

## 2021/22 Annual Plan - Parish Council Objectives

<b>1. Maintain the parish's rural character and existing amenities, whilst encouraging sustainable development</b>				
	<b>Action</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Progress</b>
1.1	Consider the impact of local planning applications to –  Ensure new developments are sustainable Protect Open Spaces Protect and Improve Public Rights of Way	On-Going	Cllrs Wallage/Diggory	In progress
1.2	Continue to monitor progress on approved housing developments	On-going	Cllrs Wallage/Diggory	In progress
1.3	Consider the potential to develop a Neighbourhood Plan	March 2021	Cllr Diggory	In progress  Need to establish resource requirements to fully consider
<b>2. Improve Road Safety</b>				
2.1	Consider the potential for further traffic calming measures in consultation with the Police/DCC Traffic Engineer	Dec 2021	Cllrs Wallage/Boettcher/ Lowrie/Kellett	In progress  Site meeting held March 22. Awaiting confirmation of potential options with costings from DCC.
2.2	Continue to work with Neighbourhood Police team re promotion of Community Speed Watch and PACT meetings	On going	Cllrs Wallage/Boettcher/ Lowrie	New promotion needed following move to on line PACT meetings and “keep in n the know” Police platform. Community Speedwatch needs resurrecting

				To be carried forward to 2022/23
2.3	Continue to liaise with DCC re request for Parking Survey	On going	Cllrs Wallage/Boettcher/ Lowrie and Local Ward Members	In progress  Site visit 20 October with DCC officers. Whole parish parking survey carried out by DCC resulting in a number of proposed parking restrictions aimed to improve road and pedestrian safety. DCC consultation exercise carried out on proposals..
2.4	Map/Confirm location of existing salt bins to ensure residents know their location and where to report any concerns.  Develop "Snow Angels" scheme (Local Neighbourhood Police Team initiative) of volunteers in consultation with the VP to monitors salt levels in winter, report concerns and assist in dispersing/snow clearing if needed.	October	Cllr Lowrie  Parish Clerk – to provide info on website/facebook  Cllr Wallage	Complete          To be carried forward to 2022/23
<b>3.</b>	<b>Continue to Improve the appearance and management of the Cemetery</b>			
3.1	Develop proposal for Memorial Wall	March 2021	Cllr Diggory	Complete.  Following detailed consideration of options a memorial tree has been ordered and is expected to be

				operational in the summer.
3.2	Provision of 2 new Marmax benches and refurbishment /replacement of existing metal benches with Marmax benches	March 2021	Cllr Wallage/Parish Clerk in consultation with DCC	DCC have agreed to refurbish benches. PC agreed to purchase 2 new benches and have asked DCC to install. . Awaiting confirmation of installation and timescales from DCC.
3.3	Consider the provision of smaller waste bins for ease of use for cemetery visitors and consider how these could be emptied	March 2021	Parish Clerk in consultation with DCC waste management	In progress – additional cost to waste collection contract not considered good value. Consideration of black general waste bin when new bench installed may be more cost effective.
3.4.	Review contractual arrangements for grounds maintenance and waste management contracts 2022/23	January 2021	Parish Clerk	Complete – contract awarded
3.5	Carry out an audit to identify any maintenance works required and follow up with monthly walkabouts to monitor progress and identify new issues	October	Parish Clerk - Audit  Cllr Morson – monthly walkabout	Audit Complete
3.6	Provision of 2 flower beds within the cemetery	October 2021	Parish Clerk in consultation with GC/Grounds Maintenance contractor	Complete
3.7	Consider ways of improving public access via the cemetery gates	March 2021	Parish Clerk/Cllr Morson	Complete - repair carried out
<b>4 Improve our public parks and open green spaces</b>				
4.1	Consider the refurbishment / replacement of all public benches with Marmax maintenance free benches (S106 funding opportunity)	December 2021	Cllr Wallage inc consultation with DCC	In progress – Site Visit held 28 Sept with DCC officers. DCC have agreed to refurbish metal benches and Cllr Morson is to refurbish the 2 wooden ones.

4.2	Consider the replacement of 8 black planters with Marmax Hexagonal (S106 Funding Opportunity)	December 2021	Cllr Wallage inc consultation with DCC	In progress  Parish Council has agreed to replace and to ask DCC to install. Awaiting installation confirmation and timings from DCC.
4.3	Develop a project to improve the "Rec" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provision of Adult Gym</li> <li>- Provision of 2/3 Marmax Picnic Benches</li> <li>- Provision of 2/3 Marmax Picnic Benches</li> <li>- Provision of Marmax Tree bench around central Tree</li> <li>- Provision of 2 more waste bins</li> <li>- Re paint of Youth Shelter</li> </ul>	December 2021	Cllr Wallage in consultation with DCC officers and local ward members  (S106 grant application)	In progress  Community Consultation strategy prepared and due to commence shortly  Awaiting support from DCC
4.4	Improve the maintenance of "rec" with regular strimming around boulders, trees and other obstacles to supplement DCC grass cutting on this registered village green  Annual commitment if above project implemented		Parish Clerk in consultation with Cemetery grounds maintenance contractor	In progress  Parish Council have engaged its cemetery grounds maintenance contractor to undertake regular strimming over the summer months
4.5.	Improve the maintenance of Benridge Bank to match the adjoining green space (outside Chantry House) by regular strimming/grass cutting	On going	Parish Clerk in consultation with Cemetery grounds maintenance contractor	In progress - as above
4.6	Improve the appearance of our registered village greens on South Street/North Street– remove tree stumps, cut back or remove trees and shrubs, plant spring bulbs, regular strimming. Consider painting of small boulders on green next	On going	Parish Clerk in consultation with our Cemetery grounds maintenance contractor  Cllr Wallage in consultation with DCC ( Civic Pride ) re	In progress  Request to made to DCC for October planting

	to Italian Farmhouse  (Annual maintenance commitment)		community bulb planting	
4.6	Improve the appearance of village planters, benches and bus shelters across the parish with regular strimming  (Annual Commitment)	On going	Parish Clerk in consultation with our Cemetery grounds maintenance contractor	In progress – see 4.4 above
4.7	Develop proposals for the Installation of additional benches (and waste bins if necessary) across the parish as funding allows  Suggested initial locations: One either side of Jubilee Hall, One outside Doctors Surgery (The latter with a waste bin)	March	Cllr Wallage/Cllr Bulmer in consultation with DCC, VP and wider community	In progress  Parish Council has agreed to fund 8 additional benches and agreed proposed locations. DCC have been asked to install, Awaiting installation confirmation and timing from DCC
4.8	Regular Councillor Village Walkabouts to identify footpaths overgrown, signage overgrown, fly tipping/litter /dog fouling hotspots etc and report to DCC to address or refer requests for Green Group Litter picks	On going	Cllr Lowie – but all to be aware and report incidents	On going
4.9	Finalise proposals for replacing boulders on the Old Sunderland road with fencing to prevent cars accessing green open space opposite the garage  Consider arrangements for regular strimming around existing boulders and then fence posts if boulders removed ,to prevent the need for DCC Herbicide Spraying - Annual Commitment	December	Cllr Haddick/Wallage/Parish Clerk in consultation with DCC officers  Parish Clerk in consultation with ground maintenance contractor	Complete Parish Council decided not to progress..  Complete – Regular strimming to be undertaken by PC grounds maintenance contractor.
4.10	Discuss ways to help improve the safety and usage of Adventure Park (Parish	March	Cllr Wallage/Cllr Haddick in consultation with the VP and	To be carried forward to 2022/23

	Plan Outstanding Action)		Local Ward Members	
4.11	Discuss ways to improve the area around the doctor's surgery	March	Cllr Wallage/Cllr Kellett in consultation with Doctor's surgery and DCC officers and Cllr Hall	In progress – site visit held 18 Oct. Awaiting outcome of consideration by DCC
4.12	Work with the Green Group to deliver an outstanding action in the community led parish plan regarding improving the Middle Rainton Picnic Area as part of a community orchard project (Provision of picnic tables and benches (Potential Benridge Bank S106 funding opportunity)	January	Cllr Wallage in consultation DCC officers and local ward members	In progress - option to expand the Green Groups Orchard Project being considered by the GG  Awaiting feedback from Green Group
<b>5. Build on Community Cohesion</b>				
5.1	Continue to maintain and improve Parish Council website and update with regular articles and Parish Council Information	On going	Parish Clerk/	In progress
5.2.	Continue to liaise with community groups via the village partnership	On going	Cllr Wallage	In progress
5.3	Continue to engage with the community via Village News	On going	Cllr Wallage	On going
5.4.	Open Parish Council Facebook account/page	Complete	Parish Clerk	Complete
5.5	Enter the Parish for the Durham in Bloom Competition	Complete	Cllr Wallage	Complete – 3 special commendation awards received
5.6	Continue to support community groups with grant funding	On Going	Full Council	Complete
5.7	Promote the filling of councillor vacancies	On Going	Full Council/PC	Complete - All vacancies filled
5.8	Continue to monitor the implementation of the Community Led Parish Plan	On Going	Cllr Wallage/Full Council	On going
5.9	Organise “Carols around the Christmas Tree” Event and Tree Switch On Event	December	Cllr Wallage/Cllr Bulmer Parish Clerk	Complete
5.10	Continue to work with Neighbourhood Police Team via PACT meetings	On Going	Cllr Kellett	On going

5.11	Improve community consultation and engagement	On going	All -Communication Working Group?	On going
<b>6 Improve our governance arrangements</b>				
6.1	Achieve Foundation Level of Local Council Award Scheme	March	Parish Clerk/Cllr Wallage	In progress
6.2	Continue to develop relevant skills and knowledge of Members and Officers through training & development opportunities	On Going	All	On going
6.3	Keep abreast of relevant updates and new developments via Smaller Local Council Forum	On Going	Cllr Boettcher	On going
6.4	Prepare draft annual plan for 2022/23	January	Full Council/Clerk	In progress – expected to be approved in May after Annual Parish Meeting
<b>7 Effectively manage the Council's resources and assets</b>				
7.1	Annual Risk Assessment	March	Full Council/Clerk	Complete
7.2	Annual Review of Fixed Asset Register	March	Clerk	Complete
7.3	Set a balanced budget for 2022/23 and maintain adequate reserves	Jan	Full Council/Clerk	Complete
7.4.	Annual review of cemetery fees & charges	March	Full Council/Clerk	Complete
7.5	Keep abreast of external funding opportunities - work in consultation with VP and Local Ward Members to develop further improvements as need is identified and funding allows	On going	All	On going