



KEY ACTIVITIES: 22 September to 19 October 2021

PLANNING APPLICATIONS considered	OBJECTIONS submitted	SUPPORT submitted	COMMENTS/CONCERNS submitted
44	8	2	2

NEWS ITEMS

The Sands public inquiry. On 11 October, DCC's controversial application to deregister and exchange common land at the Sands was granted by the Inspectorate, despite considerable local opposition.

Durham City LCWIP. The Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan was adopted on 13 October. Priority routes in Durham will see infrastructure developed from Belmont to the city centre, Cock o' the North to the city centre, and Gilesgate to the University. There will be a further consultation once funding is in place.

Ecological Emergency. DCC has agreed to set up a working group to examine evidence relating to the decline of habitats and species in the county. The group will report back to Cabinet within six months.

DLI museum. Plans have been approved by DCC for further development work into proposals to bring the Durham Light Infantry Museum back into use as a gallery and exhibition space with a café.

Minerals & Waste DPD. DCC are currently consulting on this draft Development Plan Document which will form an addition to the County Durham Plan. The closing date is 5 November 2021.

UK City of Culture 2025 bid. County Durham has made the longlist of eight places to go forward to the next stage of the bid, which includes financial support of £40k. The shortlist will be announced early next year.

Local Heritage List. This national campaign, incl. County Durham, runs until at least February 2022. DCC has 8 pilot areas - nominations for 'heritage to protect' can be initially sent to the Trust's Honorary Secretary.

Lumiere 2021. The programme of artworks for this year's light festival (18-21 November) has been revealed.

Neville's Cross monument. To mark 675 years since the Battle of Neville's Cross, the City of Durham Parish Council and DCC have renovated this monument, and a commemorative walk was hosted on 18 October.

Durham COP26 event. On 6 November there will be a climate action event in Durham Market Place.

New Elvet Bridge. This refurbished bridge will reopen on Friday 22 October 2021.

KEY BUSINESS

Housing allocation sites. The Trust made representations at the hearing for the H6 site off Bent House Lane, and issued a press release expressing disappointment that the outline application was approved (despite departures from CDP Policy 5). The Trust objected to an application for part of the H5 Sniperley site, but had reassurance from DCC that they will be developing and consulting on a masterplan for the whole site.

Quality of Planning Committee reports. Trustees are alarmed by the lack of adherence to the County Durham Plan in some reports and are writing to Cabinet Portfolio Holders to express concerns.

Durham Design Code. DCC are keen to partner with the Parish Council and the Trust to draw up this SPD.

Corporate Complaint. Following an inappropriate procedure at a planning hearing, the Trust submitted a formal complaint to DCC.

Bulletins. The Annual Review has been distributed (via hand delivery in the Durham City area and postage for the rest) and has been very well received. The Autumn Bulletin is being drafted - to be printed in November.

Insurance claim. A revised claim for losses from water-damaged stock has been accepted for £917.60.

Accounts. Trustees have approved the 2020-21 Annual Report & Accounts ready for submission at the AGM.

AGM 2021. All plans are in place for the 79th Annual General Meeting to be held at the Assembly Rooms Theatre from 19.00 on Wednesday 27 October 2021. The meeting is also available on-line.

Talks Programme 2021. At the AGM, Dr Douglas Pocock will present an illustrated talk: *A City in trust: Eight decades of caring for Durham*. On 11 December, Martin Roberts will give a talk on: *"The Riverbanks of the Durham Peninsula: from Defensive Moat to Romantic Landscape"*.

Riverbanks project. Trustees agreed to contribute £300 towards the Wear Rivers Trust project to tackle invasive non-native weeds along the Wear River catchment area.

Beaurepaire plaque. Trustees agreed to contribute £300 towards installation of this commemorative plaque.

Marking the Trust's 80th anniversary. Trustees have formed a sub-group to discuss ideas for marking this occasion (October 2022), with suggestions including: a conference, tree planting, themed talks or an artwork.

Architectural Award 2021. Trustees have formed a sub-group to review nominations and arrange site visits.