

Greencroft Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 22 July 2025 at 6.15pm at Lanchester Park,
Lanchester

(No access to meeting room booked at Lynwood House)

Present: Vivien Self (Chair), Dorothy Parry, Jane Cain, Ann Bell, Gavin Jarvis, Paul McAdam (Clerk)

Apologies : County Councillor Karen Allison

102/25 Declarations of Interest

None

103/25 Public Participation

None.

104/25 Minutes of the last Meeting

Resolved that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 24 June be **AGREED** as a correct record

105/25 Planning

DCC reports had been circulated.

There was one application in Greencroft Parish but there had been no representation from any members of the public and there were no other comments to make.

BP are appealing to the Planning Inspectorate regarding the refusal of planning permission for a Solar Farm but all submissions previously made will still stand and be included in the process.

106/25 County Councillor Update

No County Councillors in attendance.

107/25 Clerk Update

Maintenance – Response from Nathan regarding work required to the 3 benches along Tower Road (no work required on one bench) with options as to work he could carry out and cost.

It was **AGREED** that Paul would contact Nathan and request he replaced all slats on Seat No. 1 (£80) and Seat No. 2 (£90) and to sand and stain all 3 benches (£120).

Banking –

Lloyds Bank - The process is still ongoing to open a new bank account with 3 signatories – Vivien, Dorothy and Paul.

Barclays Bank – Vivien is now a signatory and all outstanding payments have been made.

Hours Worked – Estimated 10-11 for July and it was **AGREED** for these to be paid at the end of the quarter.

108/25 Budget

A budgetary control statement had been circulated detailing the current position confirming all outstanding payment have now been made.

109/25 Accounts for Payment

None

110/25 Traffic Issues in Village

Discussion around traffic incident on 2nd July when a speeding car crashed into a stationary car on a driveway on Lanchester Road and caused the parked car to be written off.

No police action taken at all and classed as an insurance matter although the resident is not happy with this and plans to contact County Councillors, Member of Parliament and the Chief Inspector to express this unhappiness.

It is felt that this incident is further evidence of the seriousness of the speeding issue through the village and highlights the need for speeding restriction measures in the areas where the Parish Council feels they will be most effective.

Discussion around other actions that could be taken to try and reduce incidents of speeding including bin stickers, a leaflet drop and signs on display.

It was **AGREED** that the Parish Council would look to display 2 banners promoting a Road Safety Campaign by Greencroft Parish Council to encourage drivers to slow down.

It was **AGREED** that Ann would source some estimates and detail on banner requirements and circulate information to the other councillors.

111/25 Purchases for Park Area

It was confirmed that the Lowther Seat to be purchased would be required to be fitted into concrete paving.

Further discussion around the purchase of a picnic table and the options previously identified and it was **AGREED** to purchase an Olympic Picnic Bench from Marmax with the additional bonus that this was a local supplier. The table would be a wheelchair friendly option by requesting that 1 of the 4 side seats is not included.

It was **AGREED** that the current plaque on display – commemorating the Queens Platinum Jubilee would be checked and cleaned if possible and, if suitable, used as a template for other plaques required.

It was also **AGREED** that Vivien would discuss with Nathan if he could design/make 3 wooden stakes to be used to affix the 3 plaques to.

112/25 Christmas Lights in Park Area

It was **AGREED** that this matter be deferred until next year to concentrate on speeding measure and improvements to the park area.

113/25 Seat and Fence Inspections

Jane had carried out the inspection and no further issues had been identified, other than those already discussed.

114/25 Development Plan for County Durham

The Council Plan 2025-2030 had been circulated and it was felt that the plan was very aspirational – although those aspirations were admirable.

It was **AGREED** that councillors would read further and should respond as individuals but could also send any comments to Paul by 5th August who could draft a Parish Council response from these comments if necessary.

115/25 Recruitment to DCC Standards Committee

The correspondence from CDALC trying to recruit Parish Councillors to sit on this committee had been circulated and all were encouraged to consider this and to apply if interested.

116/25 Questions from Members

None received.

117/25 Chair Announcements

None.

118/25 Any Other Business

None

119/25 Next Meeting

Tuesday 30th September at 6.00pm at Lynwood House.