

WHITTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ONLINE MEETING OF WHITTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2020 AT 7.00PM

PRESENT: Councillor S Gregory, Chairman of the Council together with Councillors A Williamson, P Martin, J Sadler, E Gillam, W E Robson.

Also present: Mrs M Senior, Clerk to the Council
County Councillor Mrs V Jones

1120.01 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – None

1120.02 **MINUTES** of the meeting held on **29 September 2020** having been circulated were taken as read and confirmed as a true record.

1120.03 **ITEMS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

- a) **Bingfield Road.** Minute refers. This issue is still ongoing. Cllr S Gregory is in contact with NCC. Unfortunately, NCC had still not cleared the debris from the coach crash several months ago.
- b) **Flooding at Hallington.** Minute refers. This had been reported and is on NCC's list of outstanding issues.

1120.04 **COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT.** Cllr Mrs Jones gave her verbal report on matters relating to NCC and local issues relating to Whittington Parish.

- a) **Speeding.** Cllr Mrs Jones has a meeting with NCC Road Safety Officer and will discuss the issue of speeding. It was noted that the Community Speedwatch initiative is currently suspended, and Northumbria Police are not recruiting volunteers. Cllr Mrs Jones advised that she could fund a vehicle activated sign through her member funding however the Parish Council would need to maintain it. It was questioned whether signs could be erected stating 'Twenty's Plenty'. Cllr Mrs Jones will look into this as a sign would be less intrusive than a flashing speed indicator. Speeding through Halton Shields is currently a problem due to traffic travelling to avoid the A69 roundabout works.
- b) **Ponteland.** The new Ponteland High School had opened, and the new Leisure Centre had opened but had to close due to the current lockdown.
- c) **Planning Application.** A planning application 20/03388/FUL at Shildon, Corbridge had been submitted for the change of use of a dwelling house and cottage to a wedding venue and guest accommodation. This application is in the parish of Corbridge and therefore Whittington Parish had not been notified. Corbridge Parish Council had no objection to this application however the residents of Halton Shields are affected by this development. Details of the application will be forwarded to all councillors for consideration.

1120.05 **PLANNING MATTERS**

REFERENCE	ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION
19/02177/FUL	Land West of Hallington Mill	Retrospective siting of a caravan and shed. WITHDRAWN
20/02369/FUL	North Clarewood Farm Buildings, Great Whittington	Retrospective: Proposed installation of ground source heat pump and associated ground loops GRANTED
20/02468/VARYCO	Bingfield Mews, Bingfield	Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of application 19/01995/FUL. Proposed dropping of single windowsill on west elevation to create symmetry with other glass doors of wider elevation GRANTED

1120.06 **FINANCE**

- a) **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.** Payments were reviewed and it was AGREED to approve the items of expenditure on the list previously circulated.

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	CHEQUE	VAT	NET	CHQ NO
RBL Poppy Appeal	Remembrance Day Wreaths	60.00		60.00	010780
Mrs A Senior	Clerical services	160.00		160.00	010781
HM Revenue and Customs	PAYE	40.00		40.00	010782
NE Groundcare Ltd	Grass cutting	890.00		890.00	010783

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- b) **RISK ASSESSMENT.** The risk assessment circulated to Councillors was noted and several amendments made. The document will be amended and circulated.
- c) **TO CONSIDER DRAFT BUDGET AND AGREED PRECEPT.** After discussion, it was AGREED to levy a precept of £5000 on Northumberland County Council. This is an increase of £200 on 2020/21.
- d) **TO CONSIDER REQUEST FROM STAMFORDHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT.** A request had been received from Stamfordham Primary School for a contribution towards their additional costs which are being incurred due to Covid-19. It was noted that an additional £100 per week was being spent on PPE/additional cleaning due to Covid. There are 6 children from Whittington Parish that attend the school. Cllr Mrs V Jones advised that NCC is working with the school on this issue. Cllr Mrs Jones is to obtain clarification from NCC that the school have enough PPE to keep everyone safe. Once clarification has been obtained, the Parish Council will look at the request again.
- 1120.07 **GREAT WHITTINGTON VILLAGE HALL AND THE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT.** John Roberts advised that the Village Hall Committee were unable to take the frame of the marquee down due to the current lockdown situation. The Village Hall committee is hoping to arrange an event before Christmas. It was noted that not all residents were receiving the Village Hall newsletter. It was agreed that the clerk would contact John Roberts and ask for Cllrs S Gregory and P Martin to be added to the list. They would then circulate around their contacts in Bingfield and Hallington.
- 1120.08 **TO RECEIVE COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND HIGHWAYS MATTERS**
- a) **MILITARY ROAD.** It was noted that the link road between the Military Road and the A69 is much improved at Ironside Farm. This had been resurfaced.
- 1120.09 **CORRESPONDENCE.** All correspondence received since the September meeting had been noted and most has been circulated to all councillors by email.
- Northumberland County Council – Notice of Public Path Diversion Order – Path No 13 Halton Church
 - Northumberland County Council – Precept information 2021-22
 - Age UK Northumberland – Update on services – October 2020
- 1120.10 **INFORMATION ITEMS.**
- Copies of all information items are available from the Clerk on request.
- NALC – weekly eNews
 - Community Action Northumberland – CAN eNews October 2020
 - National Association of Local Councils – LCR Magazine Summer 2020
 - Campaign to Protect Rural England – North East Newsletter Autumn 2020
- 1120.11 **ANY URGENT BUSINESS [FOR INFORMATION ONLY].** It was noted that Simon Ogg is to install the dog fouling signs within the next week. The new litter bin has been ordered and will be received by NCC in due course.
- 1120.12 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.** The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 19 January 2021 at 7pm. The advice from NALC/SLCC currently is for Parish Councils to still meet virtually.

_____Chairman