

Minutes of the meeting of the **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe, on **WEDNESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2014** at 7.15 p.m.

**PRESENT**            **Councillor J D Clare** (Chairman) and  
Councillors E Adam, J Atkinson, B Blenkinsopp,  
A M Chandran, J Clark, N Collinson, Mrs M Dalton, R S  
Fleming, I Gray, G C Gray, Mrs S Haigh, B Hall, K  
Henderson, Mrs I Hewitson, J P Hillary, Mrs W P Hillary, M  
Iveson Mrs S J Iveson, P Kjenstad, Mrs V M Raw, D  
Summers, T Twissell, and C Wheeler.

**OFFICIALS**        Mr A Bailey (Town Clerk)  
Mr S Cooper (Environment Officer)  
Mrs M J Robinson (Leisure & Environment Assistant)  
Mrs J Thexton (Leisure Manager)  
Mr D Thompson (Works Manager)  
Miss J Welch (Golf Manager)

70.    **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors T R Bowman, Mrs B A Clare, M A Dalton and W Iveson.

71.    **MEMBERS' DISPENSATIONS**

No applications for dispensations had been received.

72.    **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest submitted.

73.    **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no questions from the public.

74.    **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor R S Fleming seconded by Councillor B Hall and

**RESOLVED** - that the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

75.    **ALLOTMENTS REPORT**

The Works Manager submitted his report for the 6 weeks ended the 16<sup>th</sup> February 2014. The report detailed inspections and general maintenance to the allotments.

**RESOLVED** - that it be recommended that the report be received.

76. **ENVIRONMENT REPORT**

The Works Manager and Environment Officer submitted their report for the 16<sup>th</sup> February 2014. The report updated members on the work being undertaken by volunteer groups, events and maintenance as well as burials and vandalism.

**RESOLVED** - that it be recommended that the report be received

77. **GRANTS OF GRAVE SPACE**

**RESOLVED** - that it be noted that the undermentioned grants of grave space have been issued:

West Cemetery

Grave No I 25	Ronald Alan Elliott
Grave No K 1a	Michelle Wood

78. **DAMAGE TO AYCLIFFE VILLAGE GREEN – VG64**

The Town Clerk submitted a report which advised members of damage to the grassed area of VG64 adjacent to 'The Green' houses.

**RESOLVED** - that it be recommended that

- i the report be received
- ii the situation be monitored
- iii Parks Patrol be requested to actively patrol the site.

79. **DCC CONSULTATION – TREE MANAGEMENT POLICY**

Following receipt of a Draft Tree Management Policy by Durham County Council, members were requested to consider making a response.

**RESOLVED** - that it be recommended that

- i the draft policy be received
- ii Great Aycliffe Town Council adopt the final version of the Durham County Council Policy suitably amended to the Town Council's role and responsibilities.

80. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**(1) The Committee considered the undermentioned planning applications:**

- (a) Retention of existing site signage – MIND, 10-11 Silverdale Place, Newton Aycliffe.
- (b) Prior notification for the erection of a conservatory to rear measuring 3.8 metres in length, 5.5 metres in width and 2.9 metres in height – 23 Webb Close Newton Aycliffe.

**(2) The Council received for information the undermentioned planning applications, prior notice of which had been circulated to all members of the Council. Durham County Council have been notified of the listed comments on each application:-**

- (a) Erection of temporary storage tent – Husqvarna UK Ltd., Preston Road, Aycliffe Industrial Estate.  
*No objections.*
- (b) Erection of wood cricket score box – Newton Aycliffe Cricket Club, Watson Road, Newton Aycliffe.  
*No objections.*
- (c) Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension – 1 Stoneleigh Court, Woodham.  
*No objections.*
- (d) Prior notification for the erection of conservatory to the rear measuring 4 metres in length, 3.3 metres in width and 3.3 metres in height to the roof apex – 3 Mills Close, Newton Aycliffe.  
*No objections.*
- (e) Change of use to hot food takeaway – 1 Gurney Way, Newton Aycliffe.  
*No objections.*
- (f) Change of use from greengrocer (A1) to fish and chip shop (A5) including the replacement of the existing shop front at 54 Beveridge Way, Newton Aycliffe.  
*No objections.*
- (g) Erection of 2 No. illuminated fascia signs – One Gym, Unit 5, Durham Way South, Aycliffe Business Park.  
*No objections.*

**RESOLVED** - that it be recommended:

- (i) Application 1 (a) to (b) – no objections
- (iii) Applications 2 (a) to (g) - that the applications be received.

**CHAIRMAN**