2022**

The minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022 were unanimously agreed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

## **6. UPDATE FROM COUNCILLOR MARK WILKES, DCC CABINET MEMBER ON THE SNIPERLEY PARK DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS**

The Chair welcomed County Councillor Mark Wilkes, DCC Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods and Climate Change, to the meeting to discuss the Sniperley Park development with the Council.

Councillor Wilkes thanked the Parish Council for allowing him to speak today. Councillor Wilkes thanked the Parish Council for its recent correspondence and report regarding the Sniperley Park development.

Councillor Grenville Holland highlighted that the report to neighbouring Parish Councils and Councillor Wilkes had set out seven energy solutions for the development, namely:

1. An Energy Assessment for the entire site designed to minimise energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions with all properties satisfying the 2030 operational energy and embodied carbon targets set by the RIBA 2030 Challenge which identify the optimal set of energy solutions to minimise energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.
2. All homes and buildings to be built to EPC A rating standard as a minimum.
3. No connection of the site to the national gas network.
4. Photovoltaic panels / and battery storage in all homes and buildings.
5. Ground and/or air source heat exchange systems for all homes and buildings.
6. District heating system using any potential geothermal energy.
7. All houses to have electricity supply points for electric cars.

Councillor Wilkes reminded Members that the County Council has recently consulted on a Masterplan for the development at Sniperley Park; a requirement arising from the County Durham Plan. Councillor Wilkes advised that County Durham Plan Policy 5 requires that the site is fully and comprehensively masterplanned ahead of any development.

Councillor Wilkes advised that he was expecting this masterplan to come to DCC Cabinet later in the year.

Councillor Wilkes reminded Members that the development of this site required the deletion of a large amount of greenbelt and therefore there is a requirement to develop as sustainable a development as possible.

Councillor Wilkes recognised the information set out in the report from the Parish Council; specifically that energy independence is even more important given outside national and international factors such as the war in Ukraine and the rise in energy costs.

Councillor Wilkes highlighted that the County Council will be pushing for as sustainable a development as possible with the legal policy framework set by Government.

Councillor Wilkes advised that, under the new regulations, CO2 emissions from new build homes must be 30% lower than current standards.

Councillor Wilkes advised that these regulations help to raise standards and are an important step towards a cleaner and greener built environment; helping to move towards the Future Homes and Buildings Standard, set to be introduced in 2025, which will mean all future homes are net zero ready and will not need retrofitting.

Councillor Wilkes advised that he recognised the desire to move quicker on these standards for new development in the County, however reminded Councillors that developers do have the right of appeal and the County Council may only consider applications within a set legal framework.

Councillor Wilkes thanked the Parish Council again for its efforts on this issue and for all its work on climate change. Councillor Wilkes also assured Members that the County Council regularly engages with Professor Jon Gluyas of the Durham Energy Institute and he regarded Professor Gluyas as an inspiration.

The Chair thanked Councillor Wilkes for his time and coming to speak with the Parish Council on this matter.

## **7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr John Ashby advised that he was attending the meeting with a general interest in the items on the Agenda.

Mr John Lowe advised that he was attending the meeting with a general interest in the items on the Agenda.

Mr John Pacey advised that he was attending the meeting with a general interest in the items on the Agenda and specifically item 6 on the Agenda.

## **8. COMMITTEE UPDATES**

### **• Planning Committee**

Cllr L Brown presented the minutes from planning committee meetings held on 22<sup>nd</sup> April and 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022. There were no queries from Members on these minutes.

### **• Environment Committee**

Cllr C Lattin presented the minutes from the environment committee meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2022. There were no queries from Members on these minutes.

### **• Licensing Committee**

Cllr N Brown presented the minutes from the licensing committee meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022. There being no queries from Members, Cllr N Brown moved on to committee reports.

### **- Request for a cumulative impact policy for Durham City**

The Clerk reminded Members that, in September 2019, the County Council consulted on a proposal to introduce a cumulative impact policy for Durham City. During this consultation, Durham Constabulary, Durham University, local Ward Members, the City of Durham Parish Council and the former Member of Parliament all supported the introduction of this policy to the City.

The Clerk advised that the County Council had outsourced this assessment to a specialist third party and the outcome of that assessment was that there was (as at October 2019) insufficient evidence to support the publication of a Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA) in respect of Durham City Centre (or for any other area of County Durham). That being the case, the Clerk advised that the County Council committed to keeping this under review and to further assessments of the need for a 'special policy' as part of the Statement of Licensing Policy for County Durham.

The Clerk advised that Durham City has a rapidly growing night time economy with a further major development (Milburngate) set to come on board in the coming weeks. This adds a further 48,000sq ft of 'retail and leisure' space to the City. The Clerk advised that it is apparent from recent licensing applications (Brewdog and the Botanist) that 'retail and leisure' will effectively equate to yet more late night licensed premises and the Licensing Committee has also noted the recent losses of retail space at both Riverwalk and North Road to licensed premises.

The Clerk reminded Members that the Parish Council's Licensing Committee and Durham Police have jointly written to Durham County Council to express concerns at the implications of these large scale new developments from not only policing and residential amenity perspectives but also the potential for increased pressure on public health services.

The Clerk advised that, in doing so, the Licensing Committee and Durham Police have jointly requested that the County Council urgently undertakes a further review leading to the introduction of a CIP to Durham City at the earliest opportunity.

The Clerk advised that the Head of Licensing at Durham County Council has highlighted previous investigations and assessments which have failed to yield the evidence necessary to justify the development and inclusion of a special policy for Durham City centre.

The Clerk reminded Members that a Cumulative Impact Policy may be published by a licensing authority to help it to limit the number or types of licence applications granted in areas where there is evidence to show that the number or density of licensed premises in the area is having a cumulative impact and leading to problems which are undermining the licensing objectives.

It is a legal requirement that a cumulative impact assessment must set out the evidence for the authority's opinion as set out in the assessment. Durham County Council has asked the Parish Council and Durham Police to provide further evidence to show why we believe there is a need for such a Policy being introduced in the City.

The Clerk advised that the purpose of this report is to provide Full Council with an update on this priority and to seek Full Council endorsement for the Committee's

continued work alongside Durham Police to provide evidence in favour of the cumulative impact policy being introduced to the City.

Members noted the report as set out by the Clerk and unanimously **agreed** to endorse the continued work of the Licensing Committee on this priority.

- **Business Committee**

Cllr E Scott presented the minutes from the business committee meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022. There were no queries from Members.

## **9. CHAIR'S UPDATE**

The Chair provided a verbal update on matters arising since the Full Parish Council meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

The Chair took the opportunity to say a very big thank you to everyone for their participation and support at yesterday's very successful meeting of the parish. The Chair advised that this is always an important event where members of the public can ask questions about the work of the Parish Council and it was great to present all of the Good Citizens and the Clerk with their awards this year.

The Chair advised that there is tireless work going into the preparation for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. The Chair advised that he was delighted to hear that a recent event involving Sue Snowdon at New College went extremely well and that the Parish Council has received some excellent praise from the Lord Lieutenant herself about these events. The Chair advised that it is great to see the hats on show this evening, set for the Tea Dance to take place on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

The Chair highlighted that the event this week has sparked a really great working relationship between the Parish Council and the team at New College Durham. The Chair advise that the Clerk had advised him that he has been absolutely blown away by the quality of students' work and in particular the media students who were able to video and photograph the parish meeting yesterday as well as the event with Sue Snowdon. The Chair advised that he hoped that the Parish Council can build on this relationship in the months and years ahead.

The Chair advised that the Parish Council has received a number of concerns regarding an event at Hawthorn Terrace over the last few weeks. The Chair advised that he was personally concerned about the arrangements for this event, its impact on local residents and on the health and safety of all participants – with 2,000 people already registering an interest to attend this on Facebook. The Chair advised that he has, as Chair of the Parish Council, to Durham Police, Durham University and DCC to ask that this be looked into urgently.

The Chair advised that he was aware that Councillors were all very sad indeed to hear that two excellent officers at DCC – Andrew Jackson and Dave Wafer – will soon be retiring from the local authority. The Chair advised that working in local Government is a privilege but isn't always easy. In Andrew's case, the Chair advised that he has devoted 39 years of his life to Durham and it is right that the Parish Council looks to thank both of these officers and wish them well in their

retirement. The Chair advised that the Parish Council will be writing formally to both Andrew and Dave to do just that.

The Chair took the opportunity to thank Councillors who participated in the Carbon Audit training this week. In particular to Cllr Friederichsen for identifying this training provider and for his participation in this training. The Chair advised that he hoped to make this sort of training a more regular occurrence and asked Members – if registering for these events - to please ensure that they do attend.

The Chair advised that he felt that the excellent presentation at last night's parish meeting really set out the enormous amount of work the Parish Council has delivered since 2019 and the Chair thanked Councillors past and present for their hard work to achieve these excellent projects.

Finally, the Chair advised that he has asked the Parish Clerk to take a holiday in June owing to the huge commitment undertaken on our behalf as part of Jubilee planning. If Committee meetings need to be moved around slightly to accommodate this, then so be it. The Chair advised that the Clerk will confirm dates in due course.

## **10. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN FOR 2021/22**

The Clerk advised that the Parish Council has now undergone an internal audit by the Council's selected auditor for financial year 2021-22.

The Clerk advised that the internal audit had highlighted no issues and the Parish Council has been commended for good governance and management.

The Chair took the opportunity to thank the Parish Clerk for his work during the financial year 2021-22.

- (i) Members **agreed** all actions arising from the report of the internal auditor 2021-22
- (ii) Members **approved** the annual governance statement 2021-22
- (iii) Members **approved** the draft annual accounts for 2021-22
- (iv) Members **approved** the register of assets 2021-22
- (v) Members **approved** the accounting statement and explanation of variances 2021-22.

## **11. ANNUAL REVIEW OF PARISH COUNCIL STANDING ORDERS, FINANCIAL REGULATIONS, COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE AND COUNCIL POLICIES**

The Clerk reminded Members that there is a legal requirement for Parish Councils to review on an annual basis its Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and other important documents.

The Clerk advised that, as per the agreement at the April Full Council meeting, a Working Group, comprising Councillors A Doig, R Ormerod and S Walker, had

met to review these documents and the amendments had been set out in reports to Councillors.

In addressing the question of co-option, Cllr E Ashby proposed that the term “non-Councillors” be amended to “people”. This was seconded by Cllr V Ashfield. 4 Members voted in favour of this amendment, 6 Members voted against this amendment and 4 Members abstained from voting. It was **agreed** that the wording should remain “non-Councillors”.

The Clerk highlighted that he was aware of some discontent regarding limiting numbers of Committees of the Parish Council and asked what the arguments in favour of limiting numbers were. Cllr R Ormerod advised that this was to help ensure that each Committee was manageable.

The content and wording of each document was **agreed** as set out in the following link: <https://cityofdurham-pc.gov.uk/important-documents-and-policies/>

## **12. TO DECIDE ON APPOINTMENT OF PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON LOCAL ORGANISATIONS**

Members unanimously **agreed** to maintain a Parish Council representative on all of the local organisations listed in the report. In doing so, Members also **agreed** that the Parish Council representative for each of these organisations should be as follows:

<b>Local organisation/ body</b>	<b>City of Durham Parish Council representative</b>
Community Engagement Task Force	Robert Hanson and Victoria Ashfield
Community Engagement Task Force sub group - Economic	Esther Ashby
Community Engagement Task Force sub group - Citizenship	Victoria Ashfield
Community Engagement Task Force sub group - Lived Environment	Carole Lattin
Durham University Covid-19 community engagement group	Esther Ashby and Liz Brown
PBSA Liaison Group	Esther Ashby and Govind Nair
Durham Access Group	Liz Brown
CDALC Larger Councils Forum	Esther Ashby, Adam Shanley and Richard Ormerod
ASB sub-group task force	Adam Shanley
Durham AAP Board	Susan Walker

## **13. TO DECIDE ON PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

Members unanimously **agreed** the membership of each Committee for this year of the Parish Council as follows:

<p><b>Planning Committee (6 Members) - Meets once every two weeks on a Friday at 2pm.</b>  Victoria Ashfield  Richard Ormerod  Carole Lattin  Grenville Holland  Susan Walker  Govind Nair</p>	<p><b>Environment Committee (6 Members) – Meets once every four weeks, dates and times agreed at Committee level.</b>  Carole Lattin  Victoria Ashfield  David Freeman  Liz Brown  Rob Hanson  Rupert Friederichsen</p>
<p><b>Personnel Committee (5 Members) – Meets as and when required, typically once per year.</b>  Elizabeth Scott  Alan Doig  Govind Nair  Victoria Ashfield  Grenville Holland</p>	<p><b>Business Committee (6 Members) – Meets once every two months, dates and times agreed at Committee level.</b>  Elizabeth Scott  Richard Ormerod  Nicola brown  Grenville Holland  Esther Ashby  Govind Nair</p>
<p><b>Licensing Committee (6 Members) – Meets once every two weeks on a Friday at 2pm (the alternative Friday to the Planning Committee).</b>  Susan Walker  Nicola Brown  Alan Doig  Esther Ashby  Govind Nair  Helen Weston</p>	<p><b>Finance Committee (6 Members) – meets once per quarter, dates and times agreed at Committee level.</b>  David Freeman  Alan Doig  Robert Hanson  Victoria Ashfield  Helen Weston  Liz Brown</p>

#### **14. CLIMATE LEAD OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

Cllr R Friederichsen set out his first report on work carried out following the Parish Council’s decision on 27th February 2022 to appoint him to the role of Parish Council Climate Lead until the Full Council meeting in May 2022.

Taken together, the recommendations in this report provide a suggested workplan for the climate lead for the period from June 2022 to April 2023.

Cllr R Friederichsen set out a number of priorities, work carried out and recommendations in his report, including his work in carrying out a carbon audit of the Parish Council, organising the carbon literacy training, improving the River Wear and producing a report on the Sniperley Park development

In addition to priorities identified within the report, Cllr R Friederichsen also recommended he focussed working with the Business Committee to identify potential projects, including ones which may require budget to be allocated in 2022 for the financial year 2023-24.

Members unanimously **agreed** to support this report and the recommendations set out within.

Cllr R Friederichsen was elected as the Climate Lead for the Parish Council for this year. Nominated by Cllr C Lattin and seconded by Cllr V Ashfield.

## **15. PLANNING FOR THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS 2022**

The Clerk advised that planning for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee is going extremely well and that the Parish Council, together with the Durham Markets Company, is continuing to take a leading role in the organisation of Jubilee events this year.

The Clerk also advised that regular meetings with key partners are taking place and this has resulted in a timetable of very exciting events for the City over the Jubilee weekend and beyond.

The Clerk advised that he was very pleased with the event with Sue Snowdon at New College Durham and thanked Cllrs E Ashby and E Scott for their work and support with this. Cllr E Ashby thanked the Clerk and Alice Wilkes for their tremendous work with this event.

## **16. CYCLE OF FULL COUNCIL MEETINGS**

### **Suggested Cycle of Meetings (all commencing at 7pm)**

#### **2022**

23<sup>rd</sup> June  
28<sup>th</sup> July  
22<sup>nd</sup> September  
27<sup>th</sup> October  
24<sup>th</sup> November  
8<sup>th</sup> December

#### **2023**

26<sup>th</sup> January  
23<sup>rd</sup> February  
23<sup>rd</sup> March  
27<sup>th</sup> April

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

Signed,

**Chair of the City of Durham Parish Council  
(30<sup>th</sup> June 2022)**

## **ITEM 6: TO CONSIDER THE LATEST UPDATES ON THE SNIPERLEY PARK DEVELOPMENT**

Members are reminded that the issue of the Sniperley Park development, located outside of the parish area, has been discussed at a number of Parish Council meetings.

Eleven years have been spent in establishing whether the Durham City Green Belt should and could be used to meet the quantitative and qualitative need for housing in the County. That matter was settled by the acceptance of the Examination in Public Inspector's required Main Modifications and the formal adoption of the County Durham Local Plan on 21 October 2020, Policy 4 of which allocates Site H5 (4/DU/101) for 1,700 homes.

On 15th October 2021, ahead of the adoption of the Masterplan, the Co. Durham Land LLP submitted plans for the demolition of existing buildings adjacent to the B6532 and an outline planning application for a maximum of 1,550 dwellings, a local Centre, public house (use class sui generis) and primary school (use class F1), associated infrastructure and landscaping.

On 1st July 2021, ahead of the adoption of the Masterplan, Bellway Homes submitted a hybrid planning application for outline permission for an extension to the Sniperley Park and Ride and full planning permission for the development of 370 dwellings associated access and works and demolition of former farm buildings.

In both cases, the City of Durham Parish Council has objected to these applications, on the grounds that a full and comprehensive Masterplan for the site – as required by CDP Policy 5 – has yet to be agreed.

On 10 January 2022, the City of Durham Parish Council submitted their detailed comments on the consultation on the Sniperley Park Masterplan, primarily highlighting the inadequacies of the present proposals in terms of their sustainability and impact on climate change as well as the highways network to and from the City.

Following on from this, Cllrs G Holland and R Friederichsen presented a report to Full Council in April 2022, where Members fully endorsed the below energy solutions at the Sniperley Park development and also agreed to liaise with neighbouring Parish Councils on this development. Framwellgate Moor Parish Council has indicated their intention of working alone on this development and Witton Gilbert is considering the City of Durham Parish Council's position.

### **Energy solutions at the Sniperley Park development:**

1. An Energy Assessment for the entire site designed to minimise energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions with all properties satisfying the 2030 operational energy and embodied carbon targets set by the RIBA 2030 Challenge which identify the optimal set of energy solutions to minimise energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

2. All homes and buildings to be built to EPC A rating standard as a minimum.
3. No connection of the site to the national gas network.
4. Photovoltaic panels / and battery storage in all homes and buildings.
5. Ground and/or air source heat exchange systems for all homes and buildings.
6. District heating system using any potential geothermal energy.
7. All houses to have electricity supply points for electric cars.

Councillor Mark Wilkes attended the last Full Parish Council meeting and assured Members that the County Council is pushing for as sustainable development as possible at Sniperley, within the legal framework set by Government on sustainability and climate impact.

On 15th June, the Parish Council was notified that both developers were submitting non-determination appeals for applications DM/21/03574/OUT and DM/21/02360/FPA.

In both cases, the case officer has submitted a follow-up letter setting out the present position on these applications and highlighting that the Local Planning Authority is not in a position to positively determine these applications in their current form, owing to the following:

**DM/21/03574/OUT** – *“as detailed in CDP Policy 5, Sniperley Park is a green belt release allocation proposed to create a sustainable urban extension to Durham City which is required to constitute an exemplar of design quality and sustainability and one that demonstrates clear and comprehensive masterplanning inclusive of the neighbouring Bellway land. In this regard and reflected in the Design Review assessment the application is currently considered to fall short and its content is not yet providing the confidence that a development of the necessary standard would be delivered”.*

DM/21/02360/FPA – *“A number of consultee comments are still awaited to fully inform on remaining matters most notably; Spatial Planning; Education; Ecology; Landscape; Highway Authority; and the Met Office....*

*Officers could not support the planning application most notably due to the fundamental conflict with the CDP Policy 5....*

*As a general point, given the combined quantum of development proposed across both neighbouring sites is well in excess of the 1700 dwellings quoted within the CDP, resolution of many issues of detailed design would be aided by a reduction in the quantum of development”.*

It is clear that the Local Planning Authority has concerns about these proposals and the Parish Council has had an early indication that these appeals may lead to a public inquiry.

At the Planning Committee on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022, Members agreed that a further approach to DCC on the Sniperley Park masterplan should be undertaken as soon as possible including the City of Durham Trust and the Western Relief Road Action Group, along with any other interested groups.

**DECISIONS  
REQUIRED**

- 1) For Members to note the above report and await further updates on how these appeals progress.
- 2) For Members to agree a further joint approach to DCC on the masterplan for Sniperley, along with the City of Durham Trust and the Western Relief Road Action Group (WRRAG) and other interested groups, subject to their approval.

## **ITEM 6: REPORT ON THE INSTALLATION OF FURTHER BLUE PLAQUES IN THE PARISH**

Last year, the Parish Council launched a public nominations scheme for the introduction of blue plaques to commemorate important people, buildings and events in the parish.

Since then, 5 blue plaques have been delivered as follows:

- The pioneering female photographer Daisy Edis - 142 Gilesgate
- The location of the former organ builders Harrison & Harrison - Harrison House
- The Market Hall - outside the Indoor Market Hall
- The three first female graduates of Durham University Mary Gibson, Dora Heslop and Winifred Hindmarch - St. Hild and St. Bede's College
- The Railway Cottages - Railway Cottages

This scheme is based loosely on the English Heritage scheme for blue plaques in London and has been delivered in other local areas outside London by various Parish and Town Councils. Launching such a scheme would be an encouragement for residents to celebrate their heritage and an opportunity to engender Civic Pride.

In launching the initial scheme, the Parish Council agreed the following criteria:

### **CRITERIA FOR GRANTING HERITAGE PLAQUES**

#### **1 In the case of a single person**

1.1 If the person was eminent in his or her field and is listed in appropriate general national biographical sources for the period; for instance, the Dictionary/New Dictionary of National Biography, Who's Who/Who Was Who, Men and Women of the Time, the Times Obituary, or recognised specialist biographical sources, and had a significant connection with one or more places in the City of Durham Parish area, such as a residence of five years, place of birth, place of business etc., OR

1.2 if the person made a definite contribution to the history of Durham City, does not appear in the relevant national sources but had a significant connection with one or more places in Durham City, such as a residence of five years, place of birth, place of business etc.

**Please note:** Proposals will not be considered for the commemoration of individuals unless more than 20 years has elapsed since their passing.

#### **2 In the case of an event**

If it was of considerable importance in the history or development of the City.

#### **3 In the case of a building**

If, unconnected with an important person, the building was significant in the history or development of Durham City, or is of great antiquity, or of particular architectural importance.

Attached to this Agenda is a copy of the remaining set of nominations from the public for the blue plaques scheme. In January, the Parish Council agrees sufficient funding to provide two further blue plaques to the 5 already delivered.

The Parish Council has asked that a blue plaque for 20 Allergate be included in this year's scheme and it is open for Members to nominate the blue plaques they'd like to see delivered this year.

The scheme has been very popular and the experience from last year's scheme has shown that buildings which are unlisted and non-University owned are easier to deliver.

Members are therefore asked to vote on which blue plaques they'd like to see delivered this year from the list included with this Agenda.

<b>DECISION REQUIRED</b>	For Members to agree which two blue plaques they'd like to deliver this year.
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### Appendix 1 – example of blue plaque



## **ITEM 6: REPORT ON THE RENEWAL OF THE ENHANCED NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDEN SERVICE SLA WITH DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

Members are reminded that the Parish Council currently has a service level agreement (SLA) in place with DCC to provide an enhanced Neighbourhood Warden service for the City.

This service level agreement provides 10 additional Neighbourhood Warden hours for the City at an annual cost of £10,000. In January 2022, the Parish Council agreed to allocate £10,000 towards this priority and the continuation of this service.

Should Members be minded to continue this enhanced service, the service level agreement will need to be renewed this year and therefore this report is coming to Members at Full Council in June 2022.

In addition to the present provision of Wardens for the City, both the Parish Council (10 hours per week) and Durham University (full time) provide funding for an enhanced service for the City. The University has recently renewed its SLA with the County Council.

The benefits of this service are significant due to the heightened responsiveness to environmental issues and a substantial increase in proactive environmental enforcement.

Several other Parish Councils have this arrangement in place with the County Council, include Stanley and Spennymoor Town Councils.

The Neighbourhood Warden deals with all local incidents in relation to fly-tipping, littering, dog fouling, nuisance parking, waste accumulations, graffiti and waste duty of care offences.

They also carry out proactive work in relation to dog fouling and littering and to identify specific neighbourhood problems at an early stage.

The Warden is also expected to work closely with the Parish Council to identify hotspots and areas that are causing concern for residents and businesses.

The Warden may also be involved in publicity and education of the public in all aspects of environmental issues within the parish area. They would also be able to carry out mini-campaigns in problem areas to tackle local environmental problems in particular problem areas.

Fixed Penalty Notices can be issued by Wardens to those who commit an offence which is something the Parish Council cannot legally do.

As part of the service level agreement in place, reports of what has been achieved on a monthly basis are expected to be provided. An annual report of what has been achieved since June 2021 is attached to this Agenda for Members consideration.

The Environment Committee recently met and agreed that this service is an essential one provided by the Parish Council, albeit there are issues with reporting which need to be resolved with the County Council.

The Chair of the Parish Council has recommended that the provision of a monthly report be written in to the SLA as a requirement ahead of any payment being made.

Whilst the issues of reporting need to be addressed, the Environment Committee recommends that the service level agreement be renewed for a further 3 years.

<b>DECISIONS REQUIRED</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) For Members to agree to renew the service level agreement for an enhanced Neighbourhood Warden service with DCC as set out in the above report.</li><li>2) If 1) is approved, for Members to agree that a monthly report must be a requirement written into any new SLA prior to payment of funds for the service.</li></ol>
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## **ITEM 8: 2022/23 ALLOCATION OF GRANT FUNDING TO LOCAL VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS**

Members are reminded that at the January meeting of the Full Parish Council, Councillors formally agreed to allocate £15,000 of the budget for 2022/23 towards grants for local and voluntary organisations, based on the following criteria:

- The project to be funded meets the aims and objectives of the Parish Council.
- Assistance will be given on the basis of need, merit and contribution to the local community.
- Applicants must clearly show how any assistance given will benefit the people living in the Parish or will benefit the environment of our Parish.
- Any assistance given will be subject to on-going monitoring and subsequent evaluation of the outcome of the grant.
- Organisations should not make a presumption that funding will continue on a year to year basis.

In accordance with the Parish Council's current grant awards policy, the City of Durham Parish Council provides grant funding to support the following aims:

- To enable local people to participate in voluntary groups and activities.
- To help the parishes' voluntary groups to improve their effectiveness.
- To ensure the provision of services, needed by the residents, via the voluntary sector.
- To support organisations which meet the needs of people experiencing social and economic difficulties.
- To ensure that there is equality of access and opportunity for all parishioners of City of Durham to the services it provides and funds.
- To improve or enhance the local environment.
- To achieve value for money.

At its meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2022, Full Council approved emergency grant funding of £10,000 from this budget towards the continuation of the Safety of Women at Night (SWaN) hub in Durham City.

The grant funding window for the remaining £5,000 opened on 1st April 2022 and this has been advertised on social media, the Parish Council's website, through the local press and through direct e-mails.

Organisations were asked to apply by 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022 in order that the Finance Committee may consider this at its meeting in June and make a recommendation to Full Council in June. Once approved, all grant payments will be made at the end of June 2022.

On 21<sup>st</sup> June, the Parish Council's Finance Committee met and agreed to allocate funding as per the report provided. In order to achieve this, Members agreed that the following allocations should be moved to the grants budget:

£2,200 be taken from the contingencies fund of £15,000.

£4,000 be taken from the Environment Committee budget as follows:

- The £3,000 allocation for an OASES/schools project be reduced to £1,000.
- The £1,000 allocation for a community composting scheme be removed entirely.
- The £1,000 allocation for businesses reducing their plastic use be removed entirely.

The reallocation from the Environment Committee’s budget was proposed on the basis that this would go towards projects which also improve our parish’s environment.

Should this be agreed by Council, the funding available for grants would be £11,200 (£5,000 from existing grant fund, £2,200 from contingencies and £4,000 from Environment Committee).

Members have been provided with the full details of all applications. For ease of reference, the applicant, the amount requested from each applicant and a summary of each project is provided overleaf.

<b>DECISIONS REQUIRED</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) For Members to agree to the reallocation of funding towards the grants fund, as set out in the above report.</li> <li>2) If 1) is agreed, for Members to agree to the allocation of grant funding for each application.</li> </ol>
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Organisation	Project details	Amount requested	Amount proposed by the Finance Committee
Durham Hospital Radio	<p>To fund continued improvements to the Durham Hospital Radio studios to improve the functionality for the presenters enabling social media and other software to be used in conjunction with live shows. Also, some installed computers need hardware upgrades to allow moving systems to Windows 11.</p>	£1,200	£0
Sixth Form Centre	<p>A grant is required to support and extend our community programme offer into 2023. Following the success of our ongoing pilot programme launched in April 2022, we have gained valuable experience and significant positive feedback from participants. Including:</p> <p><i>'Friendly, accessible and welcoming - I loved it!', 'Engaging content! Thank you for arrangement and planning' and 'Great value. Very exciting - loved the collaborative exercise, fun and very creative.'</i></p> <p>Initially we have commissioned AiRs past and present to deliver either one-off workshops or a series of classes, supported by our arts development officer. Each workshop or block of classes covers a specialist art form, so far including ceramics, ink drawing, digital illustration and drawing.</p> <p>We hope to commission a new programme of classes to launch in Spring 2023. We will continue to work with our AiRs and extend partnerships with cultural organisations and individuals to deliver specialist sessions such as photography and life drawing.</p> <p>By Spring 2023 our new community arts space and gallery will be complete and will be a base for this community work. We</p>	£2,000	£1,000

	hope to reach out into new community groups and invite people to take part in our programme of activities.		
ERA	Re-painting and enhancement of both sides of the brick 'football' wall in St Oswald's playpark (Church St, Elvet). The front side will be repainted with appropriate images for play (e.g. goalposts, targets), and the rear side repainted with a mural depicting by local historical themes: an image of the 'Dun Cow', with a frame inspired by miners' banners. Community artist Lewis Hobson ( <a href="http://www.facebook.com/DurhamSprayPaints">www.facebook.com/DurhamSprayPaints</a> ) has created an outline design, and (if the project goes ahead) will work with residents and with pupils at St Oswald's Primary to develop it. (See attached document for images.) He will also be responsible for carrying out the painting work.	£1,263	£1,000

Harbour	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Stronger Together</b></p> <p>This is a new project we want to launch to support the family members of the clients we help. We have recognised that there is no practical support for immediate family or even close friends of the clients who are using our service. Whilst our clients get emotional support and practical advice from us, when in an abusive relationship or after leaving an abusive relationship, it can often be difficult on the parents, siblings and adult children. As those people have not been direct victims of abuse they are not eligible for support within our service but it has become clear that they often do need some form of support. We want to offer a monthly group session so they can offload, have a contact within Harbour to ask or seek advice and guidance.</p> <p>Initially we will deliver this service via Teams, but in the longer term we want to deliver this locally, face to face in a friendly environment, we therefore need to cover staffing costs, venue costs as well as refreshments. We will also need to cover costs to promote this new service across the area. We have a staff member who is willing to deliver this service, as additional hours to her usual working hours, therefore no additional training costs are needed. She is a fully qualified Counsellor and Support worker so has all relevant skills and tools needed to facilitate this project. It will be supported by the Service Manager and organised and managed by an admin officer. We have had some funding to deliver this in the Tees Valley area but would like to reach our Durham clients also.</p>	£1,000	£1,000
Merryoaks WI	To purchase a further microphone enabling each speaker to have their own avoiding the need to share. To purchase a full Zoom subscription to allow speakers from elsewhere in the country and to	£250	£250

	enable us to hold hybrid meetings, making us fully inclusive.		
St Cuthberts Hospice	<p>Our gardens provide much needed sensory stimulation and therapeutic benefit to our patients and their families.</p> <p>Funds from the City of Durham Parish Council will be used to improve accessibility around the Hospice grounds and enhance experience for all who visit our gardens through improvements and essential repairs. Your donation will be used to pay for tools, equipment, plants and furniture.</p> <p>As a result of these funds and improvements, we will be able to remain a welcoming, peaceful and accessible environment for our patients, families and visitors, through innovation and repair. Over a 12 month period we expect that 1,000 patients and their families will be able to enjoy the therapeutic value of nature within our grounds.</p> <p>Gardening Supplies = £1,750 Grounds Maintenance = £2,500</p>	£4,250	£1,750
St Margarets Centre	<p>A new course has been arranged in joinery and wood working skills in order that participants can earn a certificate issued by the centre describing exactly the level of skill that has been achieved by the production of actual articles made and produced on the course. For example, joints, rebates, hinge and lock settings, routing etc. This application is specifically for the purchase of a new Bandsaw and the purchase of materials where the costs have escalated for the purchase of both soft and hard wood.</p>	£3,000	£3,000

St Nics Church	To help fulfil our aims of serving the community and acting as an eco-church we need to reclaim the church's graveyard which has been neglected (and desecrated) over the last 10 years. We want to turn it into a heritage rest and recuperation area potentially with mini-allotments for older residents to use and designated picnic and meeting areas and areas for rest and contemplation.	£3,200	£3,200
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£16,163</b>	<b>£11,200</b>

## **ITEM 9: REQUEST FOR A CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE MAYOR'S CHARITY APPEAL**

The Parish Council has received correspondence from the Mayor's PA at Durham County Council on behalf of newly elected Mayor of Durham City Councillor David Freeman, asking if we would consider supporting this year's Mayor's Charity Appeal.

Following his election as Mayor on 9 June 2022, Councillor David Freeman announced that any funds raised during his Mayoral year would be channelled towards Durham Samaritans.

Durham Samaritans are situated in Durham City and are an organisation the Parish Council has supported in the past with their base of operations in the Viaduct area of the City.

Volunteers provide face-to-face, telephone and email support to anyone struggling with their mental health.

The Samaritans have been providing support to telephone callers and visitors for over 50 years and also offer email support for those who find it easier to communicate this way. The service is needed as much today as it was back in 1971 and every year, Durham Samaritans take around 25,000 calls from people going through difficult times.

The Samaritans also work closely with Durham University, providing training and support to Nightline, a student-run listening service for students. Volunteers provide training to prison listeners in Durham and Low Newton prisons. The Samaritans regularly liaise with staff at LNER's Durham Railway station to promote their service to passengers and staff, and also give outreach talks to local schools, colleges and community groups.

We can also be found at important annual events such as the Durham Miners' Gala, Durham Pride, Newcastle's Crisis at Christmas and the Great North Run. Our volunteers and supporters are also involved in regular fundraising events - from bake sales to fashion shows to golf days. Last year marked the 50th Anniversary of Durham Samaritans.

No specific amount has been requested in the letter from the Mayor's PA and any offers of a donation will be gratefully received and acknowledged.

In December 2020, the Parish Council supported the previous Mayor's appeal with a donation of £500 towards the Fire Fighters Charity.

<b>DECISIONS REQUIRED</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) For Members to agree to support the Mayor's Charity Appeal for Durham Samaritans.</li><li>2) If 1) is agreed, for Members to agree an appropriate donation to the Mayor's Charity Appeal.</li></ol>
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## **ITEM 10: PROPOSAL TO FUND THE PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF AN INFORMATION LEAFLET FOR RESIDENTS BY DURF**

The Durham University and Residents Forum (DURF) has been working on the production of a residents' information leaflet. The purpose of this leaflet is to act as a signpost to residents informing them of how to report a specific issue of concern and the follow-up actions they should expect following a report.

It is hoped that this will assist members of the public in addressing their issues in a speedier manner which helps resolve the issue(s).

The content of this leaflet has undergone extensive approval stages and has now been agreed by representatives of DURF. A copy of this leaflet is included with this Agenda for Members' consideration.

In order to ensure that all residents receive the same information, it is proposed that the Parish Council funds the printing and delivery costs associated with providing each resident with a copy of this leaflet.

In addition to properties within the parish boundary, it is also proposed that the Parish Council funds part of the costs associated with printing and delivery for the unparished part of Gilesgate, in view of Gilesgate Residents Association being an important member of the Parish Council's Community and Residents' Associations Forum (CRAF).

The Chair of Gilesgate Residents Association has advised that the Association would be able to put £100 towards the unparished part of Gilesgate and it is open to Members as to whether or not they accept this.

The cost of printing the leaflet (A4 folded to A5 full colour) will be £43.50/ 1000 leaflets. The cost of delivering these leaflets - solus delivery - i.e. by themselves is £98.00/ 1000 leaflets.

There are 8,588 postal addresses in the City of Durham Parish area but this includes the following PBSA numbers (2,196 in total) which we can hand deliver:

<b>Postcode</b>	<b>Properties</b>	<b>Students</b>	<b>PBSA</b>
DH1 1SB	36	42	Chapel Heights
DH1 1SD	30	33	Chapel Heights
DH1 1SH	25	29	Chapel Heights
DH1 1SJ	46	53	Chapel Heights
DH1 1SX	20	21	Chapel Heights
DH1 4BJ	200	200	City Block (The Village at the Viaduct)
DH1 4SL	223	223	Dun Holm House
DH1 4FA	259	260	Duresme Court
DH1 3UA	57	61	Elvet Studios
DH1 2GY	237	237	Ernest Place
DH1 3SG	198	199	Houghall Court

DH1 1NY	123	123	New Kepier Court
DH1 4RY	131	363	Rushford Court
DH1 1JA	108	152	St Giles Studios
DH1 4DS	43	105	St Margarets Garth
DH1 1RH	460	475	Student Castle

It is proposed that the Parish Council looks to have these leaflets delivered to the PBSAs directly and liase with the relevant PBSA management to ensure that each dwelling therein receives this through their letterbox.

There are a further 2,118 postal addresses in the unparished part of the Gilesgate Residents Association area.

The estimated costs for each section are therefore as follows:

**The City of Durham Parish area - approx. £1,000 (£373.58 printing, £626.42 delivery).**

**Unparished GRA area - approx. £299.69 (£92.13 printing, £207.56 delivery).**

As this is unallocated funding, if agreed by Council at this meeting, it is proposed that the costs of producing and delivering this leaflet is drawn from the Council's £15,000 contingencies fund.

It is proposed that these leaflets be produced and delivered to every resident in the identified area for the end of August/ beginning of September, ahead of the new University academic term.

<b>DECISIONS REQUIRED</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) For Members to endorse the content of the draft residents' leaflet, as provided in conjunction with this Agenda.</li> <li>2) If 1) is agreed, for Members to decide whether to accept the offer of £100 from Gilesgate Residents Association towards the printing and distribution of this leaflet in the unparished part of Gilesgate.</li> <li>3) For Members to agree the associated costs of printing and delivering this leaflet to the identified area, as set out in the above report.</li> </ol>
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## **ITEM 11: OPTIONS FOR ENHANCED POLICING OF DURHAM CITY**

As Members are aware, the Parish Council has been working in conjunction with key partners and stakeholders in its efforts to tackle complaints of anti-social behaviour and noise in the City.

This issue was raised at the recent annual meeting of the parish by a local resident who asked the City's Police Inspector for costs associated with an enhanced policing operation carried out by Northumbria Police in an area of Newcastle with a high student population density.

Since this meeting, the Chair of the Parish Council has been engaging with the City's Police Inspector on options for a similar operation in the City. The associated options are as follows:

**Option 1** - would be what was discussed at the meeting before Christmas, which would be in the region of £250k for the inception of a University Policing Team, dealing with all matters that arise, taking additional responsibility for additional targeted late night patrols and the oversight of antisocial behaviour and the escalation procedure. This would involve four full time police officers (with integral supervisory function), working a varied shift pattern to meet key demand and two PCSOs to supply the back office and daytime function. Duties would include primarily engagement and enforcement, including delivery of notices, paperwork in relation to civil procedures, contacting complainants in relation to issues with students and liaising with the university / key stakeholders such as the ASB and environmental teams. They would also have an education function within the university, delivering problem solving initiatives.

The difficulties in this option would be in the additional uplift needed in establishment to ring fence those officers whilst ensuring that there is no detriment to wider policing function. Due to the recruitment and training implications of this option, there would be a long lead in time and there would have to be a substantial commitment in terms of length of the commitment to funding the team.

**Option 2** - This would be similar to option 1 with the two additional PCSOs, but staffing the dedicated PC patrol officers from officers on overtime. This option would be preferable initially, as it could be adopted as soon as we need to with the support of the current team whilst the new PCSOs are being recruited and trained. There are some issues with this option as the officers could be from across the force area and may not have an in depth working knowledge of the issues in Durham, however, the PCSO support team could produce briefing packs and would be able to 'join the dots'. This is the format of Operation Oak, Northumbria Police's response to student issues and the funding required would be in the region of £125K to pay for overtime, a supervisory function and the uplift in PCSOs.

This report is purely for information purposes at present for Members. A further

meeting of key stakeholders is planned for later in July to discuss these options further.

Members will need to consider that the Parish Council may need to be a funding partner in this operation and this may likely involve an increase in the Parish Council's precept for 2023/24 as a result.

<b>DECISION REQUIRED</b>	For Members to note the above report and to endorse ongoing discussions with partner organisations to investigate options for an enhanced policing service for the City.
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**ITEM 12: MOTION BY CLLR E ASHBY ON LEGAL ACTION BY PUBLIC SERVICE WORKERS**

Councillor E Ashby wishes to propose the following motion to the Parish Council on supporting the legal action by public service workers:

**The motion**

*"The City of Durham Parish Council fully supports all legal action by public service workers in justifiable defence of their jobs and conditions of employment".*

<b>DECISION REQUIRED</b>	For Members to decide to agree to the above motion.
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## **ITEM 13: UPDATE FROM BRIEFING ON LEVELLING UP FUNDING BID BY DCC**

On 30<sup>th</sup> May 2022, Parish Council representatives received a briefing from DCC on future levelling up funding bid relevant to the City.

In the 2021 Budget, Central Government announced the Levelling Up Fund (LUF), to provide investment in regeneration and growth in places with low productivity and poor connectivity

County Durham has been identified as one of the areas of greatest need of levelling up in the UK and has been classified as a Tier 1 area by Central Government. The Round 1 submission for the Bishop Auckland Parliamentary Constituency: Rural Connectivity and Cultural Connectivity, was successfully awarded £20 million Levelling Up Funding in the Autumn Statement, October 2021. The LUF is a competitive fund totalling £4.8 billion nationally, with £1.7 billion awarded to successful applicants in Round 1. This leaves £3.1 billion for future rounds.

Beyond the announcement of the LUF, the Government White Paper released in February 2022 confirmed the wider approach to Levelling Up.

Further guidance for Round 2 Levelling Up bids was released in March 2022. This confirmed that the funding criteria was broadly in line with the previous round. Each parliamentary constituency within the Local Authority area can submit one bid for Government grant of £20 million. County Durham, with six parliamentary constituencies, can submit up to six bids in total. The Government guidance states that a minimum of 10 percent match funding is required to support each bid.

Local authorities are the accountable body for all bids and the guidance is clear that engagement with, and the support of, the local Member of Parliament for each area is required.

The bids can include a maximum of three cohesively connected projects, with capital spend in financial year 2022/2023 with Government grant expended by March 2025. Business cases must demonstrate need, deliverability, strategic fit and value for money. The three priority areas for scheme investment remain as the following:

- Transport;
- Regeneration and town centres;
- Cultural investment.

The deadline for submitting Round 2 proposals for 2022/23 funding awards is 6 July 2022, and priority will be given to projects that can commence capital spend in 2022/23. It is thought likely successful bids will be announced in the Autumn Statement 2022. There will be time pressures to ensure that bids are delivery ready by this point.

Although Government announced that there would be three bidding rounds when Round 1 was announced, the most recent Levelling Up White Paper and

subsequent guidance on Round 2 are silent on the issue. The working assumption is therefore, that there will not be a Round 3.

Local authorities, as Responsible Bodies for developing the bids, have received £125,000 capacity funding to support the development of future bids. However, the development costs of a full programme of levelling up proposals will be substantially higher overall. Durham County Council's Cabinet has earmarked reserves to accommodate the estimated costs of developing robust bids.

A range of potential schemes has been developed across the remaining parliamentary constituencies to support transport connectivity, culture, heritage and regeneration in the city, town centres and villages.

A £20 million Levelling Up government grant is being sought to contribute to the delivery of three schemes that will collectively enhance and maintain Durham City's economy. The schemes support economic development through transport and cultural led regeneration. The schemes proposed are:

- a) Bowburn Relief Road – tackling traffic capacity constraints to bring forward Phase 3 of Integra 61, by reassigning traffic away from Junction 61 and Bowburn village (A177);
- b) City Centre active mode connectivity, linking new and existing cultural attractions; Cultural attractions including the DLI, Wharton Park, Crook Hall, Elvet Park, Peninsula, and the Riverbanks will be better linked for visitors. Health and wellbeing will be enhanced through active mode connectivity linking residential areas with the city centre.
- c) Stabilisation of A690 – ensuring the A690 remains open and there are no adverse impacts on the A1 or the wider city.

The County Council will potentially use identified Section 106 funding towards project (b) identified above; specifically relating to the Elvet Park proposals. At the meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2022, the Parish Council requested that further public consultation be undertaken for residents in the Elvet area.

As this funding could be used to develop the LUF bid, the County Council has agreed that all new applications for Section 106 funds be suspended in the Elvet and Gilesgate division until such a time when funding becomes clearer on the LUF bid. More information will hopefully become available in Autumn 2022.

<b>DECISION REQUIRED</b>	For Members to note the above report and to await further information regarding the Levelling-Up Funding bid for Durham City.
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## **ITEM 14: REPORTS FROM THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS 2022**

As Members are aware, the Parish Council and the Durham Markets Company took the lead on organising events in the City for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in and around the Bank Holiday weekend (2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022).

The organisation of these events was a big undertaking by local partners and helped to deliver a series of Jubilee events. Some of the main highlights of events planned included:

- A Jubilee Tea Dance on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022.
- The lighting of the City's beacon on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022.
- A Cathedral Service of Thanksgiving on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2022.
- The Big Jubilee lunch event in the Market Place on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

All of these events ran successfully and the Parish Council has received positive feedback from all those participating in these events. In particular, Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant Sue Snowdon has contacted the Parish Council to express her sincere gratitude to the Parish Council for arranging a series of outstanding events for the Jubilee.

The former Mayor of Durham City Councillor Arnie Simpson has also sent the Parish Council an email highlighting the beacon lighting event as one of his highlights from his year as Mayor and has thanked the Parish Council for the honour of being the one to light the beacon.

Other events and displays were organised by other key partners in conjunction with the Parish Council.

Further events throughout the year – such as the planting of an oak tree at Wharton Park and a City-wide litter picking event – are also being organised.

Members are also reminded that the Clerk has circulated details of the Queen's Baton Relay event, set to take place in the City on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

The Clerk has written to all Members expressing his thanks in particular to Councillor E Ashby, Colin Wilkes and Alice Wilkes for their tremendous work in organising these events.

Members have expressed a desire for the Parish Council to provide Alice with a gift to say thank you for her work in particular.

The Clerk has also arranged for the Lord Lieutenant to send a personal thank you card to all those actively involved in organising Jubilee events alongside the Parish Council.

The agreed partnership and additional resource for organising events provided by Durham Markets Company worked extremely well and has proven to be an essential resource to the Parish Council. This is being funded from the budget allocated to an assistant for the Clerk and not directly from the agreed events

budget. Alice Wilkes was seconded to the Parish Council for 4 hours/ week for these events at a cost of £15/ hour.

The Clerk has expressed his hope that this arrangement can continue at a cost of £240/ month going forward for other events in the City.

The funding of £8,000 from all four County Councillors towards the Jubilee events has provided the flexibility to organise further events this year and the Parish Council's Business Committee will be meeting in July to discuss an events plan.

<b>DECISIONS REQUIRED</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) For Members to note the above report and to await further information regarding future events for the Jubilee year.</li><li>2) For Members to consider a gift to Alice Wilkes as a thank you for her work and support for the Jubilee event.</li><li>3) For Members to consider the request by the Parish Clerk to continue the agreement with the Durham Markets Company for additional support with events in the City.</li></ol>
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**ITEM 14 (CONTINUED): CORRESPONDENCE FROM CROSSGATE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP ON THE STREET PARTY AT HAWTHORN TERRACE**

The Parish Clerk has received the following correspondence from the Chair of the Crossgate Community Partnership (CCP).

As reported at the last Parish Council meeting, the Parish Council had received a number of concerns regarding a party at Hawthorn Terrace during the Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend from local residents.

The Chair of the Parish Council wrote formally to Durham University, Durham Police and Durham County Council to express these concerns and to request that this be looked into in order to ensure that the event took place safely and with little disruption to nearby residents.

**Correspondence from the CCP**

Dear Adam,

**Street Party in Hawthorn Terrace, 4 June 2022**

The monthly meeting of the Crossgate Community Partnership held on 7 June instructed me to write to you about the multiple failures in the planning and execution of the street party held in Hawthorn Terrace on 4 June 2022. We need to ensure that there is no repetition of these failures in the future.

Unfortunately the misgivings expressed by Councillor Doig in his email which you forwarded to me on 27 May have proved only too well founded. On 1 June you also forwarded to me an email from Paul Watson, Strategic Highways Manager at DCC, who described "the efforts of the organiser who has complied with our recommendations and addressed requirements". The following page quotes this email and sets out what actually happened on the day.

We consider that the primary fault for the failures on 4 June must lie with the organiser, and we are grateful for the efforts put in by Durham County Council, Durham Constabulary, and Durham University to try to mitigate the consequences. We are particularly grateful to the Parish Council for intervening once this matter was drawn to its attention. Nevertheless, the event was essentially as feared by local residents since the organiser did not abide by promises made to the responsible authorities.

The letter dated 1 June from Alan Patrickson to Councillor Doig ends "We can assure you however that we will continue to work closely with agency partners and will follow up on any reports concerning noncompliance should they arise." The following page lists a whole catalogue of failures to comply with the recommendations and requirements of the responsible authorities. I hope you will now encourage the County Council to address the issues raised and let you and local residents know what actions have been taken as a result.

Yours sincerely,

**Roger Cornwell**  
**Chair of the Crossgate Community Partnership**

## **Appendix**

### **Email from Paul Watson, Strategic Highways Manager, and our comments.**

The times for both the TEN and the road closure are not aligned, the TEN expires at 11pm and the road closure ends at 8pm. The organiser has confirmed that the road closure will be removed at 8pm to allow for the street to be returned back to unrestricted access. *The tapes were removed at 8pm. The Red Bull branded vehicles were moved about 20 minutes later.*

The Council have been given written assurances relating to restrictions on the numbers attending to comply with the TEN. *Numbers attending exceeded 499 and probably peaked at around 1,000. The party was advertised online, see:*

<https://allevents.in/durham/platty-jube-street-party/200022425893916> **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.**

<https://stayhappening.com/e/platty-jube-street-party-E2ISUE59YLV> **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.**

with security/stewards on site to support this requirement. *Stewards were present at the entrance points on Hawthorn Terrace, and also on the side streets directing people to the entrances. However the only clicker to count people in and out was at the Mistletoe Street end. Also, there are more than 40 houses fronting the part of Hawthorn Terrace that was cordoned off and residents of these houses (at least 180 in number) and their guests (whom witnesses have seen entering by the back door) were not controlled.*

and entrance fees being paid by those attending through designated access points. *The entrance fee was one penny.*

Also included is confirmation that rubbish will be disposed of in additional larger bins provided during the event, the street cleared of litter. *This was done. Teams of students cleared up from 8pm.*

no glass will be permitted. *The licensed bar dispensed drink into plastic containers. However, some people brought their own drinks in glass bottles and broken glass was left on the street at the end of the event. A local resident reports she spent an our or more clearing broken glass on the Sunday morning.*

emergency access maintained at all times, no cables will trail across the highway *This was complied with.*

and public liability insurance has been obtained. *We have no way of checking this. However, it may have been contingent on the numbers not exceeding 499.*

Given the efforts of the organiser who has complied with our recommendations and addressed requirements. *This turned out not to be the case on the day.*

we hope that the event safely passes without incident. *More by luck than judgement, and no doubt helped by the police presence, there were no serious incidents despite the event exceeding the allowed capacity.*

I have also attached a plan supplied by the organiser which details entry points, location of catering, music, drinks etc for information. *This map was accurate.*

<b>DECISION REQUIRED</b>	For Members to consider any follow up actions arising from this correspondence.
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## **ITEM 15: REPORT FROM PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON LOCAL ORGANISATIONS**

### **Report by Cllr C Lattin on the latest meeting of Durham University's Engagement Task Force Lived-Environment sub-group**

Notes from the meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022

- Issues with the parking of students' cars had been previously raised. As an update the meeting was informed that a statement advising students not to bring cars unless there was a serious issue is now on the student website and also in the Livers out leaflet. It is still felt that this does not address those students who simply ignore this advice.
- No progress on student engagement with local businesses. There is a proposal, not yet progressed, that there could be some sort of loyalty card to encourage students to shop locally, to replace a previous scheme.
- I gave an update on the meeting I had with Quentin Sloper and his team at Maiden Castle. I was assured that lights are automatically switched off at 10 p.m./ and are not on all night. On some occasions they are turned on again in the mornings for early training. The team are hoping to install LED lighting which is more efficient and cost effective. An additional bin will be placed on the other side of the Maiden Castle foot bridge. Notices asking dog walkers to keep their dogs on leads and avoid the sport area will also be put at the other end of the path. The team were unaware of the spigot mortar gun emplacement on their land but have since visited it. They are now debating the best way of protecting this heritage.
- Green move out details were given and this is now underway. Students in all colleges have received bags. Collections are on a rolling basis. Colleges are paired with different charities. All houses in designated areas receive purple bags even if they are not student houses. The area has been expanded and includes more places in Nevilles Cross.
- The Greenspace festival will be opened by David Loudon on June 11<sup>th</sup> at Collingwood College. All are welcome to attend but need to pre-register with Eventbrite.
- Landlord Licensing proposals have not moved forward. John Ashby gave a report saying that DCC are preparing a voluntary scheme and encourage landlords to join. DCC will need the university to make a financial input.
- The new chair of DURF is Jonny Moore. He will attend the forthcoming DURF meeting . John Ashby also reported on the protocol which has been agreed to tell residents what actions to take when dealing with ASB. This will be delivered to every house in the CODP area.
- Gary Anderson will oversee the removal of over-flowing bins. David Loudon has met with representatives of DCC to identify hotspots. It is noted that HMO applications are spreading further and further out from the city centre. Attention was drawn to new PBSA applications at Robson House and the Banks development at Mount Oswald. DCC planners have told the university that they have no veto.
- Community webpages on the university website are under development.

### Estates update:

- The Environment agency are comfortable with the plans which have been submitted including the management plan. The lighting and sensors have been adjusted. Currently a design team are considering the revision of the floor plan. The proposal goes to planning on July 5<sup>th</sup> and everything is dependent on receiving planning permission. Swift boxes will be installed.
- 25, Old Elvet. No decision has been made about its possible use and it is possible that the university might sell it. They wish to demolish the modern, rickety extension and have applied for permission for this.
- The swimming baths are under review for possible uses. It is acknowledged that the building itself helps to reduce the flood risk in that area. The intention is for a decision to be reached by the end of 2022
- The St. Hild and St. Bede re-development is ongoing.