

North Gosforth Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of North Gosforth Parish Council held in St Aidan's Community Centre, Brunton Park on Wednesday 13 December 2017

Present: Councillor Mears, Chairman
Councillors Agnew, Cooke, Duell, Hay, Loftus, Phillipson and Robinson.

In attendance: Cllr Down - Newcastle City Council
I Humphries - Clerk

55. Apology for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

56. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 16 November 2017 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to minute 53 being amended from Netherwitton to Featherstone Grove.

57. Matters arising from the previous meeting

- The Planters were to be topped up in the Spring.
- The Grit Bin at the shops had not yet been replaced.
- Members commented on the Christmas Tree outside the Church and agreed a contribution of £50
- The boundary fence at 30 davenport Drive had still not been removed from the adjacent grassed area.
- Members noted that progress was expected soon in appointing a new crossing patrol operative.
- The new tree on Lincoln Green had been planted.
- Members reiterated the need for yellow box road marking at the Marriot Hotel roundabout.
- No response had been received from the request for a bin on greenfield Road for Dog-bags

58.

Police Matters

Officers from Northumbria Police were present to provide prime statistics and Members were informed of a relatively small number of incidents in the area. Members also noted that there had been a decrease in the number of anti-social behaviour over the last few months. The officers explained the approach to dealing with youth disorder and also large groups of youths unlikely to cause disorder or nuisance.

Members were advised of the success of the Speed-watch volunteers and commented on the speed of some buses. A discussion also ensued regarding cold-callers and the police approach to dealing with those with a valid Peddler Certificate.

59. Financial Matters

The Clerk reported on the projected financial outturn at this year-end and the estimates for the financial year 2018/19. Members considered potential “unexpected” spending requirements during the next financial year and were of the view that the Precept should be raised incrementally by a modest amount this time rather than by a large amount in the future. It was therefore

Resolved: that the Precept for the financial year 2018/2019 be set at £13,700

The following payments were approved –	£
• HMRC (Oct)	80.00
• HMRC (Dec)	80.00
• Donation for Christmas tree	50.00
• Robertson (SO)	453.10
• Clerk (SO)	320.00

60. Planning Matters

Members considered the following planning applications and commented as recorded.

2017/1844/01/DET	3 Polwarth Road, Brunton Park: Erection of single storey extension to side	No objection
2017/1772/01/DET	24 Barmoor Drive, Gosforth: Erection of single storey extension to rear with balcony, glass balustrade, stainless steel flue and alterations to elevations	No objection
2017/1640/01/DET	Land to the south of Coach Lane, adjacent to The Cemetery, North Brunton: Minor material amendment	No objection.
2017/1785/01/ADV	Land to the south of Coach Lane, adjacent to The Cemetery, North Brunton: Display of 1 non- illuminated hoarding sign (retrospective)	No objection.

61. Other Issues

- The No. 46 Bus service was being oversubscribed in early mornings. Members discussed the problems experienced and noted that meetings were planned with Arriva to attempt to resolve the issues. An additional bus had been provided on one morning and it was hoped that might continue.
- It was suggested that a larger sign advising that the GNR slip road was closed at the north end was needed.
- The drains on GNR continued to be blocked causing flooding during heavy rain. Cllr Down agreed to request gully cleaning.
- Members discussed congestion on GNR south-bound and the dangers experienced at the Melton Park junction. It was suggested that the bus lane did not need to be in force for the full day and not beyond 6.00pm .
- Members noted that the two wooden seats on Lincoln Green were in need of refurbishment.
- Members commented on the need to grit/maintain the new cycle lanes otherwise they would become unusable as had been the case during the snow fall.
- A member suggested that the Parish Council discuss further the potential to provide a defibrillator within the Parish.
- Cllr Down advised Members that the cost of garden waste collections could increase significantly in the new year. Members commented that this would be counter-productive with an increase of waste going to landfill.
- Requests for leaves to be collected could be made to Envirocall.
- Members were dismayed to learn that work on the GNR cycle route was to commence in January, believing it would spoil the area and the major entrance to the City.
- Hedges on Consortium land required trimming.
- There was no new news regarding the bus turning circle.
- Comments were made regarding the untidy nature of the Takeaway's back yard.
- It was noted that Daft as a Brush charity vehicles were being permitted to use Brunton Bridge.
- Work was about to start on the new fast food outlets at Marriot Hotel roundabout

62. Date of next meeting

Thursday 17 January 2018 at 7.00pm in St Aidan's Community Centre, Brunton Park.

