

**MINUTES OF THE DARRAS HALL ESTATE COMMITTEE
MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY, 10 JULY 2017
AT 19:00 HOURS IN THE ESTATE OFFICE**

Present: Mr A Mate (Chairman)
Mrs S Hill Mrs C Thompson
Mr S Hughes Mr A Tucker
Mr J Myers Mr M Welford
Mr A Pile Mr G Wright
Mr S Savin

1. **Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr D Brown, Mr A Gilchrist and Mrs S Jaidka.

2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 05 June 2017 were signed as correct.

3. **Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

Best Practice List of Criteria

Mr Savin and Mr Welford are still to liaise and compile this.

Major Structural Developments

Mr Mate and Mrs Woodall to discuss this matter further and raise at next meeting.

Dog Waste Bag Dispenser Stations

Installation of these is imminent.

4. **Planning Applications:**

Please refer to Plans minutes.

5. **Financial Report by Treasurer:**

Mrs Duffy circulated the Financial Report for the Committee's perusal. She informed the Committee that overdue rent invoices have now been distributed and any outstanding rents of two years or more will be issued with a court summons towards the end of August.

6. **Letters Received and Any Other Business:**

Darras Hall First School

An email has been received from the architects and contractors (Galliford Try) regarding the allocation of 15-20 car parking spaces within the Estate car park. Following a brief discussion, the Committee were unanimous in their decision that these spaces would not be made available. We have a duty of care to parents to be able to bring their children to school and, the already difficult car parking situation, would be exacerbated.

A further email has been received informing the Committee of the intention to relocate the entrance to the new Primary School slightly further east on Middle Drive.

83 Runnymede Road

Mrs Woodall informed the Committee that correspondence has been relayed between Mr A Morgan and Dr McLeods solicitors, however, there is nothing further to report and the covenant consent letter with duly stamped plans will be sent to Mr Lee's representative forthwith.

Meeting with Councillor Jackson

A meeting has been arranged with Councillor Peter Jackson for 4 October 2017 at 10.30 in the Estate Office. Mr Mate encouraged any Committee members, who are available, to attend in order to discuss any problems on the Estate and find out the Councils approach going forward within their new regime. It was felt that the Committee should put together an informal Agenda before this meeting takes place.

Ponteland Neighbourhood Plan

Mr Tucker stated that Northumberland County Council's Core Strategy has now been withdrawn which will hopefully offer some protection to the residents of the Ponteland area, as housing numbers should be drastically reduced. He also informed the Committee that the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group have asked Ponteland Town Council to go to referendum within 6 to 7 weeks in order that the Neighbourhood Plan can be adopted. 50% of the public will need to vote in favour and then it can be officially adopted.

Podcast

Mr Mate said that after the first broadcast, there have been complimentary reviews on it and Mr Myers informed the Committee that to date there have been 1,700 downloads.

Mr Mate mentioned that the Garden Competition which we are running in conjunction with Dobbies Garden Centre, was nearly ready to be publicised. The judge of the gardens will be the manager Mr Paul Travis Anderson, and Mr Myers felt that he would be a good person to interview on his next podcast.

The details of the competition would be going on the website in the near future and it was felt that the Committee should include an advert in the Pont News & Views.

7. **Any Other Business:**

7.1 **Sub-Committee Reports**

7.1.1 *Highways and Environmental*

-

7.1.2. *Land and Property*

Mr Pile has organised a walk around the Grasslands on 11 July at 6.30 pm.
Mr Myers and Mr Mate said they would attend and any members are welcome to come along to familiarise themselves with the area.

7.1.3 *Airport Representative*

-

8. **Date & Time of Next Meeting:**

Monday, 07 August 2017 at 19:00 hours.

Meeting Closed: 20:25 Hours.