

Brandon and Byshottles Parish Council Monthly Report

Brandon Carrside Youth and Community Project

August 2025

I took up post as the Youth and Community Service Development Manager on the Tuesday 11th August 2025 and during the final weeks of the summer holidays attended three external trips to Beamish Museum, Billingham Ice Rink and Sunderland Aquatic Centre where we had over 40 young people attend from across the Esh Winning, Brandon, New Brancepeth and Ushaw Moor.

Over the course of the school summer holidays, BCYCP ran a total of 15 trips and community activities, including surfing, bubble football, inflatable obstacles courses, bowling, laser tag and a trip to Holmside Park activity centre. This took place over a period of four weeks with 3-4 trips and activities available for young people to attend free of charge. We were joined at Beamish by members of the Lunchtime Club at Brandon and this served as one of our intergenerational trips with ages ranging from 11 to 92! The young people have shown determination, positive behaviour and a welcoming attitude to new members, with many of our 'older' young people helping to mentor and support the younger members, for example, by holding their hands for balance on the ice rink so they could gain confidence to participate at their own pace.

There have also been several year six 'taster' youth club sessions taking place at Ushaw Moor to encourage those young people who are transitioning from primary into secondary school to try out some activities over the summer holidays and increase engagement in preparation for the return of the school term in September. Our staff, volunteers and young people hosted a fun afternoon at Brandon and this was enthusiastically supported and attended by our by young people.

On the 20th August, three of our young people were invited to the Durham Youth Council Awards at Redworth Hall where they all received and special award nominated by our girls group leader for their motivation and commitment to the girls group project at Brandon. We are extremely proud of them all for their maturity, achievement and positive attitudes.

Our baby and toddler group were kindly donated a bouncy castle and soft play equipment, and this has coincided with a steady increase in the number of parents, carers and grandparents who have now begun attending this session on a Thursday morning. We have been able to provide refreshments and staff support for this vital session thanks to a community grant from Believe housing.

The priority for the coming months is to now begin developing and recruiting new staff and youth volunteers (via the Level 1 youth work course) to support the effective delivery of core youth sessions within the parish area, providing a high quality of youth work and wider community engagement.

BRANDON & BYSHOTTLES PARISH COUNCIL

PLANNING APPLICATION

Week ending 13th July 2025

There are no planning applications listed for Brandon and Byshottles Parish Council.

Week Ending: 24 July 2025

Brandon/ Brandon And Byshottles/ West North

DM/25/00720/FPA - Mrs Carol Watson

Land To The West Of The Former Uthank Garage, Fairfalls Terrace, New Brancepeth, DH7 7HP

Erection of 8no two storey semi-detached dwellings

Week ending 3 August 2025

DM/25/01976/FPA

Mr Andrew Crossland

Installation of air source heat pump and battery storage unit to rear and solar PV panels to south elevation of main roof space. High Waterhouses Farm, Russell Street, Waterhouses, Durham, DH7 9AR

DM/25/01977/LB

Mr Andrew Crossland

Listed building consent for installation of air source heat pump and battery storage unit to rear and solar PV panels to south elevation of main roof space. High Waterhouses Farm, Russell Street, Waterhouses, Durham, DH7 9AR

Week ending 10th August 2025

There are no planning applications listed for Brandon and Byshottles Parish Council.

Week ending 17th August 2025

There are no planning applications listed for Brandon and Byshottles Parish Council.

Week ending 24th August 2025

There were no planning applications for week ending 24th August 2025.

Week Ending: 31 August 2025

There were no planning applications for week ending 31st August 2025.

Week ending 7 September 2025

DM/25/02380/FPA	Mrs Lyn Beecroft	Single storey rear extension. 30 Station Avenue, Brandon, Durham, DH7 8QQ
DM/25/02391/FPA	Mrs Leigh Jarvis-Reed	Single storey side and rear extension. 10 Fair View, Esh Winning, Durham, DH7 9LE

Planning Application Decisions – 1st September 2025

DM/24/02431/FPA - Properties For Better Living Ltd - Methodist Church, Fairfalls Terrace
New Brancepeth, Durham, DH7 7HP - Proposed Church conversion to create three new dwellings
with associated parking and alterations to the elevations of the building.
Approved BNG Required
7th August 2025

DM/25/01531/AD- ALDI Stores Ltd - Depot Mill Road, Langley Moor, Durham, DH7 8HL - Installation
of 2no. internally illuminated fascia signs, 1no. internally illuminated free standing sign, and 1 no.
non-illuminated free standing sign
Approved: 7th August 2025

Licensing Application

AGENDA ITEM 80

The following application has been received/accepted by Durham County Council.

Application Type - Application for a Minor Variation

Applicant: Lidl Great Britain Limited

Premises: Lidl, High Street South, Langley Moor, Co Durham, DH7 8EU

Proposed variation – To update the Layout of the Premises as per the attached proposed Plan

Date of Application – 14th August 2025

Last date for comments – 29th August 2025

As this application may be considered to have an adverse effect upon one or more of the licensing objectives, please could you advise whether you have any comments to make in relation to this application.

Please note that this is a minor variation and mediation cannot take place with the applicant, however any comments should be made directly to Licensing Services and will be considered by us before determining the application

If you require further details in relation to this application, this information will be available to view on the Council's website within the next 5 working days via the following link:

<http://www.durham.gov.uk/article/2136/Licensing-Act-2003-applications>

Please note the last date for representations

WAYS TO GET IN TOUCH

We would welcome your comments on the draft development proposals. There are three ways in which you can make your views known.



Complete and submit the electronic form available at:
<https://elgplanning.co.uk/contact-us/>



Write to: ELG Planning, 55 Coniscliffe Road, Darlington, Co. Durham, DL3 7EH



Send an email to: consultation@elgplanning.co.uk leaving your name and address along with your comments

Please submit all comments before **Wednesday 3rd September**



A copy of this information leaflet and draft plans are available online at:

<https://elgplanning.co.uk/projects/brandon/>

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION ST AGATHA'S CLOSE, BRANDON



Please Note

This community involvement exercise has been commissioned by our client to involve the public in the planning application process prior to any planning application being submitted. It will not replace the normal consultation exercise undertaken by Durham County Council when dealing with any formal planning application. All responses will be held by the company in accordance with GDPR 2018. Your contact details will not be made public or be retained on any database.



160 Years of Building

THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

A planning application is being prepared for a residential development of 37 affordable homes with associated infrastructure and landscaping on land at St Agatha's Close, Brandon.

The application is being prepared on behalf of Durham County Council's Housing Delivery Team as part of the Council Homes programme with the support of local construction company T Manners & Sons.

The proposal will provide a range of affordable housing consisting of a mix of 2, 3 and 4 bedroom houses and 2 bedroom bungalows. This will allow for a range of house types which will suit a variety of occupiers.

The draft layout plan has been designed to respect surrounding residential properties and follow the alignment of the existing dwellings where possible. It includes a sustainable urban drainage system (SUDS) detention basin to the south of the site.

Key features include:

- Provision of a variety of house types,
- Vehicular access from St Agatha's Close via Stack Garth,
- Retention of the main access to the allotment gardens to the north of the site,
- On plot car parking in line with requirements,
- Landscaping scheme and areas of open space,
- Constructed to exceed current standards of energy efficiency, and
- Sustainable drainage measures to manage surface water from the development.



Above shows the draft layout plan of the proposed development.

BRANDON & BYSHOTTLES PARISH COUNCIL

REQUESTS RECEIVED FOR CONSIDERATION

19th September 2025

Building Better Community Partnerships – Requesting funding towards the cost of helping to run their service for local families.

The group previously applied for funding, which was considered at the meeting held on 20th June. At that time, the application was declined due to a lack of evidence that the group was actively working within the parish area. Following that decision, the group submitted additional information confirming their activities in the local parish.

At the subsequent meeting on 18th July, the Council agreed to pledge its support for the funding application, subject to receipt of an up-to-date bank statement from the group.

A previous award of £360 was requested and approved in March 2024, pending the submission of additional documentation. To my knowledge, the documentation was not provided, and as a result, the grant was not paid.

AGENDA ITEM 82B

St Andrews Church – Requesting funding for repair and replacement of the male and female toilets.

At the meeting held on 18th July, the Council agreed to pledge support in principle for the group's funding application. However, it was noted that some councillors had not received all the relevant information prior to the meeting, which limited their ability to make a fully informed decision.

It is also noted that no previous award has been made to the group in the current financial year 2024/2025.

AGENDA ITEM 82C

Durham United Football Club – A request for funding to replace 9v9 goal posts for the use at Ushaw Moor Cricket Club.

The original funding request was for two 9v9 goalposts, at a cost of £1,395 per pair. However, following their initial email, the group has confirmed that they are confident they have secured funding from the Football Foundation, which would cover £1,078.56 per pair. This would leave a remaining balance of £359.52 per pair.

They are therefore requesting a total of £719.04, which represents the shortfall for both sets of goalposts.

Emails received:

Dear Clerk,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is I, and I am the Club Secretary for Durham United FC. We regularly hire and play at Ushaw Moor Cricket Club throughout the winter season for our 9v9 fixtures.

Last season alone, our teams played 110 matches at the venue, which shows just how important this facility is for our club and for grassroots football in the village. It is a real hub for young players and their families, and we are proud to make full use of it.

We are now in urgent need of replacing our 9v9 goals, which have served us well for many years but are now reaching the end of their safe and usable life. The new goals we are looking at cost £1,395 per pair, and we require two pairs to continue delivering our full fixture schedule.

As this facility is such a key part of the local community, we wondered if the Parish Council might be able to offer any financial support towards the replacement of the goals. Any assistance, whether partial funding, signposting to grants, or other support, would be greatly appreciated and would go directly towards ensuring young players in Ushaw Moor continue to enjoy football in a safe and well-equipped environment.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would be happy to provide further details, quotes, or meet in person to discuss this request.

Kind regards,

DUFC Club Secretary

Hi Claire,

Thank you for your reply and for outlining the next steps.

Please find enclosed our most recent set of accounts along with a recent bank statement, as requested.

Since my original email, I've also been made aware of a grant opportunity from the Football Foundation, which would fund up to 75% of the cost of the goals. We are confident our application will be successful, which significantly reduces the total amount of support we are seeking.

The goals we wish to purchase are detailed here:

[Heavy Duty Wheeled Football Goal Package – 9v9 Freestanding Steel](#)

With the Football Foundation covering £1,078.56 per pair through their grant, the remaining balance is £359.52 per pair. This brings the total support we are seeking to £719.04.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to hearing the outcome following the council meeting.

Best regards,

Further information: It is noted that no previous award has been made to the group in the financial year 2024/2025.

AGENDA ITEM 82D

Ushaw Moor Cricket Club – Requesting for donation towards firework display on the cricket field in November.

Please see supporting documentation.

The club was previously awarded £750 towards the fireworks display in September 2024.

AGENDA ITEM 82E

Durham Musical Youth Theatre – requesting funding of £600 towards the cost of a keyboard.

In June 2024, an initial request for funding was received from DMYT. At that time, the Parish Council agreed to pledge support in principle but requested further information before making a final decision.

In July 2024, following receipt of additional details, the Council resolved to provide a £600 donation on the condition that DMYT was not a limited company.

In September 2024, the then-Clerk informed the Council that DMYT was registered as a Public Limited Company (PLC) and circulated this information to councillors via email. As a result, the funding was not issued.

DMYT have now approached the Parish Council again to request funding and have provided updated documentation confirming that they are a Company Limited by Guarantee, not a PLC.

Please refer to the attached supporting documents for further details.

Info - Brandon and Byshottles Parish Council

From:
Sent: 07 September 2025 09:10
To: Clerk
Subject: Durham Musical Youth Theatre

This email originated from outside of Brandon and Byshottles Parish Council. Please be vigilant.

Hi

I am emailing to ask for an update on the funding I was awarded last year but have still not received. I want to confirm that we are a Limited By Guarantee company which means we are a not for profit company.

“A company limited by guarantee is a not-for-profit business set up to serve social, charitable, community-based or other non-commercial objectives. Rather than distribute profits to members, guarantee companies typically retain any surplus income for reinvestment or use it to promote the non-profit objectives of the business.”

I have attached a screen shot of the Company as seen on Companies House.

09:03 

DURHAM MUS YOUTH THEAT

Company number **15843302**

Follow this c

File for this c

Could I ask that someone contacts me with regards to this. We currently have almost 100 young people from the local area engaging in weekly Musical Theatre classes and this funding will really help being able to provide them with further opportunities.

Many Thanks

Director

Durham Musical Youth Theatre Ltd

Info - Brandon and Byshottles Parish Council

From:
Sent: 12 September 2025 12:42
To: Clerk
Subject: Durham musical youth theatre
Attachments:

This email originated from outside of Brandon and Byshottles Parish Council. Please be vigilant.

Dear Committee

I am writing to ask for a maximum of £600 of funding
To be able to purchase of piano keyboard for of weekly musical theatre sessions.

Durham Musical Youth Theatre is a not for profit limited by guarantee company. We have over 100 young people engaged with musical theatre on a weekly basis and many of these young people are from all the wards of the parish council.

I have attached 3 months bank statements, my Company number and my recent years accounts.

If you require any further information please let me know.

Many thanks

Director
Durham Musical Youth Theatre Ltd

Brandon United Youth FC – requesting funding support for equipment.

Email received: Dear Councillors,

I am writing on behalf of Brandon United Youth. My name is _____ and I am the Chairman of the Youth section at Brandon United.

To give you some context, Brandon United FC have faced difficulties in recent years, struggling with financial issues that nearly forced the club to fold. However, the senior club managed to remain in place and is now working hard to get back up and running.

During this time, the youth section had dissolved following a split a few years ago, leaving a gap in the club's pathway for young players. Recognising my many years of experience, the senior committee approached me and asked me to join Brandon United in order to reform the Brandon United Youth section.

Our main objective is to engage children from the local area, encouraging them not only to play football but also to feel a real sense of belonging to the club and to become active members of its community. In doing so, we aim to help rebuild Brandon United Football Club into the great community asset it has the potential to be.

Whilst I am the Chairman of Brandon United Youth, I also run sessions aimed at nursery and reception aged children from the local area, based at Meadowfield Sports Centre. Although this is a separate entity, I feel it is worth mentioning, as these sessions introduce children to the basic rules of football and the importance of teamwork. When they reach the age of six, the children then have the opportunity to progress into Brandon United Youth, where they can begin playing as part of an actual team.

At present, as the youth section is still in its early stages, we currently have three teams: U7s, U8s, and, most recently, a newly established U10s team. In addition, our development group is now beginning to filter into Brandon United Youth, helping us to form a new U7s team.

Each team is required to pay monthly subs, with a small proportion allocated towards the running of the club to support it getting back on its feet. As the youth section is able to use the pitch and the clubhouse when required, we feel it is vital that we contribute towards those costs. While the youth section is making this contribution, it is important to highlight that we operate completely separately from the senior team, and there is no financial assistance from them in either direction; costs are simply to help towards maintenance of the grounds.

At present, the subs being paid are only just covering essential costs such as winter training pitch hire (as we are unable to use the Brandon pitch during winter), referee fees, and league fees. As the teams are newly formed, they currently have no dedicated training equipment. To bridge this gap, I have been loaning my own personal equipment to ensure sessions can still go ahead. However, with the recent increase in the number of teams, this equipment is no longer sufficient, and we now need to explore ways of funding new equipment to properly support all of our players.

I am therefore seeking support to help us purchase much needed equipment for our teams, and I have attached a list of items that would be of great benefit to the young players at Brandon United. Any funding you could provide would be greatly appreciated and would enable us not

only to equip our current teams properly but also to create more opportunities for children in the local area to get involved in football.

Yours gratefully,

Brandon United Chairman of Youth

Please see the below:

Precision 8x5 quick play nets x2 £75.00
Supercone x2 (not orange)Yellow £49.98
Mini Tri Cones £12.99 x2 £25.98
Samba Mini Cones £14.99 x2 £29.98
Speed Agility Hoop Ladders £19.99 x2 £39.98
Manequins £22.50 x6 £135.00
First Aid Bags £44.99 x2 £89.98
X Pro £37.50 x4 £150.00
Flat Discs (10) £22.99 for a set of 20
5ft slalom Poles £39.99 including carry bag
Pop-up goals 4x3ft x2 £59.98
Folding Water Carrier £9.99
Precision 45-30 tactic board £18.25 including bag
GRF mini tri cones £12.99
GK reaction ball £1.99
Bibs / Avec 10 Orange, 10 Yellow, 10 Blue £1.99 x30 £59.70
Precision mini discs - set of 50 £32.99
Large Equipment Bag £17.95
Avec Team Roller Bag £52.95
Avec pro player Yellow/black size 3 balls 20 £162
Avec Bibs LB 6 orange/ 6 yellow £23.88
Avec Focus Backpack £19.95

All of the above comes to £1131.50

From:

Sent: Wednesday, August 6, 2025 1:08 PM

To:

Subject:

Accounts: As the youth section have only just started in January they do not have a full years accounts. Attached is copies of the bank statements for both the U7 and U8 teams since January 2025, and more recently the U10 have been paying into the U7 account. They are in the process of being merged.

Further information: No previous award.