**Minutes of electronic meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council held at 730pm on Monday 25th January 2021**

**Those Present:** J Ballantine (Chairman), A Robson, D Cowan, C Hughes, S Richards, R Boucher, V Bland, E Green, D Dexter, C Miller (Clerk), G Sanderson (County Council)

**2021/01 Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2021/02 Declarations of Members interests**

There were no declaration of members interests.

**2021/03 Opportunity for members of the public to raise any matter**

There were no matters raised by members of the public.

**2021/04 Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 23rd November 2020**

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 23rd November 2020be accepted as a true record.

**2021/05 Matters arising from the previous meeting held on Monday 23rd November 2020**

* **Cambo seat:** Seat still to be put in place
* **Noticeboard:**  The existing board at Scots Gap had been repaired and is functional but could look better, however as there is no requirement at the present time for Parish Council notices to be displayed in noticeboards due to the Covid pandemic, the matter would be discussed at a later date.
* **Footpaths:** Cambo to Scots Gap footpath had been actioned; no action had been taken on the path from Cambo to Wallington and needs to be cleared of growth; path at Doctors Surgery had been actioned. Part of the path to Cambo school had been improved, and flashing lights should be installed in the near future.
* **Old National Trust Headquarters building:** Broken window in building had been repaired.
* **Signposts:** Various signposts had been reported as in need of repair on the approach and in and around Scots Gap. Clerk to forward details to County Councillor. The rotten 30mph signage had been originally reported February 2020.
* **Speeding traffic:** Highways Programme Team at County Council had confirmed they would investigate concerns about speeding traffic further and how to take this forward as a shared approach with Northumbria police in relation to limits to ensure the safety of residents, however at the present time the issues were still ongoing - Clerk to contact NCC and request an update.
* **Byways Open to all Traffic:** Clerk had contacted County Council regarding issues raised at last meeting, and a resolution was being actioned.
* **Drainage at Middleton:** Drains had been cleared, however there were still problems as water is being directed away due to a build-up of silt, and road sweeper could alleviate the problem – County Cllr to request sweeper visits site.

**2021/06 NCC Update**

Winter services a priority with gritting, filling of grit bins etc. Covid situation still very much ongoing with a new strain in Northumberland and some Covid wards almost full, however there were still problems in specific areas due to social distancing rules not being followed. County Council car parks would not be closed as in the original lockdown, due to problems with cars subsequently parking dangerously. Road works were ongoing despite problems associated with Covid. Further yellow lining at Bolam to be implemented. County Council budget about to be produced, with the public able to comment for the first time. Climate change action plan to be announced in ten days’ time, the free tree offer had been a great success.

**2021/07 Police Update**

There were on-going issues with off-road trial bikes and quads over public paths, bridleways and going over fields. Extra patrols were on duty with the police working together with the County Council to prevent access to certain areas. Poaching continues with Operation Hawkeye addressing the issues. Any breaches of Covid regulations can be reported via 101 or web-page submission. Burglary had occurred at property at Rothley crossroads, with two empty dwellings the area is vulnerable, and any suspicious activity should be reported to the police.

**2021/08 Reports from representatives at outside meetings**

* **Cambo School:** Further to the Covid pandemic, a maximum of ten pupils were permitted to attend the school each day.
* **Cambo Village Hall:** Nothing to report.
* **Middleton Hall:** Nothing to report.
* **Wallington F.C:** Matches not currently being played due to the Covid pandemic. The Parish Council lease of the football ground has seven years five months remaining, most grants the club can apply for require more than 50% of a lease remaining, and the Club wished to contact the National Trust regarding a lease extension. S Richards to forward National Trust personnel contact to Clerk who would initially progress the issue.

**2021/09 Financial Matters**

**2021/09/01 The following payments are due for authorisation**

* C Miller – December, January, salary - £389.53; expenses - £13.70
* HMRC – PAYE on above - £2.20
* J Ballantine – hedgecutting at cemetery - £110.00
* Stephen Carey Fund – replacement defib pads £75.00

It was resolved to accept the payments

**2021/10 Planning**

**2021/10/01 Approval of Planning Application received**

* 20/03315/FUL: Grangemoor House, Grange Moor Farm Cottages, Scots Gap – proposed alterations to form annexe

**2021/11 Neighbourhood Management – to report/update on action regarding issues within the parish**

A parishioner had requested a replacement oak barrel for the rotten structure, and an additional barrel to be placed in Sots Gap for floral displays, and which would be relatively cheap. It was agreed the Parish Council were in favour of this, and J Ballantine would source.

**2021/12 Correspondence**

**Northumberland County Council – Private Sector Housing Strategy for Northumberland 2021-2023 Consultation**

Consultation regarding private sector housing strategy available for comment.

**2021/13 To receive information regarding B4RN/B4NTR Broadband matters**

B4ntr were holding a zoom public meeting on Wednesday 17th February at 7pm, the link to the zoom meeting as follows:

https://tinyurl.com/B4NTR2021

Meeting ID: 813 7653 4748

Passcode: 355595

Gigabyte Voucher Service applications had been received from 43 properties in the NE61 b4ntr area which is approaching 30%target and there is pressure on getting more voucher scheme sign-ups before the end of March when the current scheme will close. B4RN are a not-for-profit organisation set up with the specific aim to provide world class broadband connectivity to rural areas often poorly supplied by the main providers of this type of service. B4RN are prepared to invest approximately £5million into the B4NTR scheme, in advance of any payments, and all they ask in return is a promise to consider installing their service when it is available, there is no penalty if circumstances change and people then decline the service.

**2021/14 Date of Next Meeting**

Then next meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council will be held on Monday 22nd March 2021 commencing 730pm.



Claire Miller

Parish Clerk

The meeting closed at 805pm.