

# Blakelaw and North Fenham Community Council



Meeting held at:  
The Community Room  
Moorland House, Moulton Place  
Blakelaw, Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE5 3RY  
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Chairperson of Council: Ron Clarke  
Clerk to the Council: Helen Richardson

## **MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**DATE HELD: Thursday 12 October 2017**

**TIME: 6.00 pm.**

### **Present:**

Councillors: Cllrs Ron Clarke(RC), Doreen Jardine(DJ), Lorraine Birkett(LB), Karen Ferry(KF), Jimmy Gill(JG), John Wears(JW), Violet Rook(VR) and Rowena Spencer(RS)

### **In Attendance:**

Helen Richardson(HR) – Clerk to the Community Council (minutes)  
Margaret Kilpatrick – Resident  
Debbie Playford – Resident  
Nora Casey – Newcastle City Councillor  
Katherine Robinson – Resident

### **119/17. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Community Councillors Ann Fullen, Ann Keenan, Irene Teasdale and City Councillors Oskar Avery and Sue Pearson.

### **120/17. Declaration of Interests**

Ron Clark – Newcastle Community Asset Trust, Post Master, 165 TARA and Trading Arm of NCAT  
Doreen Jardine – 165 TARA and Newcastle Community Asset Trust  
Karen Ferry – Board Member of Blakelaw Club Juniors Football Club  
James Gill – Newcastle Community Asset Trust  
Violet Rook – Governor at Thomas Walling School and Governor with North East Ambulance Service

### **121/17. Co-options of New Community Councillor**

The Community Council heard from Rowena Spencer who talked about her experience and love of Blakelaw and it's surrounding areas. It was agreed unanimously that Rowena would be co-opted on to the Community Council.

## **122/17. Police**

The Police were not in attendance. The Community Council acknowledged their reduction in staffing but the Community Council expressed concern that Blakelaw was falling off their radar. It was hoped that they would be in attendance at the Ward meeting the following week.

## **123/17. Grant Application**

### **Blakelaw TARA – Christmas Lunch**

Debbie Playford and Margaret Kilpatrick took the Community Council through the planned Christmas lunch. The event had been advertised to all residents from all 3 blocks of flats had been invited but only 24 residents had expressed a wish to attend. The event would consist of a lunch and present for each person. The Community Council expressed sadness that only 24 people felt they could attend the Christmas lunch. DP stated that she believes this is due to previous concerns raised in the building but they were hopeful that slowly but surely things would start to change.

### **Blakelaw TARA – Christmas Market Trip to Leeds**

DP confirmed that they had booked a 33 seater bus for the residents to visit the Christmas Market in Leeds. This trip was open to all 3 blocks of flats.

RC queried what would happen if they had more residents interested than the bus would fit. DP confirmed that they would get a bigger bus and nobody would be turned away, they would just pay the difference in cost. DP confirmed that there was no charge to the residents.

Following a discussion DJ queried whether extended family were able to attend as this had not been allowed in the past. DP confirmed that family members would be allowed to attend as carers and they appreciated that some residents may not know anyone therefore would be able to be accompanied by a family member.

JG stated that he believed that this trip was to purposefully target those living alone in order to get them out and about.

Following a brief discussion the Community Council agreed to grant both funding applications in full in the sum of £247 and £450.

## **124/17. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 21 September 2017 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

## **125/17. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

## **126/17. Update from Blakelaw Ward Councillors**

Newcastle City Council Ward Councillor Nora Casey. NC confirmed that she spoken with concierge (Dom) who had stated that there were no trees blocking the camera. The residents of Moorland House don't agree with this. NC to follow this up. The bunker area had been given a little money from YHN to tidy it up ie cut trees back, cut grass etc. The Clerk flagged that a substantial amount of money (£5060) had been granted to Groundworks which was to help release match funding. This amount would have equated to £10k yet since this there had not been any substantial work undertaken in the bunker area. At the time an open event had been arranged with a view to obtaining ideas yet nothing ever came from it. It was agreed that the Clerk would send NC any information the Community Council had.

JG raised concerns again regarding youths hanging around the area in particular near to the front of his home. Motorbikes had started to become a problem being ridden all over paths and grass.

NC reminded the community Council that their annual Ward event would be held on the 19<sup>th</sup> October and the 165 Estate TARA meeting was the following Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Blakelaw Ward Councillors also have a new facebook page called the Blakelaw Voice.

### **127/17. Sub Committee Memberships**

**Employment Group** – The Employment Group had met recently. As this is a closed group should anyone wish to have further details they should contact John Wears.

**Communications Group** – The newsletter was ready to go but the Clerk had had difficulties in finding a distribution company to deliver. It is believed that this is because the area to be delivered to is not straightforward.

There is still no Environmental Group however DJ expressed concern regarding the path that runs down past the Jaguar garage. This path was severely overgrown and difficult to pass. It was confirmed that this was Newcastle Council responsibility to cut back.

The Clerk drew the Community Councils attention to a request from the City Council regarding requests for nominations to the Standards Board. The Clerk confirmed that Ann Fullen was currently our representative and that those wishing to be considered were making a commitment to attend. Both Rowena Spencer and Ann Keenan expressed an interest although it was pointed out that it would be highly unlikely that they could both serve at the same time. The Clerk would put the names forward and await a response from the City Council.

### **128/17. To Receive Correspondence and Communications**

The Clerk confirmed that she had sent a number of emails and communications that were full of information that could be passed throughout the community.

A response had been received from NCAT however it was agreed that this response did not answer the Community Councils queries in full. It was agreed that NCAT (Glenn Pendleton) would be invited along to attend the next meeting to provide further information around play and youth services in the area and how they were being funded.



## 129/17. To Consider Planning Applications

There were no planning applications to be considered.

## 130/17. Financial Matters

### Bank reconciliation:

As per transactions relating to 22 September – 12 October 2017

Per Bank:

Account 1	£500.00
Account 2	£37,079.20
<b>Total</b>	<b>£37,579.20</b>

### Less: Payments:

Helen Richardson – October 2017 Salary(100497)	£444.00
HMRC – October 2017(100498)	£88.80
NPS - Newsletters(100495)	£954.16
BDO LLP – Audit (100496)	£276.00
Helen Richardson – Consumables(100499)	£18.05
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1781.46</b>

### Credit: Payments

Grant Funding Refund	£50.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£35,347.74</b>

Closing balance as at 12 October 2017 (account 2) £35,347.74

Closing balance as at 12 October 2017 (account 1) £500.00

## 131/17. Any Other Business

VR updated the Community Council in relation to her conversation with the Ambulance Service. They had confirmed they may be able to donate “something” whether that be training or funding towards the defibrillators. The Community Council need to consider how to take this project forward.

## 132/17. Date and time of the next meeting

The date and time of the next meeting is 9 November 2017 at 6pm.