Minutes of meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council held at Cambo Village Hall on Monday 24th July 2017 commencing 730pm

**Present: Those Present:** J Ballantine, D Cowan, S Pattison, S Jones, S Richards, D Cowan, D Dexter,

C Miller (Clerk), one member of the public

**2017/47 Apologies for absence**

County Cllr G Sanderson, A Teasdale Northumbria Police

**2017/48 Co-Option Vacancies**

Three applicants, who were duly co-opted – D Cowan, S Richards and D Dexter, with two vacancies remaining.

**2017/49 Opportunity for members of the public to raise any matter on the agenda**

Member of the public wished to raise comment Wallington Demesne Parish Council were not on the Steering Group for Ray Wind Farm Benefit Fund – the parish is not within the boundaries, however Clerk to speak to Chairman of Steering Group to confirm this. Resident also had concerns over lack of public W/C in the parish, however facilities at Robson and Cowan are made available to the public.

**2017/50 Minutes of the meeting held on 11th May 2017**

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

**2017/51 Election of Vice Chairman**

D Cowan proposed S Pattison as Vice Chairman, S Jones seconded, all in favour.

**2017/52 Matters arising from the minutes**

* **Defibrillators for Cambo, Scots Gap and Forestburn Gate:** Telephone box had been purchased at Forestburn Gate, with funding being applied for equipment. Clerk to contact Rothley and Hollinhill P.C. to enquire of progress at Cambo and Scots Gap.

**2017/53 NCC Update**

County Cllr G Sanderson had forwarded report and as he is now cabinet member for local services would be unable to attend every PC meeting. One of his first decisions had been to replant many of the trees removed and landscape the public areas at County Hall as part of their commitment to stay there. A new system of consulting on PC’s over large Highway schemes had been introduced. There is a local pothole fund of £500,000 for fixing repeat potholes with proper long lasting repairs with each County Cllr able to put forward requests that are highlighted by PC’s. Investment had been made in hiring two further tractors and toppers to get on top of verge cutting. E Green had reported areas in need of pothole repairs.

**2017/54 Police Update**

A Teasdale had emailed comments as follows: There had been an increase in scam calls with banks informing police; several thefts of diesel and farming equipment, Espley Farm outbuildings had been virtually emptied; poaching in the area; damage caused to play area at Wallington Hall nearly every Sunday for the last two months, with extra patrols and staff trying to catch those responsible.

**2017/55 Reports from representatives at outside meetings**

**Cambo School:** Sports Day held last week, pigs had left, school play had been fantastic.

**Cambo Village Hall:** Several events, including village fete, cycling event had gone well, John Grundy talk successful. Future events to be quiz 7/10/17, possible apple pressing event 15/10/17, wine tasting planned 25/11/17.

**Middleton Hall:** Going from strength to strength, two future events being Joint is Jumping - a 1920’s musical trio 24/11/17; The Princess and the Goblin in December, and further musical evening in October.

**Wallington FC:** Clayton Cup game last week and further cup game being played tonight. G Cowan had retired from pitch cutting and machinery had since been smashed. M Todd had cut the pitch twice, with cylinder mower now purchased and filters/sharpening to be carried out. Parish Council had donated towards works to changing rooms - item to be added to next agenda regarding funding towards new machinery.

**2017/56 Financial Matters**

**2017/56/01 The following invoices were authorised for payment**

* Middleton and Todridge Village Hall, May meeting, £20.00;
* C Miller, June & July salary/expenses £342.90; HMRC – PAYE £72.60,
* National Trust – rent for Football field - £180.00

**2017/56/02 Review of bank signatories**

* Amendments had been made whereby only two signatories for payments now required, and past members removed from the mandate. J Ballantine required to complete signatory form.

**2017/57 Planning Applications**

**2017/57/01 Planning Applications received**

**2017/57/02 Approval of Planning Application received**

* 17/00001/FUL: Mr S Purvis, West Grange Drive – 16 connected loose box stables and extension of access road

**2017/58 Neighbourhood Management – to report on any issues within the parish**

* Plague of rats in Cambo, with several having been caught, and it was thought National Trust were to engage rat catcher, S Richards to enquire on this. It did appear there was a greater problem in general with rats this year.
* Further accident at Scots Gap junction, however vegetation had grown over signs, and this would be the land owner’s responsibility, S Jones to speak to gentleman. SLOW signs would benefit from refreshing, and possible additional signs - Clerk to contact NCC.
* Mares tail problematic, with County Council having attended to area in Middleton, however they had only taken tops of with one spray, and within a fortnight, it had been evident once more.
* Problems with untaxed car being parked at Birches, however not a County or Parish Council matter, with advice telephone number 101 be dialed, however police had said this not their business, D Cowan to seek further information on County Council web-site regarding abandoned vehicles.
* Further grave had sunk in Cemetery, J Ballantine to confirm which grave this is.

**2017/59 Risk Assessment/Asset Register – to review documents**

Risk Assessment/Asset Register circulated to all Cllrs for review/comment and it was confirmed sufficient for the present needs of the Parish Council.

**2017/60 Correspondence**

* Northumberland County Council – The Green Dog Walkers Responsible Dog Ownership Campaign – to encourage dog walkers to pick up their dog mess.
* County Council – LTP 2018 – 19 – to agree/discuss priorities – it was agreed to retain the current requests of extra parking at Oakford, concerns about crossing busy road outside Wallington Hall, request for speed limit signs for Middleton.
* Northumberland County Council – notice of withdrawal of Core Strategy from examination

**2017/61 Urgent Business**

There was no urgent business.

The meeting closed at 830pm



Claire Miller

Parish Clerk