

PRUDHOE TOWN COUNCIL
DRAFT Report of the Planning, Contract and Works Committee Meeting,
Held in The Spetchells Centre at 7 pm, 12th July 2017

PRESENT: Cllr Jennifer McGee (Chair), Cllr Andy Gill, Cllr George McCreedy, Cllr Chris Cuthbert, Cllr Carol Stephenson

1718/P010 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Yvonne Ritchie (m), Cllr Eileen Burt (m), Cllr Russ Greig (nm), Cllr Angie Scott (nm), County Councillor Anne Dale (nm)

Urgent Item: In view of office cover Cllr Jennifer McGee asked members if they would agree to move the August meeting of the Planning, Contract and Works Committee to the 3rd Wednesday in August as the Administrative Officer has annual leave booked when the agenda would be due to go out. **It was AGREED.**

Following a request, Cllr Jennifer McGee allowed Mr Michael Thirtle to address the meeting in support of a litter bin at Errington Place; this was being discussed later in the agenda.

Mr Michael Thirtle stated that people are leaving bags of dog waste around Errington Place and Prudhoe West First School. Mr Thirtle added that they are hidden as well as being thrown into the school yard. "We need a bin and to publicise that it is there as we want people to use it, so there should also be a sign."

1718/P011 Declarations of Interest

Cllr George McCreedy – Northumbrian Roads Planning Application [16/04430/FUL](#)

1718/P012 Report of the Planning, Contract and Works Committee Meeting, held on 14th June 2017

It was AGREED to RECEIVE the report as a true record with errors corrected.

Proposed: Cllr Gerry Price Seconded: Cllr George McCreedy

1718/P013 Matters Arising

p1 – Variation of Planning Application for Prudhoe Community High School: Cllr Jennifer McGee advised that this matter was on-going and it was hoped that an update would be forthcoming.

P5 – Highfield Park, Entrance Gates: The Administrator advised that Hollybush suggested that a fence would be preferable to hedging as hedging would be trampled before becoming established. **It was AGREED** to seek a cost for fencing.

1718/P014 Planning Matters

Castlefields & Low Prudhoe Ward
Northumbrian Roads Ltd, Dukes Way, Low Prudhoe

[16/04430/FUL](#)

Proposed extension to the existing HGV and LGV Maintenance Workshop, and associated Administrative Office, to provide one extra vehicle work station for maintaining own vehicles in connection with work.

Mr Stephen Atkinson

SUPPORT

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Prudhoe West & Halfway Ward
Mickley Moor Farm, Edgewell House Road, Prudhoe

[17/02105/FUL](#)

Proposed agriculture building for housing livestock

Mr James Ridley

SUPPORT

Prudhoe West & Halfway Ward
Mickley Moor Farm, Edgewell House Road, Prudhoe

[17/02096/FUL](#)

Proposed agriculture building for housing livestock

Mr James Ridley

SUPPORT

Castlefields and Low Prudhoe Ward
6 Broomhouse Farm Court

[17/02243/FUL](#)

Proposed alteration and erection of hardwood sunroom extension

Claire Bell

SUPPORT

Mickley Ward
12 Riding Dene

[17/02288/FUL](#)

Conversion of garage to ground floor habitable room, construction of 1st-floor extension over garage, amend living room window and infill porch recess with associated new roofing profile

Lee Clark

SUPPORT

1718/P015 High Shaw, Prudhoe

It was **AGREED** to respond and state the reasons that the Town Council had objected to the planning application to ensure consistency.

1718/P016 Allotment Liaison Committee

Cllr George McCreedy stated that like everyone else Prudhoe Gardeners' Association (PGA), although a very committed group, are struggling to get volunteers and people to stand on the committee. Cllr George McCreedy wished to highly commend the work of PGA and advised that a request has been made for a list of all the responsibilities and tasks of PGA, to present to the council. This would give members a greater understanding of the level of work carried out on the Council's behalf.

Cllr Chris Cuthbert raised a complaint received from a resident at The Copse regarding unsafe and obstructive parking by a minority of allotment holders at Stony Flat Allotments. It was discussed that this was an on-going issue. Cllrs discussed the safety issues present and the likely dangers of obstructing the footpath.

Cllr Jennifer McGee proposed that prior to the pre-budget discussion the Council liaise with Karbon Homes about the potential for parking on their land adjacent to Stony Flat Allotments. Cllr George McCreedy suggested that the resident who had contacted the Council should be advised of this action.

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It was AGREED to ENDORSE the decisions of the Allotment Liaison Meeting which included seeking costs for hedge-cutting at Castle Dene and seeking costs for clearing and rotivating difficult sites at Castle Dene.

1718/P017 Prudhoe in Bloom

- a) Cllr Chris Cuthbert said this was the first meeting she had attended and it was a very refreshing meeting. Cllr Chris Cuthbert advised that litter is very often on the agenda and Highfield Lane was the biggest concern, **it was AGREED** to contact Highfield Middle School after the holidays.
- b) **It was AGREED** to endorse the decision to have a 'Local Hero Award' as part of the Prudhoe in Bloom presentation.
- c) **It was AGREED** to endorse the decision to ask Prudhoe Community Allotment to take the plaque from Mickley Square that celebrates the Prudhoe Rose, as the rose is not in place at Mickley but is at the Prudhoe Community Allotment.
- d) **It was AGREED** to try the core-ten planters, currently in storage, in the area of the Miners Tub and to review the appearance after a period of 6-12 months. **It was AGREED** to seek costs for this work.
- e) Cllrs discussed the suggestion of a seat(s) at the site of The Prudhoe Badger and **it was AGREED** to look at this following an audit of existing seats as Cllr Jennifer McGee pointed out that it was some time since the council had taken any action to preserve them.

1718/P018 West Mickley Play Area

Cllr Chris Cuthbert described that the opening event was wonderful with bunting and a picnic for the children from Mickley First School Reception. Cllr Chris Cuthbert added that Moira Wooldridge kindly attended and the excitement levels were captured in some photographs. The fact that the bunting attracted a passer-by with his family who joined in was praised by Cllr Chris Cuthbert.

The Administrative Officer explained that a post-installation inspection would be carried out by the play provider and would be received by the council.

It was **AGREED** to purchase the Broxap Rainbow Picnic Bench to install in Mickley Play Area.
 Proposed: Cllr Jennifer McGee Seconded: Cllr George McCreedy

It was AGREED that signage would be required and that costs should be brought back to the Planning, Contract and Works Committee to signage and that it would come back to the PCW's.

It was discussed that a larger bin and work to the gates was also necessary.

1718/P019 The Kepwell

It was AGREED to have a look at The Kepwell area in the autumn and seek a quotation to undertake any work required, **it was AGREED** this could be quite significant.

Cllr Gerry Price suggested asking the County Cllr for some funding towards it. **This was AGREED** to be a good idea.

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1718/P020 Miners Bank

The information from Stephen Wardle was received. Cllr Jennifer McGee commented that the shrubbery as well as the grass bank was a disgrace and that it would not happen if it was in the middle of a private estate. Cllr Jennifer McGee suggested the Council wait to see the results achieved with the ride on-mowers.

Cllr Andy Gill responded that other Councils have the equipment to cut bank sides and questioned why the Town Council should even consider taking on something that NCC was not prepared to do.

Cllr George McCreedy commented that if it was unsafe for NCC staff to cut, surely it would also be unsafe for any contractor.

It was AGREED to monitor the situation and keep County Cllr Gordon Stewart up-to-date.

1718/P021 Grasscutting

It was AGREED to invite the contractor to meet with the council.

1718/P022 Play Areas

- a) Cllr Jennifer McGee advised that the officer would oversee play areas but as the Council is now responsible for four play areas it would be advisable to set up a small group to over-see the work necessary. Cllrs George McCreedy, Cllr Gerry Price and Cllr Jennifer McGee volunteered to be part of the group. Cllr Jennifer McGee suggested that they should meet fairly quickly. **It was also AGREED** to seek a further members.
- b) Cllr Gerry Price advised that he had read the RoSPA reports on the Play Areas and some issues needed to be addressed.

1718/P023 Litter Bins

It was AGREED to order a Broxap E-Derby Litter Bin for Errington Place
 Proposed: Cllr Jennifer McGee Seconded: Cllr George McCreedy

It was AGREED to order a Broxap E-Derby Litter Bin for Broomhouse Road/Lane
 Proposed: Cllr Jennifer McGee Seconded: Cllr George McCreedy

It was also AGREED that if the litter bin on Highfield Lane could not be repaired to install the spare one at the yard.

1718/P024 Cemetery and Memorial Sub-Committee

Cllr Andy Gill advised the architect Peter Ashworth recommended that the council should move more swiftly if it wished to complete the work on the Lychgate. Additional Cllr Gill expressed that there may be difficulty finding more than one contractor who was prepared to quote for the work, as engraving and furniture making is a specialised trade.

It was AGREED to approve the recommended work to alter the gates at Edgewell New Cemetery, at a cost of £260.

IT WAS AGREED to approve the recommendation to have the metal roller shutter at Edgewell Old Cemetery serviced.

It was AGREED to endorse the decision for the Cemetery Sub-Committee to meet bi-monthly.