

Minutes of ordinary meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council held at 730pm on Monday 28th March 2022 at Cambo Village Hall

Those Present: J Ballantine (Chairman), A Robson, R Boucher, D Dexter, D Thompson, C Hughes, L Brown, C Miller (Clerk)

2022/17 Apologies for absence

M Seth, E Green, G Sanderson (NCC)

2022/18 Declarations of Members interests

There were no Declaration of Members Interests.

2022/19 Opportunity for members of the public to raise any matter

There were no members of the public present.

2022/20 Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 24th January 2022

It was resolved the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 24th January 2022 be accepted as a true record.

2022/21 Matters arising from the previous meeting held on Monday 24th January 2022

2022/21/01 Footpaths

National Trust were continuing to work through the Storm Arwen devastation, and had therefore not inspected the footpath at Newbiggen Farm and area after Closehouse crossroads to Wallington. Sally Richards of the National Trust suggested the Parish Council contact the tenants of the adjacent farmland directly. (Footpath at Cambo near to old bus shelter also requires attention). However it was resolved to reply to the National Trust to ask when they will be in a position to action the above, as the Parish Council had no authority in such matters.

2022/21/02 Signposts

Several signposts in the parish had been repaired. To be taken off agenda.

2022/22/03 Speeding traffic within the parish/request to lower speed limit at Middleton

Speed survey had been carried out in Middleton, however data had not brought up sufficient concerns. D Thompson to contact G Sanderson and request a further survey be carried out to the West of the Ox Inn.

2022/22/04 Drainage at Middleton and Cambo

National Trust had provided a contact regarding drainage behind Front Row and road down to Middle Row, Cambo – Clerk to report. Drainage at Middleton a long running problem. Drainage at Paynes Bridge and gullies in Oakford require attention – Clerk to report to County Council.

2022/22/05 Cambo School car park

National Trust would very much like to talk to the school about the car park and management of the woodland, however the Estate Managers continue to be extremely stretched covering right down through the Eastern side of the region. A recent recruitment campaign had failed to bring in more support, therefore they were looking at other options. They continue to prioritise the greatest need so would kindly ask for patience, however the request to look at this with the school duly noted.

2022/22/06 County Council garden waste service

Only one parishioner had contacted Clerk to register interest in a garden waste service, therefore the proposals could not be taken further with County Council.

2022/22/07 To consider Parish Council role in Civil Emergencies

Individual hall committees were considering how they could assist in emergencies. Matter to be kept on agenda with further information anticipated from committees. Parish Cllrs could be involved by carrying out welfare checks on individual households during times of crises.

2022/22/08 Road resurfacing T junction/old railway bridge, Scots Gap

M Seth had concerns about Grangemoor T Junction to Middleton turn off and had reported the area a couple of years ago to County Council, with correspondence exchanged, however no action taken to date. Clerk to report concerns to County Council.

2022/22/09 Trees on Middleton bank and near to Bolam West Houses

Clerk had reported issues to the landowner and Belsay Parish Council. Some attention to trees on Middleton bank top had been actioned.

2022/23 NCC Update

G Sanderson not present, but had forwarded general report including information relating to County Council Ukraine refugee support.

2022/24 Police Update

There was no police update. To be taken off agenda.

2022/25 National Trust Update

2022/25/01 To consider issues relating to old HQ building at Scots Gap

National Trust advised the Estate Management and Building Surveyors were moving into part of the building over March and April. The long term future for the building remains in planning but as previously communicated, the current focus is on improving peoples homes. The Trust continue to improve the condition of the housing stock with works commencing on further cottages, and were also to start looking at the condition of farmhouses.

2022/26 Reports from representatives at outside meetings

- **Cambo School:** No issues
- **Cambo Village Hall:** Npower to advise on most appropriate generator for the hall. Charging points and camping stoves to be purchased for use in times of Crises Management.
- **Middleton Hall:** No issues to report.
- **Wallington F.C:** Draft lease between Parish Council and Football Club had been prepared, based on the previous document, and which would be forwarded to National Trust for their approval. Both leases (second lease being between National Trust and Parish Council) could then be signed. Club had Cup Final matches 4/4/22 and 8/4/22.

2022/27 Financial Matters

2022/27/01 The following payments are due for authorisation

- Middleton & Todridge Village Hall – hall rental 24/1/22 - £20.00
- C Miller – January, February salary & expenses – £441.88
- HMRC – PAYE - £29.60

It was resolved to approve the payments.

2022/27/02 To consider display of Christmas tree(s) in the parish

National Trust were happy to support the proposal for a tree on the piece of grass at Scots Gap junction, and advised the Parish Council to apply for a license in September to allow for processing, however there was no electricity supply, and the area near to Methodist Church could be an option. C Hughes to contact Church Warden regards using the church electricity.

2022/27/03 To consider request for grant from Citizens Advice Northumberland and Northumberland Age UK

It was resolved to grant £30 to Citizens Advice Northumberland.
It was resolved to grant £30 to Northumberland Age UK.

2022/27/04 To receive acknowledgement of grant from Great North Air Ambulance
Acknowledgement of grant noted.

2022/27/05 To receive National Joint Council for Local Government Services 1.75% payrise for year ending 31/3/22, to be backdated from 1/4/21
Notice of 1.75% payrise year ending 31/3/22 noted.

2022/28 Planning

2022/28/01 Planning Applications received:

22/00287/LBC: 3 Front Row, Cambo – Removal of 20th century fireplace, installation of new stove and hearth, installation of new cowl – no objections

- 22/00290/LBC: 2 Front Row, Cambo – Listed Building Consent for removal of 20th century fireplace, installation of new stove and hearth, installation of new cowl, removal of stud walling at first-floor level, insertion of new openings in North elevation for extraction vents, other associated works and repairs – no objections
- 22/00293/FUL: Land South West of Wallington Hall – Erection of art sculpture on timber plinths to be fixed to the ground with 500mm ground screws - no objections

National Trust were in contact with County Council regarding tree planting at Newbiggen Farm.

2022/28/02 Approval of Planning Application received

- 21/04722/LBC: Wallington Hall, Listed Building Consent for installation of fire and security alarm systems.
- 22/00293/FUL: Land South West of Wallington Hall – Erection of art sculpture on timber plinths to be fixed to the ground with 500mm ground screws - no objections.

2022/29 Neighbourhood Management - To report/update on action regarding issues within the parish

Concern had been expressed about the unreliable mobile Post Office service in the parish, and it was believed this was due to problems with I.T. equipment. Clerk to contact Post Office and lodge complaint.

2022/30 To receive information regarding B4RN/B4NTR Broadband matters

Project still possible, some progress with voucher service, however top up funding, along with private funding required. Proposal to connect Barrasford August 2022 and Kirkwhelpington March 2023.

2022/31 Garden competition trophies stored at Cambo village hall

It was resolved L Brown would take the trophies to a charity shop.

2022/32 Review of Internal Auditor/internal controls

It was resolved to re-engage D Metcalf as Internal Auditor. It was resolved the current system of internal control was sufficient for the present needs of the Council.

2022/33 Review of Asset Register

It was resolved the register was a true record of the current assets of the Parish Council, further to addition of second seat at Scots Gap, valued at £1.

2022/34 Review of Risk Assessment

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

2022/35 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.

2022/36 To consider Platinum Celebrations/commemorative mugs for schoolchildren

Proposal to purchase mugs for schoolchildren considered, but not approved. Cambo Village Hall were organising a tea party on the Platinum weekend, and financial assistance could be given from the Parish Council – to be considered further at next meeting.

2022/37 NALC – The Armed Forces Covenant

Northumberland Association of Local Councils – The Armed Forces Covenant - Northumberland County Council made a commitment to support the Armed Forces Community by signing the Armed Forces Covenant in 2012 and renewing their commitment in 2020. The Covenant is a promise from the nation that those who serve or have served, and their families, are treated fairly. NALC had arranged an electronic information session.

2022/38 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council will be held on Monday 23rd May 2022 commencing 730pm in Middleton Village Hall. The Annual Meeting of the Parish will commence at 7pm.

A small rectangular image showing a handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to be 'C. Miller', on a white piece of paper against a black background.

Claire Miller
Parish Clerk

The meeting closed at 855pm

DRAFT