

# Broomley and Stocksfield Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 3 July 2017 at Stocksfield Community Centre

**Present:** Dr P Vickers (Chair), Mr C Liddle, Mr D Parke, Mr M Parker, Professor R Thompson.

Mr N Spencer (Clerk to the Council).

**Apologies:** Mrs J Furniss, Ms M Hunt, Mrs K Pollock, Mrs J Robson.

**Also present:** Mrs A Dale (County Councillor), Mrs H Dixon (resident)

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed those present.

### **17/81 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **17/82 Public Participation**

Mrs Dixon complimented the Council on the introduction of additional shelters at bus stops and Northumberland County Council (NCC) on improvements in road and gutter clearance. She also discussed the provision of additional recycling facilities at the cricket club and the quantity of broken glass seen at the location.

### **17/83 County Councillor Update**

Mrs Dale said she has received a request for a public notice board at New Ridley and, being unable to provide one, had agreed to refer the matter to the Parish Council.

### **17/84 Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 June 2017**

It was AGREED that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 June 2017 were a true and accurate record (proposed Mr Liddle, seconded Mr Parker).

### **17/85 Matters Arising**

#### **a) Advisory Groups: Review of Roles and Membership**

The Chair reminded members of the current position in respect of membership of Advisory Groups. Mr Parke and Prof Thompson were appointed to the Planning Advisory Group. Dr Vickers and Mr Parke were appointed to the Communications Advisory Group. Membership of the Rights of Way and Environment Advisory Group was deferred to the next meeting.

**Action: Clerk**

#### **b) Branch End Play Area (BEPA) – report of working group**

The Clerk reported that following the last meeting, NCC had awarded the Parish Council £8,362 from the Housing Developer Fund to provide additional equipment at BEPA. After discussion it was AGREED to accept the award and to authorise expenditure of £615 as the Council's contribution to the project. The Chair commended the working group on their activities.

**Action: Clerk DISCHARGED**

### **17/86 Finance**

#### **a) Approval of June Payments**

It was AGREED that the payments for June be approved as detailed in the previously circulated schedule (proposed Prof Thompson, seconded Mr Parke) and the summary of receipts and payments was noted.

#### **b) Budget monitoring to 30/06/17**

Members noted the budget monitoring report.

### **17/87 Parish Council Representatives**

There were no representative meetings.

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## 17/88 Advisory Groups

### a) General Governance Advisory Group (GGAG)

#### i) Notes of GGAG meeting 19/06/17

Members noted the previously circulated notes.

#### ii) Sports field overspill car park – funding issues

Members considered a previously circulated report and after discussion it was AGREED (proposed Mr Parke, seconded Prof Thompson) to reapply for charitable funding from the charitable source which offered funding previously; to ask for donations from the Multi Use Games Area Management Committee and the sports clubs which will benefit from the additional car parking; and to put in place appropriate arrangements to enable the Council to apply to the Public Works Loan Board for the majority of the funding required.

**Action: Clerk DISCHARGED**

#### iii) East Tynedale Parish and Town Councils' Forum – questionnaire and funding

The Chair referred to a previously circulated letter in respect of the future of the above mentioned Forum. After discussion it was AGREED (proposed Mr Parke, seconded Mr Parker) to approve the proposed annual grant to the Forum of £80 and to answer the questions posed in the letter as follows: 1. Yes; 2. Yes; 3. Consider how Forum members might develop effective local partnerships; 4. No.

**Action: Clerk DISCHARGED**

#### iv) Land at Branch End Terrace

The Chair referred to a previously circulated report in respect of the above land which has been managed and maintained by the Council for many years. After discussion it was AGREED (proposed Mr Parke, seconded Prof Thompson) to seek advice from Caris Robson LLP on options for the future of the land and to approve the initial cost of around £200 from contingency funding.

**Action: Clerk DISCHARGED**

#### v) Donation – Hindley Burial Board

It was AGREED (proposed Mr Parke, seconded Mr Liddle) to make a donation of £1,000 to Hindley Burial Board.

**Action: Clerk DISCHARGED**

#### vi) Subscription renewal – Northumberland and Newcastle Society

It was AGREED to renew the subscription to the above society at a cost of £24.

#### vii) Arrangements for 2017 Annual Parish Meeting (APM) – review

Members discussed the arrangements for the 2017 APM which had, for the first time, been held immediately before the Council's Annual Meeting on 22 May 2017 and without an invited speaker. After discussion it was AGREED to replicate those arrangements for 2018 and subsequent years.

**Action: Clerk DISCHARGED**

#### viii) Draft lease – Merryshields field

The Chair referred to a previously circulated draft lease for Merryshields field which has a commencement date of 1 August 2017 and a term of 30 years. After discussion it was AGREED to approve the draft lease and to grant the Clerk delegated authority to agree the attached plan.

**Action: Clerk DISCHARGED**

#### ix) Proposed budget amendments

The Clerk referred to a previously circulated report that recommended amendments to allocations to budget headings and sub-headings. After discussion it was AGREED (proposed Prof Thompson, seconded Mr Parke) to approve the budget allocations as follows:

Budget heading/sub-heading	Budget (£)
Misc admin	300
Estate and verge grass cutting	3000
Misc Environment	500
Groundsman ex contract	1200
Sports fields grass cutting	5200
Play facilities grass cutting	2400
BEPA Maintenance	2615
Contingency	6101

**Action: Clerk DISCHARGED**

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## **b) Planning Advisory Group (PAG)**

Members noted the previously circulated planning report, including the delegated powers used, and AGREED the additional application (17/02151/FUL) as outlined below.

<b>17/02082/FUL</b> <b>Land adj to 19 Batt</b> <b>House Road</b>	Construction of Dutch dormer bungalow, garage, paths and driveway	No comment
<b>17/02151/FUL</b> <b>Lantern Cottage</b> <b>New Ridley</b>	Demolition of existing garage and construction of two storey extension	No comment

## **17/89 Any other urgent business**

### *Letter of Thanks*

The Chair reminded members of a previous decision to award a donation to Project Parent and drew their attention to a letter of thanks received from the project's organiser.

### *BEPA - Damage*

The Clerk reported that over the weekend of 24/25 June, a significant section of the play area's surface had been deliberately damaged. Mrs Robson has also reported clearing broken glass, litter and alcohol containers from the area. The police were asked to pay particular attention to the area. The surface was repaired on 29 June and has been further damaged overnight on 30 June. The police have been informed. Members AGREED to monitor the situation.

## **17/90 Date of next meeting**

Monday 4 September 2017

The Chair thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 8.41pm.