**Minutes of electronic meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council held at 730pm on Monday 22nd March 2021**

**Those Present:** J Ballantine (Chairman), A Robson, D Cowan, C Hughes, R Boucher, V Bland, E Green, D Dexter,

C Miller (Clerk), G Sanderson (Northumberland County Council), two members of the public

**2021/15 Apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2021/16 Declarations of Members interests**

There were no Declaration of Members Interests.

**2021/17 Opportunity for members of the public to raise any matter**

D Thompson present. 50 expressions of interest had been received for B4RN/B4NTR broadband, and a further 10 sign ups would result in the project moving to the next stage. This would involve walking routes and speaking to landowners, with most of the landowners in support of the project. G Sanderson reported there was a link on the County Council web-site regarding broadband funding.

The Parish Council had discussed Byways Open to all Traffic at the previous meeting, and D Thompson advised the County Council had now closed some BOATS until July 2022.

**2021/18 Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 25th January 2021**

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 25th January 2021 be accepted as a true record.

**2021/19 Matters arising from the previous meeting held on Monday 25th January 2021**

* **Cambo seat:** Ongoing.
* **Footpaths:** Cambo to Wallington footpath still unwalkable, Scots Gap to Cambo path in an acceptable condition.
* **Signposts:** Nothing to report.
* **Speeding traffic:** County Hall had confirmed they would carry out a further speed survey at Scots Gap in the Summer.
* **Byways Open to all Traffic:** Discussed earlier.
* **Drainage at Middleton:** No action had been taken by County Council to improve drainage at Middleton.

**2021/20 NCC Update**

G Sanderson was unaware of problems regarding the footpath between Cambo and Wallington, and would look into this. Traffic monitoring to occur at Scots Gap in the Summer; Drainage had been reported at Middleton with Officers attending site to assess; BOAT user groups were aware of their rights and forthright in making their point, and a significant effort had been made by the County Council to address problems. A significant amount of new funding had been agreed for broadband. Five Councils had signed up to a 350million funding pot for projects such as work at Hadrian’s Wall, funding to Alnwick Gardens project, Wooler whisky distillery and the Maltings theatre at Berwick, with extra money available. The new Northumberland train line funding had been secured, with planning permission submitted for the first two stations at South East Northumberland and which would transform the way people live and work, tying in with work on climate change. A new Climate Change Action Plan had been published, which includes ground source heat pump trials and electrical pavement chargers. There is a big demand for production of car batteries where a development in the south-east of the county is expected. The fallen down signpost at Scots Gap is in the system, however work at the present time revolves around potholes, with proper patching to be actioned in the summer, and resurfacing being carried out on the worst areas of roads. Speed calming measures at Cambo School scheduled for April 2021. There had been a problem with flooding in the dip on the road near to the school and work was planned to rectify this. G Sanderson gave thanks to all for their input since the 2017 Election.

**2021/21 Police Update**

Poaching problems continue; motorbikes and quad riders using the green lanes and BOATS had increased and being addressed with a multi-agency approach.

**2021/22 Reports from representatives at outside meetings**

* **Cambo School:** Wooden bio W/C had been installed in the wood.
* **Cambo Village Hall:** On-line theatre event quite well attended.
* **Middleton Hall:** It was envisaged a committee meeting would be held in the hall after 17/5/21. Two highlight productions had been booked with event scheduled for 27/6/21 to go ahead. Formal opening of hall extension would be held, with date to be confirmed.
* **Wallington F.C**: As of 29/3/21 a small cup competition would be run, with home game scheduled in April. Fund raising event to be held at Easter. National Trust had suggested a surrender of the existing lease with regranting of new, as this would be a major change and they do not feel it would be the best way forward of documenting it. It was agreed Clerk would confirm this was acceptable.

**2021/23 Financial Matters**

**2021/23/01 The following payments are due for authorisation**

* C Miller –February, March, salary - £389.73; Expenses - £37.38
* HMRC – PAYE on above - £2.00
* J Ballantine – planters for Scots Gap - £90.00

It was resolved to approve the payments.

**2021/23/02 To consider request for grant from Citizens Advice Northumberland**

It was resolved to grant a sum of £30.

**2021/24 Planning**

**2021/24/01 Planning Applications received:**

* 20/04239/FUL: Greenside Grange, Hartburn – Proposal to lay concrete on existing compacted hardcore yard, incorporating appropriate underground drainage – no objections.
* 21/00721/FUL: Land East of Greenside Grange, Hartburn – Change of use of land to wood reclamation business & construction of secure storage shed to accommodate office & vehicle/machinery storage for business – no objections.

**2021/24/02 Approval of Planning Application received**

* 20/03324/LBC: West End, Cambo – Listed Building Consent: Installation of French drain between 2 NO downpipes to front elevation connected to soak away in front garden including new drain pipe run.
* 20/3749/LBC: 3 Front Row, Cambo – Listed Building Consent for renewal of roof covering on south elevation, works to first floor joints beneath bedrooms and other repairs.
* 20/03753/LBC: The Portico, Wallington – Listed Building consent for patio doors to lounge, boiler flue and other repair works
* 20/03750/LBC: The Riding, Front Row, Cambo – Listed Building Consent for installation of replacement extraction fan, outlet and oil boiler. New kitchen layout, upgrade electrical services and install mechanical services.
* 20/03754/LBC: West House, Cambo – Listed Building Consent for condensing boiler and associated works
* 20/03489/FUL: Land West of Entrance to Greenside Farm, Hartburn – New vehicular access onto the B6246

**2021/24/03 Environmental Impact Assessment – Wallington Estate Woodland Creation Stakeholder Consultation**

There had been no comments to the assessment.

**2021/25 Neighbourhood Management – to report/update on action regarding issues within the parish**

* A gym being built in the parish had received planning permission.
* It appeared the old National Trust Head office was up for let, and Clerk would ask the National Trust for an update on this. S Richards was standing down from the Parish Council and it was agreed to ask if a regular newsletter could be forwarded from the Trust for discussion at bi-monthly Parish Council meetings. It appeared the Trust were looking into converting properties into holiday lets and it would be beneficial if the Parish Council were kept informed. A theft had been carried out at the Lake House, which was one of the properties that had already been converted into a holiday let.

**2021/26 To receive information regarding B4RN/B4NTR Broadband matters**

Discussed earlier.

**2020/27 Cambo Cemetery – Review of Burial Fees**

It was resolved to retain the fees at the present rate.

**2021/28 Review of Standing Orders**

It was resolved that the current Standing Orders were sufficient for the present needs of the Parish Council.

**2021/29 Review of Internal Auditor/internal controls**

D Metcalf had agreed to carry out the internal audit year ending 31/3/21, and it was resolved he would be re-engaged.

It was resolved the present system of internal control was sufficient for the current needs of the Parish Council.

**2021/30 Review of Asset Register**

It was resolved the register was a true record of the current assets of the Parish Council, further to bus shelter and seat

at burial ground being revalued at £1, as opposed to insurance value (purchase price unknown).

**2021/31 Review of Risk Assessment**

It was resolved the Risk Assessment was sufficient for the current needs of the Parish Council.

**2021/32 Review of Insurance Policy**

Street furniture included in policy at £5605; public and employers liability £10m; fidelity guarantee

£150K, and which was agreed as sufficient for the present needs of the Parish Council.

**2021/33 Parish Council Elections May 2021**

Nomination packs had been forwarded to all Cllrs and which have to be delivered in person to County Hall, Morpeth by

8th April 2021, further to an appointment being arranged through the Elections Office.

**2021/34 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council will be held on Monday 24th May 2021 commencing 730pm. At the present time it could not be confirmed whether this would be held electronically or in person and it was therefore agreed to cancel the Annual Parish Meeting.



Claire Miller

Parish Clerk

The meeting closed at 820pm