

# North Gosforth Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of North Gosforth Parish Council held in St Aidan's Community Centre, Brunton Park on Wednesday 17 January 2018

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

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

**63. Apology for absence**

An apology for absence was received from councillors Cooke and Robinson.

**64. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 13 December 2017 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**65. Matters arising from the previous meeting**

- The bin at the shops had been replaced.
- The new tree had been planted and Northumbria Water were willing to help with costs of cutting the turf from around the base of the trees.
- The review of litter bins had commenced. Members expressed the view that a bin was still required on Greenfield Road.
- The drains on Great North Road still caused flooding during and after heavy rain.
- With regard to the No.46 bus service, it was noted that a larger vehicle was to be trialled rather than increasing the frequency of the service.

**66. Police Matters**

Officers from Northumbria Police were present to give an update on changes to the delivery of policing in the area, with additional responsibility being given to Community Support Officers. They were pleased to report no trend in crime in the area although it was noted that there had been problems at the Community Centre, the golf course and at Central Park, Gosforth. Members also commented on the door-to-door salesmen who continued to be a nuisance.

**67. Broadway to Brunton Lane Cycleway**

Representatives of the Gosforth traffic Community Group were present to seek support from the Parish Council for the retention of the stone bus stops which were under threat of demolition within the cycleway scheme. During an address which referred to the Group's activity in opposing the design of the proposed cycleway through this particular part of Gosforth, they stated that their opposition to the scheme was not "anti cycleway" but

an objection to the “over-engineering” for the proposed scheme. They were concerned that the temporary bus stop pole would be a hazard to blind and partially sighted people and as such they were in discussions with the RNIB. They also suggested that the close proximity of people using white sticks and cyclists was itself a hazard.

They specifically sought the support of the Parish Council to prevent the removal of the stone built bus shelters and referred to a petition of 800 votes cast on Facebook in support of their retention.

Members were in support of the retention of the bus shelters in question and also the trees under threat as a result of the scheme. They questioned the timing of the consultation regarding this scheme and in discussion with councillor Ashby, it became apparent that the scheme had originally been consulted on in 2015/16. Few members could recall that.

Councillor Ashby identified the trees to be removed, many because they were diseased or poor specimens and confirmed that replacements would be planted although not necessarily in the same location. With regard to the bus shelters he indicated that there was a belief that they were not liked by residents and that they would be unable to be adapted to the “smart system” that newer shelters would be capable of in the future.

Members disagreed suggesting that the majority of residents liked the traditional style of bus shelter and believed they should be retained. A member suggested that the bus shelters could be adopted by the Parish Council and maintained as they believed local residents and users of the shelters would wish.

The Clerk advised members that the costs associated with adoption of the shelters would need to be considered before any decision was made.

Members noted and agreed with the advice given but were minded to explore the opportunity to adopt the bus shelters in an effort to preserve them.

Members agreed to attend a meeting with the City Council the following week and put the Parish Council’s views in person.

## **68. Correspondence**

Members noted receipt of the following items of correspondence –

- Letter of thanks from the Church for the financial contribution to the Christmas Tree
- Letter from the Monitoring Officer, NCC, advising members of the Code of Conduct and there appropriate, the ability to withhold from publication certain personal interests.

**69. Financial Matters**

The following payments were approved –	£
• HMRC (Jan)	80.00
• Robertson (SO)	453.10
• Clerk (SO)	320.00

**70. Planning Matters**

Members considered the following planning applications and commented as recorded.

<b>2018/0003/01/DET</b>	9 Lincoln Green, Brunton Park: Erection of single storey extension to side and rear	<b>No objection</b>
<b>2017/1891/01/LDC</b>	23 Clayworth Road, Brunton Park: Lawful development Cert. for proposed hip to gable extension and dormer extension to rear.	<b>No objection</b>
<b>2017/0012/01/DET</b>	29 The Fairway: Erection of single storey extension to side and rear.	<b>No objection.</b>
<b>2017/1642/01/DET</b>	39 Milford Gardens, Brunton Park: Erection of porch to front, two storey extension to side, single storey extension to rear (amended plans received 22.12.2017)	<b>Objection – over dev.</b>
<b>2018/0001/01/DET</b>	48 South Bend, Erection of single storey extension and dormer extension to rear and porch to front	<b>Objection – beyond building line</b>
<b>2018/0021/01/DET</b>	54 The Fairway: Erection of two-storey extension to side and rear	<b>Objection – over dev.</b>
<b>2017/1874/01/TRE</b>	Northumberland Golf Club, High Gosforth Park,: TPO	<b>Objection to loss of trees</b>

application to fell 6 trees and  
remove lowest limb to another  
to raise canopy

**2017/0050/01/DET**

Jan Foster Estates LTD. 23A **No Objection**  
Princes Road, Brunton Park:  
Change of use from first floor  
office (Class A2) to residential  
2 bed flat

Councillor Mears declared an interest in the last item and took no further involvement in the discussion or decision.

**71. Other Issues**

- Leaves on the west side of Great North Road were causing a significant problem and were not being swept up.
- It was noted that councillor Agnew had been appointed to the NCC Standards Committee as a Parish Council representative. A meeting of the committee was to be held that Friday.
- The School Crossing Patrol had now recommenced.
- There had been an increase in the amount of dog mess and also the random depositing of “poop bags” on the streets.
- The Community Centre had received a grant from ASDA of £5,000 for community activity.
- Seats on the Green needed repair this Spring.
- The signs needed re-attaching to the planters this Spring
- It was possible that Melbury may be adopted during the course of the calendar year.
- Concern was expressed regarding the expanse of paving to the front of 30 Princes Road without apparent drainage.
- Members noted an ongoing neighbour dispute in Melton Park.

**Date of next meeting**

Thursday 21 February 2018 at 7.00pm in St Aidan’s Community Centre,  
Brunton Park.

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