

**Minutes of ordinary meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council commencing at 730pm on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at Cambo Village**

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

**2022/102 Apologies for absence**

L Brown, G Sanderson (County Cllr)

**2022/103 Declarations of Members interests**

There were no Declaration of Members Interests.

**2022/104 Opportunity for members of the public to raise any matter**

A member of the public was objecting to the proposal for a restricted byway 235m South-East of Hartburn Grange to 720m south-east of Greenside Farm, considered and supported by the Parish Council at the meeting held 26/9/22, with the belief it had been used by the public for many years. No additional information had been provided to question this, therefore the Parish Council were unable to consider further and the original submission of support remained.

**2022/105 Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022 be accepted as a true record.

**2022/106 Footpaths**

County Cllr G Sanderson advised an inspection of the footpath to Doctor's Surgery at Scots Gap would take place as soon as possible. Although the entrance to Woodside entrance had been tidied, there was an accumulation of debris/leaves, with M Seth to organise a volunteer tidy up. Entrance curbs were physically a problem, along with irregular surfacing and manholes. Ivy was overhanging the footpath to Wallington Hall, impeding pedestrian access, with Clerk to forward photographic evidence to the National Trust.

**2022/107 Speeding traffic within the parish/request to lower speed limit at Middleton**

Robin McCartney and Glen Sanderson of the County Council had advised traffic calming for Middleton had been commissioned via the County Cllr's small funds scheme, and a progress update would be received once resources had been tasked.

**2022/108 Drainage issues within the parish**

Outstanding cleansing work required to gullies at Oakford, and Cambo School to Scots Gap junction.

**2022/109 To consider Parish Council role in Civil Emergencies; to receive update on Village Hall Committee's Crises Management proposals**

A funding bid had been submitted to the Ray Wind Farm Fund for a generator at Cambo Village Hall, however solar panels were not permitted due to the Listed Building status. Middleton Village Hall to firstly agree the area(s) they would be assisting during crises management. A weekly Warm Hub had been set up at Scots Gap on a Friday morning, and a funding application had been submitted via the Church to the Northern Powergrid Crises Management fund.

**2022/110 NCC Update**

R Thompson and D Dexter to attend the Town and Parish Council Forum January 2023 to be held at County Hall. Visits were available to the County Council recycling plant at Sleekburn, with E Green added to the waiting list.

**2022/111 National Trust Update**

Nothing to report.

**2022/112 Financial Matters**

**2022/112/01 The following payments require authorisation:**

- Christmas Lights Direct – white lights and transformer - £330
- Mr & Mrs Fathers – Christmas tree - £270
- C Miller – October, November salary & expenses – £371.92 (including backpay from 1/4/22 further to NJC salary award year ending 31/3/23 published 2/11/22)
- HMRC – PAYE - £80.99

It was resolved to approve the payments

**2022/112/02 To consider request for funding from Cambo School towards community garden**

Parish Council's cannot fund towards the educational syllabus, but were able to finance extras requested via a PTA, therefore in its present form, the grant could not be considered.

**2022/112/03 To confirm arrangements for Christmas tree at Scots Gap – delivery date, volunteers to decorate, signage to indicate it has been provided by the Parish Council, removal date, storage of lights and transformer**

L Brown, M Seth and A Cowan had agreed the exact siting of the tree which would be delivered 1/12/22 and decorated by volunteers. A Carol Service to be held 16/12/22 around the tree, and publicised via parish noticeboards, along with a note stating the parish council had financed the project. Tree removal date to be confirmed in due course. L Brown to store lights and transformer.

**2022/112/04 To consider budget for 2023/2024**

It was resolved to approve the budget for 2023/2024.

**2022/112/05 To consider precept requirements for 2023/2024**

It was resolved to approve the precept requirements of £3500 for 2023/2024.

**2022/113 Planning**

**2022/113/01 Planning Applications received**

- 22/04293/LBC: Middle Steads, 6 Front Row, Cambo – Listed Building Consent to remove fireplace, install sandstone hearth, log burner and flue, chimney works – no objections.

**2022/113/02 Approval of Planning Application received**

No approval of planning application had been received.

**2022/114 Neighbourhood Management - To report/update on action regarding issues within the parish**

Two incidents had occurred at Payne's Bridge at the end of September, with multiple emergency appliances attending. The damaged parapet had subsequently been repaired by the County Council. The Parish Council had requested safety measures at the bridge via the County Council Local Transport Plan 2022-2023 and 2023-2024.

**2022/115 To receive information regarding B4RN/B4NTR Broadband matters**

A government announcement to be made 5/12/22 regarding the voucher scheme.

**2022/116 To consider Middleton Flood concerns**

D Thompson had recently visited the Mitford Dam, constructed as part of the Morpeth Flood Defence Scheme further to the September 2008 devastation. Properties in Middleton had also been flooded with a less expensive flow mitigation scheme installed at a culvert under the Wannie Line behind Todridge. Local residents had raised the question as to

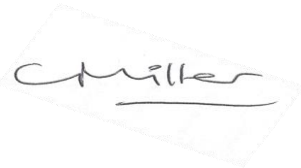
whether this had been 'maintained' with a site examination showing there had been little evidence of the original works. The Environment Agency had passed concerns to the County Council who were responsible for tributaries, and had also offered to attend the next PC meeting to advise the council on preparation of a Community Flood Plan. At the present time it was agreed any flood plan could be incorporated into the current Crises Management proposals.

**2022/117 To consider Middleton Byway Open to All Traffic**

D Thompson declared an interest. There is a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT) in the parish which runs approximately one mile from Middleton, opposite the village Hall, to Corridge Farm via a ford through the Wansbeck. Following various safety concerns and a marked deterioration in condition rendering it impassable for pedestrians, a TTRO (temporary closure order) was imposed in March 2021 for 18 months. Although no reparatory work has been done the Order cannot be extended. Whilst the signs remain in position, 'officially' it is open again.

**2022/118 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Wallington Demense Parish Council will be held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 commencing at 730pm in Middleton Village Hall.



Claire Miller  
Parish Clerk

The meeting closed at 830pm.

DRAFT