

**Minutes of ordinary meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council held at 730pm on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at Middleton Village Hall**

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

**2023/70 Apologies for absence**

G Sanderson (County Cllr).

Roy Boucher had tendered his resignation late this afternoon.

Notice of Vacancy to be displayed within the parish.

**2023/71 Declarations of Members interests**

C Hughes declared an interest in payment to Middleton & Todridge Village Hall, under agenda item 2023/82/01 The following payments require authorisation

**2023/72 Opportunity for members of the public to raise any matter**

There were no members of the public present.

**2023/73 Election of Officers**

**2023/73/01 Election of Vice Chairman**

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

**2023/73/02 Election of Parish Council National Trust Representative**

It was resolved to elect C Hughes as the official Parish Council National Trust representative.

**2023/74 Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023**

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 be accepted as a true record, further to amendment under 2023/48 – remove “A Robson proposed and seconded as Vice Chairman and duly elected,” to be replaced by “to be deferred until next meeting.”

**2023/75 To amend Parish Council Standing Orders to include item relating to BACS payments as follows**

It was resolved to include an addition to the Standing Orders as follows: Payments can be made via electronic banking. Clerk to set up payment, with further bank signatory to authorise.

**2023/76 To consider future aims and objectives of the Parish Council**

A Robson asked if other items should be added to the future aims and objectives of the Parish Council. Traffic calming measures had been achieved at Middleton, however extra measures were still required - County Council had advised they could arrange an electronic meeting with residents in twelve months time to consider ongoing concerns.

**2023/76/01 To consider audit of parish footpaths**

D Thompson had created a map of parish footpaths, with the Parish Council to survey the condition of paths within the next twelve months. National Trust had advised they were to tidy the wannie line path.

**2023/76/02 To consider regular parish tidy up event(s)**

The first parish tidy up event in Scots Gap had been successful. Thanks given to Young Farmers for cleaning up the mart car park, further to the County Rally.

**2023/77 To consider replacement Parish Council noticeboard at Scots Gap**

A replacement noticeboard at Scots Gap would cost between £1100 and £1650, excluding installation. The owner of the noticeboard at Cambo bus stop was unknown and it is in a worse condition than the Scots Gap board. C Hughes of the opinion that the board at Scots Gap is well used by the community but now very difficult to use, and currently surrounded by nettles. It was agreed the cost was a large sum of money to spend on something that may not be well used. It was therefore resolved to seek quotations to repair the current noticeboard. A previously reported, the County Cllr had offered to provide funding towards a replacement board.

**2023/78 Speeding traffic within the parish/request to lower speed limit at Middleton**

To be discussed under Local Transport Plan requests 2024-2025.

**2023/79 Drainage issues within the parish**

Silt requires removal so that water can be directed into gullies. A Robson to report via County Council web-site at "Fix My Street."

**2023/79 To receive update on Cambo Village Hall Committee's Crises Management proposals**

No progress, due to Film Company currently utilising the hall until September.

**2023/80 NCC Update**

County Cllr G Sanderson had advised work would continue on the worst section of road that requires attention at Wallington - across the bridge, and between the t junction and Middleton - hopefully within the next six months. GS had requested the weeds on the footpath between Cambo and Scots Gap be sprayed, however NCC need to ascertain who owns the hedge as this is the responsibility of the private owner. M Seth had met with Morpeth Area Highways Officer, which had resulted in a site visit on the road near to Grangemoor/Middleton turn off. Officer had agreed the road was in extremely poor condition and required a top dressing.

GS had offered to assist with the cost of a noticeboard at Scots Gap.

**2023/81 National Trust Update**

**2023/81/01 Request for signage to indicate parking for Wannie Line**

National Trust had agreed to install signage.

**2023/82 Financial Matters**

**2023/82/01 The following payments require authorisation:**

- National Trust – annual rent of football ground - £180
- C Miller – May, June salary & expenses – £538.02
- HMRC – PAYE - £21.20
- Middleton & Todridge Village Hall – rent of meeting room 22/5/23 - £20
- Wel Medical – defib pads - £79.08 (defib at Scots Gap)
- Imperative Training Ltd – defib pads - £69.54 (defib at Middleton)

It was resolved to approve the payments.

**2023/82/02 To receive update relating to on-line banking and additional bank signatories application**

Further form to be completed in order for Clerk to be registered for on-line banking. Clerk to contact Lloyds to request an update regarding application for additional signatories.

**2023/82/03 To consider request for grant from Citizens Advice Northumberland**

It was resolved no grant would be given.

**2023/82/04 To receive acknowledgement of grant from Cambo Young Farmers**

Acknowledgement of grant noted. The event had been very well attended and raised a fair amount of funds.

**2023/83 Planning**

**2023/83/01 Planning Applications received**

- 23/02090/LBC: Walled Garden, Wallington Hall – Listed Building Consent for removal, recording and storage of conservatory glazing, carry out in-situ protection of historic features and collections associated with the Conservatory. Protection and analysis of the structure, including retention of propping and the removal of paint layers from timber for investigation and identification – no objections.
- 23/01489/VARYCO: Workshop, Todridge – Variation of condition 2 on 21/00861/FUL to allow changes to approved scheme to limit impact of conversion on surrounding area and buildings by reducing footprint – no objections.

**2023/83/02 Approval of Planning Application received**

- 23/01182/FUL: Arqiva Site 304304 Grangemoor Farm – proposed telecommunications upgrade installation

**2023/84 Neighbourhood Management - To report/update on action regarding issues within the parish**

**2023/84/01 To receive update on pavement improvements in Scots Gap**

Site visit had been carried out with County Council. Part of the path from Cambo to Scots Gap is the responsibility of the National Trust. Beyond Newbiggin Farm the path is virtually impassable, but had been sprayed. A tree had collapsed on part of the path, however the landowner responsible for this part was unknown. It was resolved M Seth would speak to farmer to seek clarification.

**2023/84/02 To consider problems with drainage on road in front of Two Trees**

L Brown had reported problem, via County Council web-site at Fix My Street, of debris coming down from the top of Oakford into a private drive. Problems also occur at Willow Park. M Seth to speak to County Council Officer. Gullies had been repaired at Oakford. Gulley clearance works required near to telephone exchange at Mart, and 20mph flashing sign at Cambo – A Robson to report via Fix My Street.

**2023/85 To receive information regarding B4RN/B4NTR Broadband matters**

No further progress, next meeting to be held 26/7/23.

**2023/86 To consider Middleton Flood concerns**

Further to heavy rainfall there had been no further issues. D Thompson to monitor area twice a year.

**2023/87 To consider Local Transport Plan Requests 2024-2025. Requests for 2023-2024 being Payne's Bridge safety measures, 30mph speed limit for Middleton and road resurfacing, T junction/old railway bridge, Scots Gap**

It was resolved to request 1. Payne's Bridge safety measures; 2. 30mph speed limit for Middleton. 3. Road resurfacing, T Junction/old railway.

Clerk to make enquiries regarding the Parish Council possibly funding interactive speeding signage in Scots Gap.

**2023/88 To consider arrangements for Christmas Tree 2023**

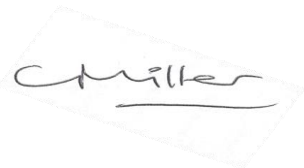
Solar powered lighting for the tree was not recommended due to the time of year, however re-chargeable batteries were a possibility at a cost of £75 each. There would be a one off cost to install a permanent base for a tree, with the approximate total cost being £500. Firms costs to be approved at next meeting, with L Brown to seek quotations. National Trust Officer had agreed in principle that the tree could be placed on the corner of green at junction in Scots Gap.

**2023/89 To consider publication of minutes and County Council Fix My Street information on parish noticeboards**

It was resolved draft minutes would be posted on parish noticeboards, but it was felt unnecessary to post Fix My Street information.

**2023/90 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council will be held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023 commencing 730pm in Middleton Village Hall.



Claire Miller  
Parish Clerk

The meeting closed at 910pm

DRAFT