

Monthly Meeting of Great Lumley Parish Council
held on Tuesday 2nd November 2021 at 6.30pm in the Main Hall
Great Lumley Community Centre

Present:

Cllr Neil Bains	Cllr Peter Brown
Cllr Anne Lambton	Cllr Carol McAllister
Cllr Jeremy Whiting	Cllr Hyleen Wood

In Attendance: 9 members of the public

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Alan Bell, Cllr Phil Heaviside, Cllr Hayley McAllister and Cllr Tim Robson.

2. Declarations of Interest

8.8 & 8.9 for Cllr Hyleen Wood.

3. Public comments

Two representatives from 'Save the Smiths Arms' steering group gave an update on progress. An application for asset of community value status was granted, which means the owner can now only sell the building as a Public House. An independent valuation and structural survey are scheduled for November to determine sale price. The business plan is almost complete. The steering group would appreciate support from the Parish Council as this is known to be helpful in cases such as this. Cllr Neil Bains asked if the Parish Council could have a digital copy of the report to attach to the Great Lumley Parish Council Facebook pages and website so members of the public could view it.

4. Minutes of the last meeting (*attached*)

Agreed as a true record with the following amendments:

- Cllr Jeremy Whiting asked for the removal of mention of social media from his statement;
- Amend next meeting date to 2nd November 2021.

5. Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising.

6. Environment and Community

6.1 Remembrance Day – Poppies are in situ around the Village;

6.2 View of Views – this item was deferred to next meeting;

6.3 Christmas – Christmas Tree has been ordered. Cllr Hyleen Wood advised she was waiting for an update regarding Christmas craft fayre stalls. Christmas tree light switch on will be after the craft fayre on Sunday December 5th – times to be confirmed;

6.4 Fish and Chip Van – two members of the public were in attendance from Redz Fish & Chips to discuss their proposal for using the community centre car park. A discussion in relation to timings, with one or two days per week being suggested. Redz requested the use of the electricity in the community centre. Councillors asked for more details on specific days and date to commence. Redz agreed to send information as soon as possible for publication on the Parish Council's Facebook page;

6.5 Christ Church – water supply cost was deferred to the next meeting;

- 6.6 Allotment Association five-year review** – Cllr Neil Bains gave an update on the recent Allotment Association AGM. Two decisions were deferred to the next meeting; the Allotment Association’s request to reduce their quorum from four to three members and agreeing the recommendation to continue the current arrangement between the Parish Council & Allotment Association;
- 6.7 Playground gates** – Cllr Phil Heaviside indicated that he is still waiting on a price from DCC. This item will be added to the next meeting’s agenda;
- 6.8 Bus services to Great Lumley** –Cllr Jeremy Whiting read out a letter he had received from DCC regarding the unreliability of bus services to Great Lumley and explained that Covid and other issues have led to this situation. A dial-a-ride service is available however users need to be ten minutes walk from a bus stop to access this service. Cllr Neil Bains agreed to post information on the Parish Council Facebook page.

7. Co-option of vacant Parish Councillor seat

Cllr Carol McAllister confirmed that this vacancy would be posted in the next few weeks, now that the new Parish Clerk was in post, inviting interested parties to submit a letter of interest.

8. Community Centre

8.1 Groups – Cllr Hyleen Wood advised several groups are now using the Community Centre, with Guides commencing 12th Nov during term time, and Brownies are waiting to confirm a start date. Cllr Carol McAllister advised DCC are planning to use the community centre to run 2 ways to wellness groups.

8.2 Bollard –still waiting on price from DCC – defer to next meeting.

8.3 Community Consultation

Cllr Neil Bains gave an update advising proposed questions were now drafted after advice from DCC. These will be forwarded to all Councillors for consideration prior to the next meeting. A member of public asked about the available formation for the consultation documents. Cllr Bains confirmed paper, online and face to face surgeries would be available. A member of the public commented that the collaborative nature of Parish Council meetings was ‘a breath of fresh air’ and thanked the Parish Council for its work so far.

8.4 Licence to occupy – deferred to the next meeting.

8.5 Use of kitchen by Foodbank – deferred to next meeting,

8.6 Outside lighting – deferred to next meeting.

8.7 CCTV in gym

Cllr Hyleen Wood had been asked to raise the issue of CCTV in the gym, as the current occupier, FiteHealth, had asked if it was operational. Councillors unanimously agreed if FiteHealth wished to install a small screen they could, but at their cost.

8.8 Volunteers

Cllr Carol McAllister proposed formalising paperwork to recruit community centre volunteers and agreed to bring documents to the next meeting for consideration.

8.9 Shredding contract

Cllr Hyleen Wood agreed to get costings to shred confidential documents currently stored in the community centre and bring back to next meeting for discussion.

9. Accounts

To receive details of accounts and expenditure (Cllr Carol McAllister)

Income

Gymnastics	435.00
DCC	300.00 (remembrance project)
Total income	£735.00

Expenditure

DCC	886.00
CITATION	120.00 (PAT testing)
GAZPROM	84.82
TURNER & BUDD	502.06 (cleaning)
WAVE	49.34 (bowling green water)
TOTAL ENERGIES	11.09 (electricity DD)
Fablon	25.97 (reimbursement to SE Bains)
Paint & supplies	84.96 (reimbursement to H Wood)
Lord Durhams	180.00 (bowling green)
Helping Hand	379.87 (litter picking equipment)
Zoom subs	14.39 (reimbursement to C McAllister)
Poppy wreath	30.00 (reimbursement to P Heaviside)
Total exp	£2368.50

AGAR queries –Cllr Carol McAllister agreed to progress with Mazars as best she could to resolve the outstanding queries.

10. Personnel Sub Committee

Cllr Carol McAllister introduced Christine College as the new Parish Clerk & RFO and confirmed she would take up her post on November 8th.

Cllr Hyleen Wood introduced Irvine Henderson as the new Community Centre Handyman, who would also take up post on November 8th.

11. Councillor Reports – to receive updates on specific areas of responsibility:

Cllr Peter Brown– advised that potholes had been marked, and new kerb stones installed

Cllr Phil Heaviside – advised that drop kerb had been installed at the GP surgery and those near Co-Op are due this week. White line work is booked to keep access clear.

Cllr J Whiting – advised that speeding cars in village were becoming a nuisance and potentially a danger. The Police are aware but there was no further update. ASB in village has also been a concern with many residents commenting about this in various places. The Police are involved with ASB reports and ask that any incidents are reported to them. Others commented that PCSO was invited to attend the meeting but was not present. The Neighbourhood Inspector had confirmed extra patrols were taking place in the village starting tonight. Durham Area Youth will be working with young people in the Community centre to encourage engagement and give them some focus/activities.

Cllr A Lambton – no updates.

12. Planning applications

These had been previously circulated to Councillors with only one application for a loft conversion.

A member of the public commented that the new fence at bottom of Danelaw was doing a brilliant job and stops vehicles getting in on the grass.

13. Correspondence

Cllr Neil Bains reported that an email from a member of the public had been discussed with nothing further to report.

Cllr Alan Bell had asked that an email from the Toddlers Group be deferred to the next meeting

Cllr Phil Heaviside had reported prior to the meeting that an email had been received from First Steps Nursery regarding Community Centre room hire for out of school provision. Cllr Hyleen Wood & Cllr Carol McAllister have arranged to meet First Steps to discuss further.

14. Matters for information

Cllr Neil Bains advised he had been asked to arrange a meeting to discuss Prescribing in the Community and he would report back to the next meeting with any update.

15. Next meeting

To confirm the date and time of the next meeting – Tuesday 7th December 2021 at 6.30 pm

Meeting closed at 19.30

Signed:

Date: 14/12/21

Councillor Alan Bell
Great Lumley Parish Council