

**Minutes of ordinary meeting of Wallington Demense Parish Council held at 730pm on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at Cambo Village Hall**

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

Clerk advised the meeting would be recorded.

**2023/111 Apologies for absence**

G Sanderson (County Cllr).

**2023/112 Declarations of Members interests**

C Hughes declared an interest in **2023/124/02** - Middleton & Todridge Village Hall – rent of meeting room 25/9/23 - £20.00. M Seth declared an interest in **2023/131 To consider grit bins – existing and provision of additional bins in the parish.**

**2023/113 Co-Option Vacancy**

One application had been received for the vacancy, and it was resolved to co-opt S Pattison.

**2023/114 Opportunity for members of the public to raise any matter**

There were no matters raised by members of the public.

**2023/115 Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023 be accepted as a true record.

The agenda item relating to audit of rural footpaths (which D Thompson is carrying out), is not the same item as outstanding works required to footpaths – audit of footpaths to be attended to next agenda.

**2023/116 To consider future aims and objectives of the Parish Council**

E Green concerned about Middleton footpath – County Council had advised via Fix My Street that the area would be actioned. S Pattison had reported drainage/flooding issues to County Council on several occasions. Cllrs to bring aims and objectives to the next Parish Council meeting, and which should be community objectives. C Hughes advised he already receives parishioner feedback. D Dexter stated aims and objectives should be separated, and suggested the Parish Council produce a statement of their aims and objectives. D Thompson interested in broadband matters.

**2023/116/01 To consider regular parish tidy up event(s)**

Residents had carried out leaf clearance in Scots Gap. S Pattison had historically been involved with tidy up events in Cambo, and event would be arranged in due course.

**2023/117 To consider quotations for Parish Council noticeboard and street furniture items and approve funding application to County Cllr**

C Hughes advised the funding available wouldn't work, there is no suitable site, and suggested the existing noticeboard be removed, and project dropped. M Seth to look into agendas being placed in the chapel noticeboard. L Brown to place agenda in noticeboard at Scots Gap.

**2023/118 Speeding traffic within the parish/request to lower speed limit at Middleton**

County Council Officer had implied Middleton was not large enough to lower the speed limit. D Thompson had drafted a petition to lower the limit, and which would require 50 signatures in order for the County Council to consider. It was resolved petition would be organised - D Thompson to action.

**2023/119 To consider Parish Council fund interactive speeding signage at Scots Gap**

County Council had provided four quotations, reported at the previous meeting. Clerk advised as the County Council could not provide proof of problems with speeding vehicles – further to two speeding surveys arranged in the parish - grant funding would be difficult to secure. M Seth to make enquiries via the Ray Wind Farm grant fund.

**2023/120 To consider drainage issues within the parish**

Northumbrian Water had visited Middleton, however this would likely be due to a burst pipe. Flooding issues continue. Problems had been re-reported via Fix My Street. Drains at Middle Row Cambo problematic, which is the responsibility of National Trust. Item to be removed from agenda.

**2023/121 To receive update on Cambo Village Hall Committee's Crises Management proposals**

Item to be removed from agenda.

**2023/122 NCC Update**

County Cllr had forwarded an update. The parish to be moved to Bellingham ward from May 2025, despite the Parish Council submitting an objection.

**2023/123 National Trust Update**

C Hughes advised signage for the Wannie Line would be erected this week, together with new boards explaining the Newbiggin Farm proposals. Cambo noticeboard is National Trust property and they would not be replacing it, however the Parish Council could discuss with the Trust about placing their own funded noticeboard in Cambo. There were no plans for the old Trust headquarter building. Trust aware of proposal for new Clubhouse at Wallington F.C, with meeting required between Trust and Council.

**2023/124 Financial Matters**

**2023/124/01 To receive 2023/2024 Local Government Services Pay Agreement, backdated from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023, equating to £1/hour**

Pay award noted.

**2023/124/02 The following payments require authorisation:**

- C Miller – September, October salary & expenses - £526.92
- Middleton & Todridge Village Hall – rent of meeting room 25/9/23 - £20.00
- Cambo Village Hall – rent of meeting room March 2023 - £12.00

It was resolved to authorise the payments.

**2023/124/03 To receive update relating to on-line banking and additional bank signatories application**

M Seth and C Hughes had been added as additional bank signatories and on-line banking had been set up.

**2023/124/04 To consider request for grant from Great North Air Ambulance**

It was resolved to approve a grant of £100.

**2023/124/05 To consider budget requirements 2024-2025**

First draft of budget requirements 2024-2025 considered. Due to a poor rate of interest, a review of the savings account would be considered at the next meeting.

**2023/124/06 To consider precept requirements 2024-2025**

First draft of precept requirements 2024-2025 considered.

**2023/125 To consider adoption of Parish Council Safe Guarding Policy**

It was resolved to adopt the Parish Council Safe Guarding Policy. L Brown to be Safeguarding Lead.

**2023/126 Planning**

**2023/126/01 Planning Applications received**

- 23/03811/FUL: Land East of Greenside Grange, Hartburn – Replacement industrial building – no objections.

**2023/126/02 Town & Country Planning Act 1990, Appeal under section 78**

- 23/01232/OUT: West Grange Bungalow, Scots Gap – Outline Application – new dwelling in garden of existing

**2023/127 Neighbourhood Management - To report/update on action regarding issues within the parish**

**2023/127/01 To consider footpath issues within the parish**

Issues reported via Fix my Street. Repair at Oakford outstanding. Hedge had been cut on footpath between Scots Gap and Cambo, path between Newbiggin and Cambo appalling. Cambo to Wallington footpath dangerous. Hedgecutting at cemetery required, with J Ballantine to action. 30mph signage down at entrance to Scots Gap, signage at Doctors Road Middleton lying in hedge - A Robson to report, via Fix My Street

**2023/127/02 To consider drainage issues within the parish**

Discussed earlier.

**2023/128 To receive information regarding B4RN/B4NTR Broadband matters**

Barrasford being actioned, if funding permits, Kirkwhelpington to receive the service.

**2023/129 To approve Risk Assessment for Christmas Tree 2023; to arrange volunteers for tree preparation 28/11/23 and tree erection 2/12/23**

Christmas tree and lights had been ordered, with invoices required. A licence had been issued by the National Trust and Clerk signed the document. It was resolved to adopt the Risk Assessment. Hole for tree to be dug 1/12/23. It was resolved to authorise payment of £284.25 for the lighting.

<b>Special Event(s)</b>	Provision of Christmas Tree	M	The tree is to be erected by a competent person  a) Electrical devices to be connected to mains supply by a qualified electrician with their own Public Liability Insurance b) If the tree is erected on land not owned by the Policyholder, the landowner concerned must have their own Public Liability Insurance c) The tree must be regularly inspected especially in cases of bad weather
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**2023/130 To consider proposal for new clubhouse at Wallington F.C.**

Clubhouse had been condemned. Grant funding had been received from Ray Wind Farm to produce proposal, which was essentially a larger version of existing. New F.A. regulations included the requirement for larger male and female changing rooms and a disabled W/C. There was a requirement in the league for catering after matches, and this could be organised at the new clubhouse. Cambo Young Farmers occasionally use the clubhouse, and which could also be a

possible location for Parish Council meetings. Club had been in contact with the National Trust. Planning application to be submitted shortly. The design is the cheapest possible. The Parish Council were the leaseholder, C Hughes to liaise with National Trust.

**2023/131 To consider grit bins – existing and provision of additional bins in the parish**

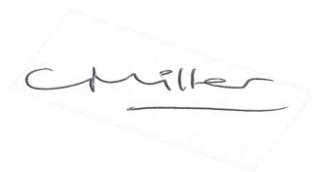
There are no footpaths at Willow Park, and County Council grit wagon does not grit the estate. It was resolved the Parish Council would fund and pay to refill a bin, which should be located 5m from the footpath outside No 1. Clerk to submit request to County Council.

**2023/132 Northumberland County Council – Town/Parish Council Survey**

Town/Parish Council Survey on open recreation facilities/open spaces considered.

**2023/133 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council will be held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024 commencing 730pm in Middleton Village Hall.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Miller', is written over a faint, light-colored rectangular stamp or watermark.

Claire Miller  
Parish Clerk

The meeting closed at 915pm