Minutes of meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council held at Cambo Village Hall on Monday 26th March 2018 commencing 730pm

J Ballantine **Those Present:** J Ballantine (Chairman), D Cowan, E Green, A Robson, D Dexter, S Jones, S Richards, G Sanderson (County Cllr) C Miller (Clerk)

**2018/16 Apologies for absence**

S Pattison, A Teasdale (Northumbria Police)

**2018/17 Co-Option Vacancy**

There had been no applications for the vacancy – item to be taken off agenda.

**2018/18 Declarations of Members interests**

J Ballantine declared an interest in grant requests from Wallington F.C. and Cambo Wraparound.

**2018/19 Opportunity for members of the public to raise any matter on the agenda**

There were no matters raised by members of the public.

**2018/20 Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd January 2017**

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

**2018/21 Matters arising from previous minutes held on 22nd January 2017**

* **Defibrillators for Cambo and Scots Gap:** One grant had been unsuccessful, however Community Foundation had submitted application to further donor.
* **Fibre optic broadband:** Nothing to report.
* **Dog fouling at Cambo:** Nothing to report.

**2018/22 NCC Update**

Budget finalised at County Council, with council raising charges in areas such as burials. Verge cutting to be carried out properly, with agreement reached between conservation groups. Weed spraying procedure being improved and run in-house, with ten extra seasonal staff employed. One million is to be spent on country parks, to generally make them more welcoming. Car parking charges will be introduced, with the first hour free, however running groups would receive permits for an hour and a half. There were problems with the broadband group - meetings had been held with Openreach but which had not been terribly productive. Parking studies had been carried out on the four main towns, with a partial reintroduction of car parking charges favoured, however nobody seems to wish to head this, but control of short-term parking and additional long-term space is being actioned. The winter had not been particularly savage but continually wet, and frost on roads that are not fit for purpose had created problems. In February half a million from County Council and 900,000 from central government had been secured to achieve longer lasting road repairs, however the two recent snowfalls had led to a doubling of areas in need of action. Emergency funding is to be requested from central government, and there is regret over the long time the work has taken to action. The area at Newhouses had been actioned, and the section from Scots Gap under the old railway bridge is of concern. Residents car parking permits discussed, however it was thought the cost to install meters etc for visitors would not be worthwhile and difficult decisions will have to be made. It was suggested a breakdown of council tax expenditure would be useful. There are block grants for elderly and children services, which are by far the biggest spending, and it would be asked if a breakdown would be possible. Speeding through Scots Gap problematic and solar panel warning signage had been suggested. Cameras cost approximately 3.5K and the first stage would be to conduct a speed survey. Clerk to contact Neil Snowdon, copied into G Sanderson, to request a speed survey be carried out at Scots Gap, with road to Rothbury the most problematic. Community speedwatch also an option, with volunteers who carry out monitoring.

**2018/23 Police Update**

There have been issues with poachers, and apparently there is an app which arranges meet-ups for poaching and advises of areas to go. No crime of note but further afield insecure cars and sheds are broken into on a regular basis.

**2018/24 Reports from representatives at outside meetings**

* **Cambo School**: London trip had been fantastic; Cambo Wraparound trying to raise funding towards new conservatory; pigs had arrived;
* **Cambo Village Hall:** quiz cancelled due to bad weather; Ernie Coe night scheduled for 21/4/18; gardener’s questions in May; talk by Nick Redmayne regarding travels in Ethiopia; cyclone event under consideration for June.
* **Middleton Hall:** Interim measures with no secretary or treasurer at the present time; no progress with extension; film night 6/4/18, being Victoria and Abdul.
* **Wallington F.C:** Recent games had been cancelled due to weather; hedge had been cut eventually; club remain in one cup game.

**2018/25 Financial Matters**

**2018/25/01 Invoices for authorisation**:

* Middleton Village Hall – rent for meeting held 22/1/18 - £20.00
* C Miller – February, March salary & expenses - £325.68
* HMRC – PAYE on above - £72.60

It was resolved the payments would be authorised.

**2018/25/02 To discuss and agree request for Grants from the following:**

* **Wallington F.C. –** further information regarding current financial status had not yet been received
* **Cambo Wraparound –** fund raising is being carried out - foundation work to cost £2.5K, and conservatory £15K. It was agreed the organisation is integral to the village. D Cowan proposed £3,500, S Richards seconded, all in agreement.

**2018/25/03 To review charges for Cambo burial ground**

Charges reviewed and it was agreed to retain at present for the coming year, and review March 2019. J Ballantine to carry out safety checks cemetery headstones.

**2018/25/04 To review insurance cover**

Middleton bus shelter – clarification to be sought with adjacent owner as to whether it is on their land; seats and noticeboard to be removed from schedule.

**2018/25/05 To review asset register**

Asset register was reviewed and agreed acceptable.

**2018/25/06 To review internal auditor and system of internal control**

It was agreed D Metcalfe, the present auditor, be re-engaged to carry out the internal audit year ending 31/3/18, and it was agreed the system of internal control was sufficient for the present needs of Wallington Demesne Parish Council.

**2018/26 Planning Applications**

**2018/26/01 Planning Applications received**

* 18/00471/FUL: Mr A Cowan, land west of Greenside Farm Hartburn – proposed detached workshop/store.
* 18/00597/LBC: Mr R Dower, outbuilding adjacent to Cambo House, Front Row, Cambo – listed building consent for conversion of existing (empty) office to form a single self-catering holiday unit.
* 18/00314/FUL: Wallington Hall, Shielhill to Cambo, formation of tarmac area for vehicle parking, bin storage and electric vehicle charging point,

Three planning applications had been received, however had been out of date before being circulated to all Cllrs. It was agreed Chairman would inform Clerk when future plans received, with Clerk to then email all Cllrs with reference numbers etc. in order for the details to be viewed on County Council web-site, and any comments from Councillor’s to then be emailed to Clerk.

**2018/26/02 Approval of Planning Application received**

No approvals received.

**2018/27 Neighbourhood Management – to report on any issues within the parish**

Footpaths require cleaning between Oakford and Scotsgap, Scots Gap to Cambo and Middleton bridge – clerk to report to County Council.

**2018/28 Correspondence**

* Middleton Village Hall – Summary of Accounts and Balance Sheet as at 31/12/18.
* Northumberland County Council – Wallington, cycle warning signs now in place.
* Northumberland County Council – Post 16 Transport – consultation document available on-line – County Council to introduce free transport for Post 16’s, with £50 registration fee initially payable by each pupil.

**2018/29 To receive/discuss information relating to General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR**

New regulations were coming into force 25/5/18 with Parish Council’s having to record every piece of personal information they hold. Clerk had carried out a data audit and passed forms to each Cllr who also had to complete. A Data Protection Officer needs to be appointed, and it could be possible this cannot be the Clerk. However, NALC are to arrange training sessions where further information will be available.

**2018/30 Urgent Business**

There was no urgent business.

**2018/31 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council will be held on Monday 21st May 2018 commencing after the Annual Meeting of the Parish which commences at 7pm in Middleton Village Hall.



Claire Miller

Parish Clerk