

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHITTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
11th MARCH 2025 AT 7.30PM IN GREAT WHITTINGTON VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Cllr S Gregory, Chairman of the Council together with Cllrs Dr W Brittain, W E Robson, H Lewins

In attendance: Mrs M Senior, Clerk to the Council
Mrs V Jones, County Councillor

0325.01 **Apologies for absence** received from Cllrs M Petrie and S Lawson

0325.02 **Declarations of Interests.** None

0325.03 **Minutes** of the meeting held on **14th JANUARY 2025** having been circulated were taken as read and signed as a true record.

0325.04 **Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 14th JANUARY 2025.**

- a) Hallington Mill. Minute ref 0125.04b refers. No action has been taken.
- b) Grass cutting. Minute ref 0125.06c refers. Cllr S Gregory had spoken to the contactor who will keep the cost for 2025 at the same level as 2024 as long as we allow him the flexibility of the extra cut. This was agreed. Cllr S Gregory will continue to cut the grass at the war memorial in Hallington.
- c) Trees. Minute ref 012508d refers. The dead trees had been removed and smaller trees will be planted.

0325.05 **County Councillor's Report.** Cllr Mrs V Jones gave her verbal report on matters relating to Whittington Parish.

- a) Hallington Mill. Unfortunately, the landowner is not responding to Northumberland County Council, and they have asked for assistance from Natural England. NCC are willing to carry out the improvement work to the field drains however they need the landowner's permission. Cllr S Gregory will try and speak to the landowner to progress the issue. The work on the road markings is imminent.
- b) Halton Shield. The road safety work which was to be carried out imminently has been withdrawn as there is another larger piece of work that needs to be carried out and this will be done at the same time. This will include signage and resurfacing work and will be carried out in May/June when the daylight working hours are longer.
- c) Gully cleaning. It was noted that the gulleys had been cleared in Great Whittington and Matfen.
- d) A68 safety measures. Northumberland County Council is still waiting for the Police's report with recommendations.
- e) Local Transport Plan. The road from Matfen to the Military Road is included in next year's LTP for resurfacing.

0325.06 **Planning Applications and Decisions.**

REFERENCE	ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION
24/03302/FUL	Langley House, 7 Briar Fields, Great Whittington	Single storey and 2 storey extension to rear of property GRANTED
24/04186/FUL	Land North East of Sewage Works, Great Whittington	Proposed erection of an agricultural building
24/04249/FUL	Woodland Barn, West Bingfield, Bingfield	Retrospective – erection of a fence behind the boundary wall - REFUSED

0325.07 Finance/Administration

- a) Accounts for payment. Payments were reviewed and it was RESOLVED to approve the items of expenditure on the list, previously circulated.
- b) Internet Banking. Bank of Scotland have acknowledged receipt of the application form however have not yet processed the application.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT					
PAYEE	DETAILS	NET AMOUNT	VAT	GROSS AMOUNT	REF
Mrs A Senior	Clerical services	224.00		224.00	010948
H M Revenue & Customs	PAYE	56.00		56.00	010949
Mrs A Senior	Postages/travel expenses	CANCELLED			010950
Great Whittington Village Hall	Hall rent – March 2025	15.00		15.00	010951
CANCELLED	CANCELLED				010952
Viking Direct	Stationery	54.18	9.03	45.15	010953
The Defib Pad	Replacement defibrillator pads	113.94	18.99	94.95	010954
Mrs A Senior	Postages/travel expenses	40.35		40.35	010955
Bank of Scotland	Bank account charges	6.75		6.75	DD
Information Commissioners Office	Data protection fee	47.00		47.00	DD

0325.08 Great Whittington Village Hall and the village environment.

- a) Village Hall. The Village Hall is going well with regular bookings.

0325.09 To receive Councillors reports and Highway matters.

- a) To receive update on the proposed installation of the Vehicle Activated Signs. It was noted that the poles had been installed at each end of the village and the signs would be installed in due course. An objection was raised over the location of the pole outside the Queens Head Pub and a request was made for the pole to be relocated. County Councillor Mrs V Jones is to request that the pole is relocated and Cllr B Brittain will forward a map to Cllr Mrs Jones suggesting an alternative location.

0325.10 **Election Arrangements.** Arrangements were confirmed for the Parish Council elections which are to be held on 1st May 2025. Parish Councillors present completed their nomination forms, and these will be hand delivered to Northumberland County Council.

0325.11 **Date of next meeting** – The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 20th May 2025** at 7.30pm in Great Whittington Village Hall following the election on Thursday 1st May 2025. The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will follow the Annual Parish Meeting.