Minutes of meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council held at Middleton Village Hall on Monday 21st March 2016 commencing 730pm

**Those Present** J Ainsley (Chairman), K Fortune, D Cowans, J Ballantine, S Pattinson, A Douglass, S Richards, E Green, S Jones, C Miller (Clerk), G Sanderson (NCC), one member of the public

**2016/14 Apologies for absence**

A Teasdale (Northumbria Police)

**2016/15 Minutes of the meeting held 25th January 2016**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record.

**2016/16 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS**

***Members are invited to disclose any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests or other personal interests they may have in any of the items of business on the agenda in accordance with the Code of Conduct.***

**2016/17 Matters arising from previous meeting**

* Clerk had contacted NEDL regarding power cuts in Middleton, who had confirmed the fault 16/1/16 had been due to a faulty transformer. Engineers do patrol the area network and it was unfortunate Middleton electricity had been off first and reconnected last, this had not been deliberate.

**2016/18 Reports from representatives at outside meetings**

**Cambo School:** Animals had arrived; heating problem rectified; school fair went well.

**Cambo Village Hall:** Hall being spruced up, along with plumbing works. Grassed area opposite hall being churned up, however National Trust do not have the funds to improve this. Area is on NCC Local Transport Plan 2015-2016, and had been for several years.

**Middleton Village Hall:** Doing extraordinarily well, hall Annual Report available. Musicians from Canada attending 16/4/16 and Scottish Champion musicians 4/6/16.

**Wallington Football Club:** Team had won Saturdays’ match; pitch now drying out; race night to be held 26/3/16.

**2016/19 NCC Update**

* Public meeting held regarding broadband with subsequent follow up meeting, in an attempt to resurrect broadband issue in five specific areas, with costings requested through Openreach. If funding not available, there could be other options, and a further company could potentially provide service in this area, with NCC asked to fund a feasibility survey, G Sanderson liaising with NCC Deputy Leader/Chief Executive and to potentially source funding, and hopefully progress would be made within 6 months. Rural areas provide 16% to the UK economy, and improved broadband would be able to contribute further to this.
* NCC budget had been passed on a majority vote, with amendment put forward the relocation of County Hall should not happen, thereby saving 40million, however motion defeated.
* Future leisure provision controversial, with an arm’s length charity company running services and who had required funding to keep running. Subsequently, there could be large cuts in rural areas for such items as mobile libraries.
* G Sanderson/NCC always willing to work with Parish Council’s, and G Sanderson can be contacted at any time.
* A697 and A6341 reported as having difficulties whereby vehicles getting stuck with massive timber wagons, and it was thought previously a weight restriction had been placed on this road, G Sanderson to look into this matter.
* Potholes problematic within the parish, particular area of junction of Scots Gap and area near to Wallington Bridge. Cundy partially blocked under this road, which Clerk had previously reported, being 200m East of Garden House, and G Sanderson would attempt to carry out site visit within the next few days, which J Aynsley would attend.
* Brown signs for Wallington actioned, however one sign still lying flat at A68 junction to Hexham.
* Repairs to Pains Bridge had been delayed, further information about the work to be emailed to G Sanderson.

**2016/20 Police Update**

Further lead stolen from Wallington Hall within the last seven days and concern over vehicles entering the area at night, whereby property would now be locked down at night time; numerous trailer and diesel thefts; recurring issues regarding parking at Oakford, however ISOS not able to fund additional parking and unless vehicles causing obstructions, police would not be involved.

**2016/21 Financial matters: Bank balance as at 21/3/16: £19047.39**

**2016/21/01 The following invoices are to be authorised:**

* C Miller – litter bin - £134.26 – bin had been placed and NCC confirmed it would be on their emptying schedule
* Middleton & Todridge Village Hall – donation - £350 – previously agreed
* Funding request Wallington Football Club – Clerk had received confirmation there were no limitations to grant amount, under Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19, the power to provide and contribute to a wide range of recreational facilities, D Cowan proposed work to showers be financed at approximate cost of £3K, S Richards seconded, agreed.
* Lease for football club land rental financed through Parish Council, if club folded, PC would need to finance the land (current lease being 15 years).

**2016/22 Planning applications**

* 16/00531/FUL: National Trust, installation of new cables across the site – S Richards declared an interest – resubmission further to sub-station/switch room query – supported.

**2016/23 Correspondence**

* Northumberland County Council – Street Lighting – all street lights to be replaced with LED like for like, unless PC’s request otherwise, and alternatives would need financed by PC’s.
* Request for donation – Northumberland CVA – it was agreed not to donate as organisation similar to NALC/CAN.

**2016/24 Neighbourhood Management**

Lamp between Birches and garage out, D Cowan to provide number.

**2016/25 Grangemoor Woodland Plan**

Plans circulated to all with no objections from Parish Council.

**2016/26 Queen’s 90th Birthday**

It was agreed no celebrations would be arranged by the Parish Council. Cambo School to carry out a fancy dress parade with children’s party.

**2016/27 Annual Review of Risk Assessment**

Annual review of Risk Assessment carried out and it was agreed it was sufficient for the present needs of Wallington Demesne Parish Council.

**2016/28 Urgent Business**

* Wooden bus shelter to be disposed of, with person’s interested in purchasing.
* Sadly, no interest in old National Trust office, however large conservation projects underway, therefore proposals to store National Trust collections in the building.
* Planning permission ongoing from National Trust regarding cycle route, and farm shop to hopefully be spruced up and reused.
* J Ballantine had spoken to ISOS regarding Oakford parking who had confirmed it is National Trust’s responsibility to provide additional parking. Resident of Oakford had been taking photographs of vehicles parking on football club matches and various organisations contacted, however it was agreed this was not a Parish Council issue.



Claire Miller

Parish Clerk

Dated this 10th day of March 2016