

Minutes of ordinary meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council held at 730pm on Monday 26th July 2021 at Cambo Village Hall

Those Present: J Ballantine (Chairman), A Robson, E Green, D Dexter, D Thompson, R Boucher, C Miller (Clerk)

2021/53 Apologies for absence

C Hughes, G Sanderson (County Cllr)

2021/54 Declarations of Members interests

There were no Declaration of Members interests.

2021/55 Co-Option Vacancies

There had been one applicant and it was resolved to co-opt D Thompson. Two vacancies remained with Clerk to arrange an advert in Chimes magazine and advertisements to be placed in Cambo, Scots Gap and Middleton noticeboards.

2021/56 Opportunity for members of the public to raise any matter

There were no members of the public present.

2021/57 Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 24th May 2021

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 24th May 2021 be accepted as a true record.

2021/58 Matters arising from the previous meeting held on Monday 24th May 2021

- **Cambo seat:** Contractor to build seat, however due to timber shortages this had been delayed. D Thompson could provide wood if required.
- **Footpaths:** County Council to action essential footpath work at Cambo School scheduled to commence 2/8/21.
- **Signposts:** Signposts still in need of repair.
- **Speeding traffic:** A resident from Scots Gap had contacted J Ballantine with concern about speeding traffic and who were also to contact the County Council. Speed survey was scheduled for later in the year.
- **Byways Open to all Traffic:** Potholes had been repaired, vehicles no longer going through The Corridge.
- **Drainage at Middleton:** Water evident all year around on road just above the bridge, with silt still requiring removal. Drains near to car park in Cambo blocked, located at the back of 6,7 and 8 Front Row and the garages, and it was felt all of the drains in Cambo had not been cleaned for many years. Clerk to contact G Sanderson to enquire if it was County Council responsibility.

2021/59 NCC Update

It was unlikely County Cllr G Sanderson would be able to attend regularly at Parish Council meetings.

2021/60 Police Update

No police presence.

2021/61 National Trust Update

Clerk had contacted S Richards to request an update, however this had not been received. Kirkwhelpington Parish Council had also contacted the Trust to complain about the unacceptable state of the old Trust Headquarters building at Scots Gap. There were known to be staff shortages with Trust gardeners overworked.

2021/62 Reports from representatives at outside meetings

- **Cambo School:** Repairs to canteen roof/cladding and new W/C's. 9 pupils to move on after the summer term.
- **Cambo Village Hall:** £800 had been raised for the Great North Air Ambulance through Cyclone event. Events scheduled, including a plant fair.
- **Middleton Hall:** Hall had re-opened.

- **Wallington F.C – extension of lease:** New fencing installed for additional spectators and to be in line with F.A. rules. Sponsor boards to be placed. Season to commence middle September with friendly game scheduled 1/8/21. Clerk had contacted National Trust to chase lease up, however document still awaited.

2021/63 Financial Matters

2021/63/01 The following payments are due for authorisation

- National Trust – rent for football field – clerk had requested corrected annual invoice which was still awaited.
- C Miller – May, June salary & expenses – £422.23
- HMRC – PAYE - £20.40
- Middleton & Todridge Village Hall – meeting room 24/5/21 - £20.00

It was resolved to approve the payments.

2021/64 Planning

2021/64/01 Planning Applications received

- 21/01774/FUL: 28 Oakford, Scots Gap – Two storey side extension – no objections.

2021/64/02 Approval of Planning Application received

- No approval of planning application had been received.

2021/64/03 Northumberland Local Plan Examination – Consultation on Main Modifications

The draft plan in its current form would not pass the independent examination and a further consultation was underway, however there did not appear to be anything pertinent relating to the parish contained within the document.

2021/65 Neighbourhood Management – to report/update on action regarding issues within the parish

Potholes in Oakford prevalent, with A Robson to report via County Council web-site.

2021/65/01 Notice of Application for Modification Order, Right of Way, Greenside Farm

No further information had been received.

2021/65/02 To consider concerns regarding footpaths

A parishioner had concerns about the field adjacent to the National Trust Broomhouse Trail with the field hosting a large number of inquisitive bullocks all summer. The farmer had down played the risk and the National Trust had suggested contacting the Parish Council, with a proposal to make a safe footpath in the field. Clerk had contacted County Council who had stated the farmer is perfectly entitled to graze his cattle on a field with a footpath through it and users are also entitled to be able to walk through a field without being in fear of being chased by animals. Cows can be excitable so it is an impossible situation to get right for everyone. Bulls are not permitted to be in a field with a footpath, unless they are beef bulls running with other cows. Cows and calves are permitted. Advice to walkers is to stick to the edge of a field, stay calm and keep dogs on a lead, unless they are actually physically chased by cattle, whereupon NFU advice is to release the dogs and allow them to run to safety. The cows are usually being curious and the best advice is to turn and face them, back away slowly, and stay calm. There are reports of walkers who are injured and killed by cattle every year so it is a very serious topic, and if the cattle are deemed to be actually dangerous, rather than curious and excitable then the advice would be to get the Health and Safety executive involved.

2021/65/03 Northumberland Rivers Trust – River Wansbeck Catchment

- Northumberland Rivers Trust – River Wansbeck Catchment – the Trust would be delivering a community centred awareness raising project over the next few months focusing on the River Wansbeck Catchment. The project was aimed at engaging with the local community, raising awareness of the Wansbeck and the wildlife which call it home, including one of the best populations of the protected white clawed crayfish in the UK. Clerk had confirmed Parish Council interest in the project, and a meeting was to be arranged in due course.

2021/65/04 Safety concerns at Payne's Bridge, Wallington

A collision had occurred which had resulted in a vehicle being written off. Clerk had forwarded concerns to County Council, who had replied to state they had asked the police if they were aware of any other issues at the bridge and had logged it as a road safety scheme, and would arrange for the design team to evaluate how safety could potentially be improved at the location. A further incident had occurred when two large loaders with escort vehicle approaching from the A696 stopped just short of the bridge having realised they were too wide and low, and turning around at that point to travel via an acceptable route had caused a problem. There were problems in Middleton with vehicles following satnavs on unsuitable roads and Clerk would ask County Cllr G Sanderson if he was aware of who to contact with concerns.

2021/65/05 To consider Local Transport Plan requirements 2022-2023

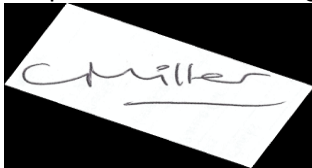
Current requests being footpath repairs between Doctors and Oakford, Scots Gap; Footpath repairs to Cambo school and footpath repairs between Oak House and Elm House, Scots Gap – none of the requests had been included in 2021-2022, with maintenance teams to continue to monitor and carry out any minor works required to maintain in safe conditions. Footpath clearance between Cambo and Scots Gap required. County had confirmed staff shortages due to Covid-19 were impeding their maintenance schedules. 2022-2023 LTP requests to be confirmed at next meeting,

2021/66 To receive information regarding B4RN/B4NTR Broadband matters

51 dwellings had lodged interest in the service, mainly in rural areas, with only two farmers not having signed up. Landowners were being contacted regarding wayleaves, with National Trust the main landowner. Officially, 30% of the available premises need to apply for vouchers before construction commences, with Barrasford parish beginning works. Cambo Village Hall could be interested in the service.

2021/67 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council will be held on Monday 27th September 2021 commencing 730pm in Middleton Village Hall.



Claire Miller
Parish Clerk

The meeting closed at 810pm.