

Minutes of the Annual meeting of Wallington Parish Council commencing at 730pm on Monday 23rd May 2022 at Middleton Village Hall

Those Present: J Ballantine (Chairman), A Robson, D Dexter, D Thompson, M Seth, C Hughes, E Green, L Brown, D Thompson, C Miller (Clerk), J Gibson

2022/39 Apologies for absence

G Sanderson (County Cllr)

2022/40 Election of Chairman

J Ballantine proposed and seconded as Chairman, and duly elected.

2022/41 Election of Vice Chairman

A Robson proposed and seconded as Vice Chairman, and duly elected.

2022/42 Declarations of Members interests

There were no Declaration of Members Interests.

2022/43 Opportunity for members of the public to raise any matter

There were no matters raised by the public.

2022/44 Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 28th March 2022

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 28th March 2022 be accepted as a true record.

2022/45 Footpaths

Footpath between Oakford and Willow Park a danger to pedestrians and cyclists due to debris – Clerk to report to County Council.

2022/46 Speeding traffic within the parish/request to lower speed limit at Middleton

County Council Officer R McCartney had attended site and supported the proposal to lower the speed limit at Middleton, however the process would take at least three years. Temporary signage an option, and the Parish Council could contribute to a shared traffic calming scheme.

2022/47 Drainage issues within the parish

National Trust had advised the Let Estate Building Supervisor was to investigate and either undertake work with their in-house team, or engage a sub-contractor, to action drainage issues at Cambo. Flooding still occurring at Payne's Bridge, with Clerk to re-report to County Council.

2022/48 Cambo School car parking issues

Problems ongoing with visitors parking in the private car park at school times.

2022/49 To consider Parish Council role in Civil Emergencies; to receive update on Village Hall Committee's Crises Management proposals

Cambo Village Hall Committee had purchased a battery charger to enable residents to charge mobile phones, and were considering the type of generator required. Crises management to be discussed by Middleton Hall Committee 24/5/22, however it was unlikely anything would be progressed. Parish Councils could assist with co-ordination between the two village hall committees.

2022/50 Road resurfacing T junction/old railway bridge, Scots Gap

County Council appreciate the concerns regarding the condition of the road, however their funding for capital maintenance is still insufficient to meet all the needs for repairs across the County. They are therefore unable to guarantee the road when considered against all other competing priorities, will be included in this year's budget, however the road will continue to be monitored and given consideration when developing future programmes. Castle Morpeth Highways team would undertake an inspection.

2022/51 To receive response from Post Office regarding unreliable mobile service in the parish

The Post Office had agreed there had been issues, however the service was now running as expected.

2022/52 To consider lease between Parish Council and National Trust and Parish Council and Wallington Football Club

Deed of Surrender, new 25 year lease and Licence to Underlet signed. A £300 legal fee would be payable to the National Trust, and the Football Club could contribute to this. Lease agreement to be submitted to Land Registry, with Football Club having secured solicitor to action free of charge.

2022/53 NCC Update

Nothing of note to report.

2022/54 National Trust Update

Nothing to report.

2022/55 Financial Matters

2022/55/01 The following payments are due for authorisation

- C Miller – March, April salary & expenses – £417.25
- HMRC – PAYE - £23.20
- Northumberland ALC – annual subscription - £98.42
- BHIB Insurance – annual premium - £424.79, 3 year Long Term Undertaking

It was resolved to approve the payments

2022/55/02 To consider display of Christmas tree(s) in the parish

Permission had been received for tree to be placed in front of church. It would be possible to run an electricity supply from the church which the Parish Council would be billed for. An estimate of costs for tree, decorations and electricity to be compiled by L Brown.

2022/55/03 To consider grants to Cambo and Middleton Village Hall Committees for Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

Cambo Village Hall were organising a Platinum Jubilee event with prizes for fancy dress and games, decorations and supply of food and drink for a Jubilee Tea, and had requested a grant of £250, with the event anticipated to cost £500. It was therefore resolved to grant £250. Middleton Village Hall were not organising a Platinum Jubilee event.

2022/55/04 To receive acknowledgement of grant from AGE UK Northumberland and Citizens Advice Northumberland

Acknowledgement of grants noted.

2022/56 Planning

2022/56/01 Planning Applications received:

- 22/01009/FUL: Scots Gap Medical Group – proposed new modular prefabrication building, fully accessible with ramp – no objections.

- 22/10486/FUL: West Grange Bungalow – remove existing rear PVC conservatory and replace with single storey rear extension including new patio/decking, remove existing wooden stable block and storage shed and replace with new detached garage – no objections.

2022/56/02 Approval of Planning Application received

- 21/04354/FUL: Land South East of Grangemoor Farm – agricultural workers dwelling

2022/57 Neighbourhood Management - To report/update on action regarding issues within the parish

Loose coping stones (kerbs) at the entrance to Willow Park had been reported to County Council, with Clerk to also report. Removal of graffiti from road signs at Payne’s Bridge required. Neighbourhood Watch scheme signage at Middleton also in need of renovation – C Hughes, L Brown & D Thompson to action cleansing, with C Hughes to research cleansing products.

2022/58 To receive information regarding B4RN/B4NTR Broadband matters

Those who had signed up had received confirmation emails to state the scheme is officially going ahead. M.P. had put B4RN in touch with the relevant Minister at Department of Digital and Culture, with government gigabyte vouchers available, and possible top-up vouchers. Dig in Barrasford to commence this month. Ray Wind Farm to grant funds for Barrasford and could assist in this parish. Wayleave process ongoing, with Wallington Demesne landowners willing to sign. Appreciation given to D Thompson and J Gibson for their ongoing work on the project.

2022/59 Audit of Accounts year ending 31/3/22

2022/59/01 To consider and agree any actions arising from the report of the internal auditor

There were no matters arising from the report of the internal auditor.

2022/59/02 To approve the Governance Statement

It was resolved to approve the governance statement.

2022/59/03 To approve the draft annual accounts for 2021/2022

It was resolved to approve the draft annual accounts for 2021/2022

2022/59/04 To approve the Accounting Statement and explanation of variances

It was resolved to approve the Accounting Statement and explanation of variances.

2022/59/05 To approve the Exemption Certificate

It was resolved to approve the Exemption Certificate.

2022/59/06 To approve public right of inspection dates

It was resolved to approve the public right of inspection dates of 13 June to 22 July 2022.

2022/60 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council will be held on Monday 25th July 2022 commencing 730pm in Cambo Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 825pm.



Claire Miller
Parish Clerk