**Minutes of electronic meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council held at 730pm on Monday 28th September 2020**

**Those Present:**  A Robson (Vice Chairman) D Cowan, R Boucher, V Bland, E Green, D Dexter, S Richards,

G Sanderson (NCC), C Miller (Clerk),

**2020/51 Apologies for absence**

C Hughes joined the meeting but had problems with audio and had to leave, J Ballantine, A Teasdale

**2020/52 Declarations of Members interests**

There were no Declaration of Members Interests.

**2020/53 Opportunity for members of the public to raise any matter on the agenda**

There were no matters raised by members of the public.

**2020/54 Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 27th July 2020**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 27th July 2020 were accepted as a true record, further to addition to item regarding National Trust Headquarters – “It was resolved the Parish Council should not be interfering with National Trust procedures and would not be contacting them about the overgrown shrubbery,” the following to be added “at this time.”

**2020/55 Matters arising from the previous meeting held on Monday 27th July 2020**

* **Fibre optic broadband:** Nothing to report.
* **Cambo seat:** Seat to be installed in the near future
* **Noticeboard:** Noticeboard to be installed in the near future
* **Footpaths:** Clerk had registered requests for footpath maintenance on County Council web-site and repairs to the path between Doctors and Willow Park at Scots Gap had also been requested under the Local Transport Plan 2019-2020. The footpath between Oak House and Elm House at Scots Gap did appear to be receiving action. The footpath between Scots Gap and Wallington is worsening with pedestrians having to access the road, due to the hedge requiring cutting back, but which had to be actioned outside the bird nesting period.
* **Old National Trust Headquarters building:** The garden was overgrown with problems encountered due to the Covid-19 pandemic. S Richards reported the National Trust Countryside Officer had spoken to two residents regarding complaints about overgrown shrubbery affecting their properties, and a small amount of maintenance work had been carried out, however Trust volunteers could not be used at the present time due to the pandemic, and due to this the building works to the old HQ building would not commence until 2021.
* **Signposts:** Signposts in the parish were gradually falling down due to the bottom of posts being rotten, and it was resolved details of all post repairs would be forwarded once more to the County Council. V Bland to initially compile list and Clerk to transmit to County Council.

**2020/56 NCC Update**

G Sanderson reported hedgeworks were a perennial issue, however the hedge discussed above is not the County Council’s responsibility, but they would continue action it at the present time. Bolam Lake Country Park causing problems due to cars parking on the side of the road instead of the official paid car park, and a traffic order for double yellow lining had been submitted. There had been deaths over the weekend due to Covid-19 and the situation is not good in the County. Two testing stations were open, however there is concern with schooling, children having to self-isolate and problems with supply teachers being expensive to employ, and discussions were to take place with the Secretary of State. The effect of the pandemic on people who are least able to deal with mental health issues of concern with County Council attempting to offer support. Roadworks were still going on, and hopefully they would not be held up again due to the pandemic, and the County Council front-line staff were vitally important. Cambo School 20mph scheme had now been included in the works schedule. Footpath between Cambo and school could be improved, if funding permitted. County Council were currently monitoring the play area situation and a decision would be taken as to whether to re-close parks. Further Risk Assessments on public facilities had been carried out and hopefully they would remain open. Large numbers of visitors had been visiting coastal areas, however the infrastructure had been unable to cope with the influx and the matter would be looked into.

**2020/57 Police Update**

Operation Hawkeye is running and aimed at dealing with poaching and off-road vehicles. There had been increased reports of poaching across the area. New Covid-19 restrictions were in place with breaches of regulations to be reported via 101. Officers were deployed across the area with the Speed Gun device.

**2020/58 Reports from representatives at outside meetings**

* **Cambo School:** Nothing to report.
* **Cambo Village Hall:** The hall had been closed again due to the latest Covid-19 regulations.
* **Middleton Village Hall:** Opening event had had to be cancelled, Scots Gap surgery had used the hall this morning for flu vaccinations.
* **Wallington F.C:** Season had commenced, however the match on Saturday had been cancelled due to players being isolated due to the pandemic and the season could likely be postponed. The club were to send letters out regarding dog fouling, however the problem had improved slightly.

**2020/59 Financial Matters**

**2020/59/01 To note that following the conclusion of the 2021/21 NJC pay award, a 2.75% rise backdated from 1/4/20 is included in Clerk salary payment September 2020**

It was noted the pay increase had been included in the Clerk salary payment September 2020.

**2020/59/02 The following payments are due for authorisation**

* C Miller – August, September salary & expenses - £415.91
* HMRC – PAYE on above - £6.00
* Spanglefish – annual web-site fee - £103.00
* National Trust – Rent of football field - £180.00

It was resolved to approve the payments.

**2020/60 Planning**

**2020/60/01 Planning Applications received**

* 20/02344/FUL& 20/02344/LBC: Two Queens Front Row Cambo – Change of use of redundant detached stable into self-contained residential accommodation ancillary to the enjoyment of main house; removal of non-original fireplace and flue and works of repair, alteration and refurbishment – no objections.
* 20.02659/LBC: The Garden House, Wallington – Listed Building Consent for existing timber door in brown finish to be replaced with timber hardwood entrance door in cream finish – no objections.

**2020/60/02 Approval of Planning Application received**

* 20/01513/LBC and 20/01512/FUL, 7 Front Row – Cambo – removal of stud wall to kitchen, alterations to fireplace, siting of external ventilation ducts. Siting of oil tank with outbuilding and associated alterations.

**2020/60/03 Northumberland Local Plan – Notification of Phase 2 Examination Hearings**

The inspector had raised several issues which required further consultation.

**2020/61 Neighbourhood Management – to report/update on action regarding issues within the parish**

National Trust would finish housing works previously budgeted for. Rothley Lake House to also be completed. Empty house gardens to be actioned once staff un-furloughed.

**2020/62 Web-site Accessibility Regulations and approval of Accessibility Statement**

New web-site had gone live and it was resolved to approve the Accessibility Statement. The site is created in HTML5, the underlying code is valid and uncomplicated and the website should be fully accessible using screen readers. Some older PDF’s were not fully accessible, however all future documents would be accessible, and it was resolved to approve the statement. A parish photograph for the web-site would be provided. Spam emails had been forwarded to all Parish Cllrs via the web-site and the administrator was aware and looking into the problem.

**2020/63 To approve Local Transport Plan requests for 2021-2022**

2020-2021 requests had been 1. Footpath repairs between Doctors and Oakford, Scots Gap and footpath repairs to Cambo School – County Council had advised the maintenance issue had been recorded and would be considered when developing future planned maintenance programmes. In the meantime Area Maintenance teams would continue to monitor and carry out any minor works required to maintain in a safe condition. It was resolved to include the footpath requests as above, and repairs between Oak House and Elm House footpath in LTP 2021-2022.

**2020/64 Age UK Northumberland’s Services**

For many years AGE UK had provided a range of support services across Northumberland to help over 50s, the Covid pandemic had created unprecedented demand for support, and funding had been granted from the Vattenfall Ray Wind Farm to provide free information, advice, advocacy, befriending and health and wellbeing support. Activity packs were available for older people in the community to help them stay active and the service would be advertised in Church Chimes and information displayed in noticeboard.

**2020/65 Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

**2020/66 Urgent Business**

There was no urgent business

**2020/67 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council will be held on Monday 23rd November 2020 commencing 730pm.



Claire Miller

Parish Clerk

The meeting closed at 815pm.