

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council held at 730pm on Monday 25th September 2023 at Middleton Village Hall

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

2023/91 Apologies for absence

D Dexter, G Sanderson (County Cllr)

Clerk advised she would be recording the meeting.

2023/92 Declarations of Members interests

C Hughes declared an interest in **Agenda item 2023/103/82/01: Payment to Middleton Village Hall.**

J Ballantine declared an interest in **Agenda item: 2023/97/02: To consider quotation(s) for noticeboard repair.**

2023/93 Co-Option Vacancy

There had been no applications for the Co-Option Vacancy.

2023/94 Opportunity for members of the public to raise any matter

There were no matters raised by members of the public.

2023/95 Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 24th July 2023

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held Monday 14th July 2023 be accepted as a true record.

2023/96 To consider future aims and objectives of the Parish Council

2023/96/01 To receive update regarding audit of parish footpaths

Outstanding works relating to footpath to Doctor's Surgery to be repaired. Footpath at Oakford would benefit from repair – A Robson to report via Fix My Street. E Green had reported footpath issue at Middleton, with beech tree causing surface to lift. National Trust had cut back hedging on Cambo to Scots Gap footpath, however footpath surface required mechanical scraping with Clerk to report to County Council.

2023/96/02 To consider regular parish tidy up event(s)

Parish tidy up event to be organised in due course.

2023/97 To consider repairing/replacing Parish Council noticeboard at Scots Gap

2023/97/01 To consider quotation(s) to repair noticeboard

An alternative site for noticeboard would be near to bus stop, and therefore closer to the path, however Hexham and Northern mart would need to give permission. It was resolved a new noticeboard would be arranged, and other items to be included in County Cllr funding scheme to a value of £2,000, to be approved at next Parish Council meeting. C Hughes to obtain further quotations for bench/planters.

2023/97/02 To consider quotation(s) for replacement noticeboard and funding available via County Cllr

One quotation had been received to repair the noticeboard at a value of £240.

2023/98 Speeding traffic within the parish/request to lower speed limit at Middleton

Speeding traffic continues to cause problems, however data had not indicated there was an issue. D Thompson to look into the possibility of starting a petition via the County Council web-site.

2023/98/01 To consider Parish Council fund interactive speeding signage in Scots Gap

Three locations in Scots Gap had been earmarked as suitable for interactive signage. If external funding can be acquired it was thought a suitable project to further. Clerk advised a Parish Council safeguarding policy would need adopted in order to access funding via the Community Foundation.

2023/99 Drainage issues within the parish

Gulley works at Payne's Bridge outstanding. County Council had advised gulley works at Oakford, near to mart and Cambo 20mph signage had been actioned, however this did not appear to be the case, with A Robson to re-report. E Green reported that the gulley outside the Manse, near to the disused bus shelter had refilled with silt – A Robson to report.

2023/100 To receive update on Cambo Village Hall Committee's Crises Management proposals

No information had been received.

2023/101 NCC Update

G Sanderson, Leader of the Council had forwarded a report. County Council to make £36 million savings over two years. Their new Environment Policy to include revised Climate Change action plan as well as highlighting NCC's role in continuing to invest in areas that Councils have reduced spending on, such as public toilets, country parks and open spaces, recycling, flytipping, keeping grass cut and investing more in litter picking along major roads. School exam results had bucked the North East trend, back to pre pandemic levels. Ofsted results equally pleasing - 94% of schools rated good or even higher and the county is no longer in the national lower quartile as in 2017. Things are moving forward with NEMCA - the new NE Combined Authority which takes in Northumberland, Durham, North and South Tyneside, Newcastle, Sunderland and Gateshead Councils. Northumberland to lead on Rural Matters and the Environment

2023/102 National Trust Update

National Trust making enquiries as to whom the Cambo noticeboard belongs to. Wallington F.C. had drawn up plans to replace the clubhouse which would require National Trust and Parish Council permission, with item to be placed on next agenda.

2023/102/01 Request for signage to indicate parking for Wannie Line

Signage to be installed imminently, together with cutting of shrubbery to make it visible.

2023/102 Financial Matters

2023/103/82/01 The following payments require authorisation:

- C Miller – July, August salary & expenses – £449.69
- Middleton & Todridge Village Hall – rent of meeting room 24/7/23 - £20.00
- Spanglefish – annual web-site hosting fee - £103

It was resolved to approve the payments.

2023/103/02 To receive update relating to on-line banking and additional bank signatories application

Forms had gone astray in the post, with replacement documentation to be signed.

2023/103/03 To consider purchasing Easy Accounts package at the cost of £60/annum

It was resolved to purchase Easy Accounts package at the cost of £60/annum.

2023/104 Planning

2023/104/01 Planning Applications received

No planning applications had been received.

2023/104/02 Approval of Planning Application received

- 23/01182/FUL: Arqiva Site 304304 Grangemoor Farm – proposed telecommunications upgrade installation.
- 23/00571/LBC: Two Queens, Front Row, Cambo – Listed Building Consent application for removal of existing 20th century fireplace, installation of log burner, new sandstone hearth, flue and flue liner and installation of new chimney cowl on chimney located on North facing gable stack.
- 23/00725/FUL & 23/00726/LBC: Cambo Village Hall – replace existing window with door to create new access to village hall and install solar panels on East and West facing courtyard roof – the Parish Council had no objections.
- 23/02090/LBC Walled Garden, Wallington Hall – Listed Building Consent for works related to conservatory.

2023/104/03 Refusal of Planning Permission

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

2023/105 Neighbourhood Management - To report/update on action regarding issues within the parish

2023/105/01 To receive update on pavement improvements in Scots Gap

Discussed earlier.

2023/105/02 To consider problems with drainage on road in front of Two Trees

Discussed earlier.

2023/106 To receive information regarding B4RN/B4NTR Broadband matters

Work currently being carried out at Barrasford, and if successful, the service would be rolled out to Kirkwhelpington.

2023/107 To consider Middleton Flood concerns

Item to be removed from agenda.

2023/108 To consider arrangements for Christmas Tree 2023

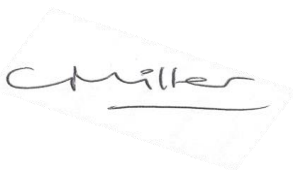
It was resolved to accept the quotation of £250 for tree supply, erection and disposal. Hole would need to be dug, one foot in diameter, and wood placed to support the tree. Additional lighting would be £49.50 + VAT/unit. Two re-chargeable batteries £67.34/each, which would need re-charged on a regular basis throughout the year, and connection clips 80p each. National Trust would need to issue a licence in order for the Parish Council to use their land, and confirmation of public liability insurance. It was resolved to accept the quotations and purchase two additional strings of lighting. C Hughes to arrange licence with National Trust, L Brown to organise purchase of materials and digging of hole. Tree to be displayed between 1st December and 6th January.

2023/109 To receive notice of Town and Parish Conference at County Hall, 5th October 2023 2 to 6pm

M Seth to attend conference.

2023/110 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council will be held on Monday 27th November 2023 commencing 730pm in Cambo Village Hall.



Claire Miller
Parish Clerk

The meeting closed at 840pm