

**MINUTES OF THE DARRAS HALL ESTATE COMMITTEE
MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY, 7 AUGUST 2017
AT 19:00 HOURS IN THE ESTATE OFFICE**

Present:

Mr A Mate (Chairman)	
Mr D Brown	Mr J Scott
Mrs S Hill	Mrs C Thompson
Mr A Pile	Mr M Welford
Mr S Savin	Mr G Wright

1. **Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs S Jaidka Mr A Tucker and Mr J Myers.

2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 10 July 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.

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 any outstanding rents of two years or more will be

issued with a court summons towards the end of August. Mrs Duffy also asked the Committee if she should transfer £20,000 from Capital & Resources Account into the Deposit Account. This was agreed.

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

Darras Hall Primary School

An email has been received from the School regarding the purchase of a defibrillator at a cost of £1,005. They requested a contribution from the Committee and it was agreed that we would pay 50%.

Garden Competition

The competition has been advertised in the Pont News & Views and we have emailed all registered owners. Mr Mate asked Committee members to promote this and distributed entry forms for any interested parties.

Website

Mr Mate explained that our website had been down for over a week due to issues beyond our control. Mr Mate wished to take the opportunity to thank Mrs Ireland for her hard work updating the website from stored files which is now back online.

Mr Mate suggested that a meeting was held with our website hosts in order to determine if compensation is available to us and ensure that a similar occurrence does not happen again in the future.

83 Runnymede Road

Correspondence regarding the maintenance of the site has been answered.

Podcast

Mr Myers has released his second podcast and, again, this has been very well received.

Junction of Fox Covert Lane with Runnymede Road

A request has been received from a resident regarding the siting of a mirror on Runnymede Road in order to aid drivers at the above junction. This matter has been forwarded to the Highways Department at NCC and we have been informed that the matter is receiving their attention and consideration.

Letter in Pont News & Views

Mr Mate drew the attention of the Committee to the latest edition of the PNV and referred to a letter he has written personally regarding the Vergers Cottage change of use planning application in Ponteland. He stressed that this has nothing whatsoever to do with Darras Hall Estate Committee business and it was agreed by the Committee that should any further repercussions appear in future editions, then Mr Mate would issue a statement to clarify matters.

Ponteland Neighbourhood Plan

Mr Mate said that formal notification has been received and the matter is proceeding to a referendum.

149 and 163 Western Way

The above properties have erected front boundary treatments which do not comply with Byelaws. Mrs Woodall informed the Committee that no amended plans have been submitted and no correspondence has been received from the owners despite two letters being delivered by hand. It was agreed by the Committee that this is a blatant disregard of the Byelaws and a Solicitors letter will be sent to both parties as soon as possible.

7. Any Other Business:

7.1 Sub-Committee Reports

7.1.1 Highways and Environmental

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7.1.2. Land and Property

Mr Pile and Mr Myers had carried out their walk around the Grasslands. Mr Pile informed the Committee that some tree works on the Bridlepath would be carried out towards the end of September.

7.1.3 Airport Representative

Mr Scott updated the Committee following his latest Airport meeting.

- Projected growth of 8-9% for 2017
- Emirates operating well
- Ryanair have added 4 more routes
- Easyjet operate a flight to Berlin now
- Jet 2 have a 37% growth in passengers
- If Scotland reduce the APD this could affect the Airport
- 13 complaints this year but none from Darras Hall

8. Date & Time of Next Meeting:

Monday, 4 September 2017 at 19:00 hours.

Meeting Closed: 19:55 Hours.