

WHITTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the 2018 Annual Parish meeting held on Tuesday 22nd May 2018 at 1930hrs in Great Whittington Village Hall.

PRESENT: Councillor S Gregory Chairman
Councillor P Martin
Councillor C Edy
Councillor A Williamson
Councillor K Laing
Councillor E J Tiffen

Also present: Mrs M Senior Clerk
Mrs V Jones County Councillor

1. MINUTES of the 2017 annual Meeting held on **16 May 2017** having been circulated were taken as read and confirmed as a true record. There were no matters arising.
2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT. Cllr S Gregory gave his verbal report on the work of the Parish Council over the past year:
 - The Parish Council had met six times over the past year with a number of additional meetings for the ongoing Neighbourhood Development Plan. Councillors were thanked for their good attendance and support. During the last year, there had been a poor attendance from members of the public.
 - The Neighbourhood Development Plan is nearing completion and now carries weight in planning terms. The last consultation had ended and a schedule of representations had been received from Northumberland County Council. The plans is currently with the independent examiner. The Parish Council is currently waiting for a date for the referendum.
 - Responses to a significant supply of planning applications had been considered. There had been 2 applications for major developments in Great Whittington of which the Parish Council had objected to both. These developments are significant in relation to the size of Great Whittington and it is hoped that they will not be detrimental to the village. The development at Badgers End had been delayed however the development at Briars Field was progressing.
 - There had been no increase in the precept and a healthy surplus was held. Some of this was ring fenced for specific projects and funds could come under increasing pressure this year. The ringfenced money should now be allocated to community projects. The Parish Council now had to pay for grass cutting and the frequency of the cuts had been changed. NCC had provided the cheapest quote and would be cutting the grass for a further year.
 - Communications with Northumberland County Council continue to be poor especially with the Highways Department. Several roads in the Parish are in a hazardous condition and are deteriorating.
 - Cllr Gregory again thanked the Parish Councillors, County Councillor Jones and the Clerk for their time, help and support over the year.
3. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT. Cllr Mrs V Jones was unable to attend the meeting however had given a verbal report to Cllr S Gregory. Northumberland County Council is to carry out surface dressing on the Ryal to Great Whittington road and the Bingfield roads. Preparatory patching and repair works on the affected roads has already commenced and will continue to July 2018.
In order to change the priority signage in Great Whittington it will cost £1200. Cllr Mrs V Jones had agreed to pay this.
Cllr Mrs V Jones has a meeting with the Highways Department and the Parish Council is to provide a list of all outstanding issues.
4. PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS. The accounts for the year 2017/18 were presented by the Clerk for information. A copy is attached to this minute. They showed an end of year balance of £12683, a slight decrease over the previous year, however this balance included a contribution from Mid Tyne Trust of £1036 which was ring fenced for specific projects.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 1945hrs and moved to the Annual Meeting of the Council.

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**MINUTES of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 22nd May 2018
Following the Annual Parish Meeting in Great Whittington Village Hall
(Subject to Parish Council approval)**

PRESENT: Councillor S Gregory Chairman
Councillor P Martin
Councillor A Williamson
Councillor C Edy
Councillor K Laing
Councillor E J Tiffen

Also present: Mrs M Senior Clerk

- 1368. ELECTION OF PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN.** It was proposed by Cllr A Williamson, seconded by Cllr P Martin and AGREED to re-elect Simon Gregory as chairman. Cllr S Gregory accepted and took the chair.
- 1369. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE.** Cllr S Gregory gave his declaration of acceptance of chairman in the presence of the Clerk.
- 1370. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –** County Cllr Mrs V Jones
- 1371. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN.** It was proposed by Cllr S Gregory, seconded by Cllr Mrs E J Tiffen and AGREED to elect Cathy Edy as Vice Chairman.
- 1372. MINUTES** of the meeting held on **20th March 2018** having been circulated were taken as read and confirmed as a true record with Cllr K Laing added as being in attendance.
- 1373. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE.** Update was given in the Annual Parish Meeting.
- 1374. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** None.
- 1375. MATTERS ARISING.**
- a) **NOTICE BOARD.** Minute 1357a refers. The notice board for Great Whittington had been ordered and is to be delivered within the next few days.
 - b) **GREAT WHITTINGTON MEMORIAL.** Minute 1357b refers. The Village Hall Committee would be pleased to have the memorial on display. Cllr S Gregory is liaising with the residents.

1376. PLANNING MATTERS

REFERENCE	ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION
18/00683/VARYCO	Mill View, Great Whittington	Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) pursuant to planning permission 17/00092/FUL in order to alter the floor plan, site plan and elevations creating a slightly smaller extension. GRANTED
18/01390/FUL	The Shealing, Great Whittington	Construction of detached garage
17/02921/FUL	Land East of Queens Head Inn, Great Whittington	Proposed construction of seven dwellings. REFUSED.

1377. EXPENDITURE AUTHORISATION:

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	CHEQUE	VAT	NET	CHQ NO
Mrs A Senior	Clerical services	140.00		140.00	010684
H M Revenue & Customs	PAYE	35.00		35.00	010685
Zurich Municipal	Insurance renewal	257.60		257.60	010686
MorpethNet	Webmaster services	100.00		100.00	010687
Mrs A Senior	Expenses	61.31		61.31	010688
FEL Accounts	Internal audit fee	30.00	5.00	25.00	010689
Greenbarnes Ltd	Notice Board	625.93	104.32	521.61	010690
Income					
Northumberland CC	Precept payment	2175.00		2175.00	12.04.18

- 1378. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT.** County Councillor Mrs V Jones was unable to attend the meeting.
- 1379. GREAT WHITTINGTON VILLAGE HALL AND VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT.** A 70s/80s night had been held in the Village Hall and was well attended.
It was noted that the railings outside the village hall still needed cross bars to be fitted. Cllr S Gregory is to contact Liz or Louise as the Parish Council had agreed to fund this.
A tree survey is to be carried out on the trees on the Village Green. The clerk is to arrange this.
- 1380. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN FOR 2017/2018**
- a) **ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2017-2018.** It was AGREED to approve the previously circulated Annual Governance Statement 2017-2018.
 - b) **DRAFT ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2017/2018.** It was AGREED to approve the previously circulated draft accounts 2017-2018.

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- c) **ACCOUNTING STATEMENT AND EXPLANATION OF VARIANCES.** It was AGREED to approve the previously circulated Accounting Statement and Explanation of Variances.
- d) **TO CONFIRM AND APPROVE THE CERTIFICATION OF EXEMPTION.** It was AGREED to confirm and approve the previously circulated Certification of Exemption.
1381. **CORRESPONDENCE.** All correspondence received since the March meeting had been listed on the agenda and was duly noted.
1382. **LOVE NORTHUMBERLAND AWARDS 2018.** Nominations are invited for projects enriching the lives of the people of Northumberland. Winning entries will receive a £250 prize and runners up a £100 prize to be spent on something that will benefit the project. Closing date for applications forms is Friday 8th June 2018.
1383. **NORTHUMBERLAND LOCAL PLAN – SPRING 2018 CONSULTATION.** Northumberland County Council is prepared a new county-wide Local Plan. To inform the draft Local Plan, the Council is inviting views on preferred locations for housing and employment development. The consultation will run from 28th March 2018 to 2nd May 2018.
1384. **WEED CONTROL.** Northumberland County Council is to carry out weed spraying in house this year. The improvement programme includes adding a harmless blue coloured dye to the treatment so the public can see for themselves where has been treated. The blue dye is completely harmless and will allow the teams to see exactly where they have sprayed potentially reducing waste or overuse of spray.
1385. **INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL.** The meetings of the Local Areas Council with Town and Parish Councils will take place on 9 October 2018.
1386. **MATFEN ESTATE WOODLANDS.** Land Factor is in the process of preparing a Woodland Plan which will set out the long term objectives in relation to the management of the woodlands and identify the main woodland management proposal in terms of thinning and felling. Location plan and a constraints map detailing the estate woodlands had been received and the contents noted.
1387. **TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE ORDER.** Northumberland County Council have made an order to prohibit the use of vehicular traffic on the C223 Errington Red House Junction to Bingfield Junction and the C212 Errington Junction to West Bingfield for their entire lengths. The Order is effective from 14th May 2018 until 14th September 2018. It is expected that the road will only be closed on 21st June 2018 between the hours of 0:6:00-18:00 during this period.
1388. **HIGHWAYS ISSUES.** The following issues will be emailed to County Councillor Mrs V Jones to discuss with the Highways Inspector.
- Whittington to Roses Bower road – some work had been carried out but further work is needed.
 - Pot Hole – Great Whittington to Matfen Road.
 - Bingfield road
 - Clarification on gritting and snow clearance
 - Road sweeping – gutter clearance.
 - Weight limits on bridges
 - Priority signage – signs should show give way out of village and priority coming into village.
 - Operators licence – Click Em Inn
 - Farm traffic sign not installed
1389. **GRASS CUTTING.** Cllr S Gregory had been strimming the grass at Hallington crossroads however could not commit to doing this on a regular basis.
It was noted that the grass was not being cut outside the Village Hall although this had been promised by NCC. It was also noted that although the grass was being cut NCC were not strimming along the walls. The clerk will contact NCC.
1390. **INFORMATION ITEMS.**
Copies of all information items are available from the Clerk on request.
- Campaign to Protect Rural England – North East Newsletter Spring 2018
 - Clerks and Councils Direct – May edition No 117
 - NALC – weekly eNews
 - Community Action Northumberland – News Spring 2018
 - Being Active Matters – Volunteers
 - LCR – Spring 2018
 - Campaign to Protect Rural England – Countryside Voice Spring 2018
1391. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 24 July 2018 at 19:30 in Great Whittington Village Hall.

Chairman