

**FRAMWELLGATE MOOR PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Framwellgate Moor  
Parish Council held remotely via Zoom on  
1 July 2020 at 1.00pm**



**Present:** Councillors N Martin (Vice Chair) A Hopgood, G Blenkiron, P Dawson, C Hillary, T Johnston, T Moderate and M Wilkes

**Also in attendance** - A Foster - Parish Clerk

1. The Vice Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

2. **Apologies for Absence:**

Cllrs F M Simmons, J G Holland, K Willis

3. **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

No members declared an interest.

4. **Questions from members of the public:**

No questions submitted prior to the meeting, no members of the public present via zoom.

5. **Police Report:**

Newsletter submitted and circulated prior to the meeting. Several issues regarding youths causing anti-social behaviour.

6. **Minutes of Council meeting (previously circulated)**

***Resolved*** That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 June 2020, were approved and will be signed by the Chairman at the next possible opportunity.

7. **Clerks report**

- No issues arising from the last meeting. The Clerk gave an update on virtual meeting planned for 22 July with Durham Football Club, all to be invited. Online booking system is in place for tennis and bowling.

7. **Parish Matters and on-going items**

a) **Planning applications received**

(see attached appendix 1)

**Resolved:** *To recommend approval*

b) **Eddis application**

Cllr Hopgood gave an update on the committee meeting she attended. The application has been approved 10 to 4. This has to be submitted to the Secretary of State as it is a major retail development and change of use. She is to have a meeting with head of legal as not happy with the way the proceedings of the meeting took place.

c) **Banking details**

Still need to receive bank statements before being able to close the account. The Clerk is still trying to change bank details with N Power, this has been going on since February.

d) **County Plan**

Cllr Wilkes to submit a response from the Parish and send around for approval via email, as there are more amendments that need addressing than previously anticipated.

e) **County Councillors report**

Report attached from Cllr Hopgood  
(see attached appendix 2)

f) **Members report** (for information only)

Cllr Blenkiron said he was frustrated with the lack of communication re the yellow lines due to be installed. Cllr Hopgood gave an update to the delay. Raby Road has one objection which is holding up the process. She suggested asking for that location to be taken out of the plan for the time being and this should speed up the other lines.

g) **Notes from working groups** (previously circulated)

A virtual joint meeting for Finance and Governance and Building and Grounds working group took place on 23 June 2020.

The notes agreed as a true record. All items that need approving to be separate agenda items.

It was agreed to discuss the opening of play areas at the next working group. To remain closed until then. Cllr Hopgood to chase up the SLA with DCC to start the safety checking of the equipment. To put signs up at the play areas to state not opening until the safety checks have taken place.

To discuss at the next meeting charges for tennis coaches.

*Cllr Wilkes arrived at the meeting at 2.08pm half way through the next item.*

- h) **LTA Grant** – Cllr Wilkes previously distributed information from the Lawn Tennis Association regarding the possibility of installing gate access and online court booking. Since the agenda was sent out the LTA have changed the contract term from 3 to 5 years. The cost to the Parish will be in years 4 and 5 as the three County Councillors are funding the first 3 years out of the Neighbourhood Budget. The costs approximately £2,000 for the remaining term. The hire charges in the 5 years should cover this and still give the Parish extra income.

**Resolved:** *It was agreed to go with the 5 year deal (5 votes to 2). The Clerk to submit the paperwork.*

- i) **War Memorial Pathway** – The cost to transfer the land is £430. DCC to carry out work on the walkway / handrail before the transfer should take place

**Resolved:** *It was agreed to pay the £430 once the walkway and handrail is completed from DCC*

- j) **Football Clubs** – The fees for the clubs was discussed

**Resolved:** *It was agreed to charge both clubs £600 for the year as in previous year. County Councillors have agreed to fund the clubs out of the Neighbourhood budgets.*

- k) **Drainage problems on King George V field** – Further quotes received. The Working group recommends going with Brambledown at the cost of £6,625. The County Councillors are applying for funding from the AAP or Neighbourhood budget as the section 106 money is not available.

**Resolved:** *It was agreed to go with the recommendations from the working group and ask Brambledown to carry out the work. (Pending successful funding bid)*

- l) **Football goalposts** – A quote for £1,260 was received from Batsons,

**Resolved:** If funding is secured (as above), it was agreed to go with this Batsons.

- m) **Weed killer** – A recommendation from the working group to form a policy to not allow the Greenkeeper to use weed killer was suggested.

**Resolved:** It was agreed to not allow the greenkeeper to use weed killer and if required anywhere DCC to be asked to carry this out. Cllr Wilkes to ask DCC how to dispose of the current weed killer securely.

- n) **Steps at football field** – A recommendation from the Working Group was to have the steps removed after a resident stated the dangerous state they are in. After inspection this has been conclusive. Two quotes have been received from £800 to £3,000

**Resolved:** It was agreed to go with Batsons at a cost of £800 to have them removed immediately

- o) **Report from Greenkeeper** – No update.

- p) **Policy review** – All policies have been distributed for approval prior to the meeting.

**Resolved:** The Chair to sign off at the next possible opportunity - Accident Procedure / Whistle Blowing / Sickness / Social Media / Seating and Members Allowance

- q) **Risk Assessment during Covid 19** – The policy was distributed for approval
- Resolved: It was agreed to adopt policy, but to add in that this is a working document with new guidelines from Government being put in place when required.*
- r) **Electricity contract up for renewal** – The contract from SSE will come to an end at the end of August, a letter to be sent to cancel current contract by 1 August.
- Resolved: It was agreed the Clerk to source a better deal, even if this is SSE. To contact Utility Plus who have sourced the better deal in the past.*
- s) **Training** – Free online training courses have been arranged by CDALC
- Resolved: It was agreed members to look and if interested to book online.*
- t) **Quarterly Accounts** – The Clerk distributed budget, reconciliation for approval
- Resolved: One member who is a non signatory to sign at the next possible opportunity*
- u) **Annual Meeting of the Council 2021** – The Clerk discussed the requirement for the Council to meet within 14 days of the election (planned for 6 May 2021)
- Resolved: It was agreed to change the meeting to 19 May 2021*
- v) **Correspondence received**
- Thank you letter received from Citizens Advice for grant of £50
- w) **Correspondence received after agenda published (to note only)**
- Nothing received
- x) **Urgent issues for noting** (The Clerk to use delegated powers). Any items members wish to place on next month's agenda.

8. **Financial Matters**

	<b>(a) <u>Payments</u></b>	
<b><u>Resolved:</u></b> That the following payments be agreed:		
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. That the sum of £1,261.26 be paid to Mr B Quinn Greenkeeper (July 2020 wage)</li><li>2. That the sum of £657.08 be paid to Mrs A Foster - Parish Clerk (July 2020 wage)</li><li>3. That the sum of £487.79 be paid to HMRC - tax</li><li>4. That the sum of £373.34 be paid to Durham County Council Pension Fund</li><li>5. That the sum of £25.99 be paid to Mrs A Foster - lock/tape and containers</li></ol> <p>The following payment was approved by Chair/Vice Chair giving the Clerk delegated powers during the lockdown when no meetings took place. These were paid via BACS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• That the sum of £39.49 was paid to Net Island - online booking system</li></ul>
<b>(b) <u>Receipts</u></b>		
<b><u>Resolved:</u></b> That the following receipts be noted:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. No income received</li></ol>		
<p>9. <b><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></b></p> <p>2 September 2020 to commence at 1.00pm (this to be a virtual meeting)</p> <p>The meeting terminated at 2.50pm</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Chairman</b> <b>Date</b></p>		

## Appendix 1 – Planning Applications - agenda item A

w/c 8 June 2020

DM/20/01344/FPA	6 Low Moor Cottages Pity Me Durham DH1 5RY	Proposed first floor extension to rear and single storey extension to existing kitchen
DM/20/01387/FPA	8 Folly Terrace Pity Me Durham DH1 5DS	Single story rear extension (Revised and Resubmitted)

## Appendix 2 - County Councillors report - agenda item E

The following were covered by County Councillors as part of their report

- Continued work on parking and traffic at the Arnison Centre, mostly taken up by the queues for McDonalds drive thru and the knock on effect for other businesses, cars and bus services, Mark has been working with the site owners and highways.
- County council meetings are now up and running virtually via Microsoft Teams, all are available to be viewed on YouTube.
- Due to the unusual windy weather and the fact that many more residents are out walking we have had an increase in the number of complaints about trees this year.
- All our local schools are back as per government guidance and plans are in place for a full return in September.
- Amanda had a visit to the Durham Angling club at Brasside to look at plans for improvements and possible funding assistance.
- Agreed that the county councillors would support funding for the football teams who use King George.
- Licensing and planning are both busy and we expect to see further increases with government relaxation of laws.
- Police shifts have changed for the month of July to allow for potential issues with the re-opening of pubs.
- Funding priorities have changed this year for the AAP, Amanda has raised complaints about this at the highest level given that the priorities are set by the public
- Concerns have been raised with Directors about the current lack of communication to members, the most recent example being the loss of the bus pull in outside the hospital on Aykley Head roundabout, whilst it increases safety for pedestrians with regard to social distancing it has created a road traffic and potential accident issue on the highway.
- There is still business grant money available for business owners, the vast majority of the first tranche has been allocated but there is still availability for those eligible under the second wave.