

BRANDON & BYSHOTTLES PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
6 GOATBECK TERRACE, LANGLEY MOOR, DURHAM
ON TUESDAY 1ST MARCH 2016, AT 10.00 AM

PRESENT

Present Councillor Mrs Cecilia Wharton (in the Chair)
and Councillors Bell, Mrs Gates, Grantham, Sims and Turnbull

All. 33 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest by Members.

All. 34 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs Akins and Akins.

RESOLVED: To receive the apologies.

All. 35 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS JUNE 2016 - MARCH 2017

RESOLVED: To recommend approval of the following meetings:

Tuesday	7th June 2016	10.00 am
Tuesday	6th September 2016	10.00 am
Tuesday	6th December 2016	10.00 am
Tuesday	7th March 2017	10.00 am

All. 36 BROOMPARK

A letter had been received from a tenant on plot number 14, for permission to erect a greenhouse and a shed.

RESOLVED: To recommend granting permission provided the buildings were made of suitable materials and the tenant to remove the structures at the end of their tenancy.

All. 37 HAMILTON ROW

The Allotments Officer informed the meeting that following the inspection at Hamilton Row carried out by Northumbrian Water, a new stand pipe had been fitted on the top path to Northumbrian Water's specification. When the plumber had commenced digging he found that only one pipe came from the meter to the bottom path and not two (one to the top path and one to the bottom path) as he originally assumed. As the illegal taps on the plots were tapped into the pipe on the bottom path the Parish Council had no alternative but to have this pipe disconnected.

All. 37 **HAMILTON ROW (Continued)**

A letter and an e-mail had been received from tenants who have plots on the bottom path complaining about the disconnection of the supply of water on this path.

RESOLVED: To recommend obtaining advice from Northumbrian Water regarding running a new pipe from the new standpipe to the bottom path.

: To recommend replying to the tenants informing them that as the Parish Council had been instructed by Northumbrian Water to remove the illegal taps, this had resulted in the pipe on the bottom path being disconnected. The Parish Council are in consultation with Northumbrian Water to reconnect the supply to the bottom path.

All. 38 **LOW BROWNEY**

It had been reported that part of the fence on plot numbers, 25, 28 and 29 had blown down. As the plots are grazing land a letter was sent to the tenant notifying them to repair the fence as stated in the Grazing Licence. The tenant has repaired the fence.

RESOLVED: To recommend taking for information.

All. 39 **COCKHOUSE LANE**

A tenant on plot number 25, has requested the Parish Council to erect fencing on boundary of his allotment.

RESOLVED: To recommend informing the tenant that as the fence is not a boundary fence, the Parish Council would not be responsible for this, as allotment agreement number 2.8.

All. 40 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

a) **HAMILTON ROW**

A tenant on plot number 49 has requested permission to erect a polytunnel.

RESOLVED: To recommend granting permission with the following conditions:

- to notify the tenant that the polytunnel must be kept in good condition and repaired when necessary
- the tenant is responsible for removing the structure at the end of his tenancy.

b) **COMMERCIAL STREET**

A tenant on plot number 13 has requested permission to erect a hen house and a shed.

RESOLVED: To recommend granting permission provided the buildings were made of suitable materials and the tenant to remove the structures at the end of their tenancy.

c) **LOW BROWNEY**

A new tenant on plot number 31 has requested permission to erect a pigeon cove.

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Parish Council has no objections to granting permission provided the building was made of suitable material and the tenant to remove the structure at the end of their tenancy.

d) **COCKHOUSE LANE/ EMPIRE FIELD**

The Allotments Officer informed that meeting regarding the problem with a vast amount of water coming up on plots at Cockhouse Lane and running down through plots on Empire Field. Northumbrian Water had been out on a number of occasions and inspected storm drains on the allotment site, drains on the road leading to the site and a drain in the field at the bottom of the site. A camera had been placed down the top drain to the bottom drain, Northumbrian Water reported that no problem had been found e.g no debris obstructing flow of water.

RESOLVED: To recommend the Community Highways Works digs on plot number 6 and 7 at Cockhouse Lane, as this is where the water appears to start surfacing.
: To recommend contacting Dean Bell from Durham County Council for advice and to arrange a site visit.

The meeting closed at 11.20am

Signed

Date