

Minute of an ordinary meeting of Wallington Demense Parish Council held at 730pm on Monday 22nd January 2024 at Middleton Village Hall

Clerk advised she was recording the meeting.

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

2024/01 Apologies for absence

G Sanderson (County Cllr)

2024/02 Declarations of Members interests

There were no Declaration of Members Interests.

2024/03 To receive update on Parish Councillor Vacancy and consider Co-Option applicants, should an election not have been requested

County Council had not yet advised whether an election would occur. If this did not transpire, the co-option vacancy would be displayed with the parish.

2024/04 Opportunity for members of the public to raise any matter

There were no matters raised from members of the public.

2024/05 Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 27th November 2023

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 27th November 2023 be accepted as a true record.

2024/06 To consider future aims and objectives of the Parish Council

2024/06/01 To consider regular parish tidy up event(s)

Tidy up event to be organised later in the year.

2024/06/02 To consider individual members aims and objectives

The state of roads was the overwhelming concern of parishioners. It was agreed if Parish Cllr's were aware of road repairs they should report them via Fix My Street. The closure of Scots Gap shop on 31st March 2024, and Newbiggen Plantation were other areas of concern to parishioners. A community collective could run a shop, however it was not thought feasible in Scots Gap, at least ten active volunteers would be required.

2024/06/03 To consider Parish Council statement of aims and objectives

The Parish Council should be more visible in the parish, and it was resolved to produce information relating to the parish and responsibilities the Parish Council have, and which would be displayed on the Council website. D Thompson to draft, along with an article for the Chimes magazine, which would be organised for each edition.

2024/07 To receive update on petition to request lowering of speed limit at Middleton

31 signatures had been received to date.

2024/08 To consider Parish Council fund interactive speeding signage at Scots Gap

Raywind farm Trustee Board had advised that they were aware of the problem at the junction and East/West access, and had requested the last speed survey which Clerk would provide. G Sanderson had advised he may be able to contribute a small amount of funding towards interactive signage.

2024/09 NCC Update

G Sanderson had forwarded report as follows: "On the interactive signs I would be very pleased to put some money towards the final scheme - I am not sure where we have got to with that but if you let me know exactly what it is that you would like and where in the village I will see if I have enough in the small schemes budget to help. Meanwhile the recent awful weather that seems to have gone on for so long continues to damage our roads through flooding and general damage to the surfaces. We are getting on with things as quickly as we can. The Budget which we are working on will include some extra money again this coming year for roads and pavements. I am hoping to have some new schemes in the LTP. It is still the intention to keep town centre car parking free and to protect our front line services. Our new Environment and Climate Fund of £55,000 has been over subscribed and we are funding 17 new initiatives across the County. We also intend to spend more on our Country Parks and Nature Trails and we will be retaining the 1st Hour Free parking. Finally we recently launched our new Small Business Support project to help rural business and to encourage new business in rural areas."

2024/10 National Trust Update

Wannie line signage had been put in place. C Hughes and D Thompsons had attended Newbiggen Woodland development meeting with the Trust, and they were to take on board concerns regarding footpaths. Deer fencing would be erected this month. Wannie line would need updating/improving, there is a lot of work on the agenda to do. One of the main access points is from Oakford across the football ground, and Trust could assist Football Club with its own development. FC Chairman and National Trust had arranged a meeting to discuss. Problematic parking in Oakford could become a problem. Trust had organised Drop in information sessions held 23/1/24 and 29/1/24. The main car park will be where the old Trust headquarters is. Laurel bushes require cutting in Cambo. C Hughes to report to Trust.

2024/11 Financial Matters

2024/11/01 The following payments require authorisation:

- C Miller – November, December salary & expenses - £452.42
- Mr & Mrs Fathers – Christmas Tree - £250

It was resolved to approve the payments.

2024/11/02 To consider budget requirements 2024-2025

It was resolved to approve the budget requirements 2024-2025.

2024/11/03 To consider precept requirements 2024-2025

It was resolved to approve the precept requirements of £3500 2024-2025.

2024/11/04 To consider opening alternative savings account

Clerk to contact Lloyds for information regarding savings account.

2024/11/05 To receive acknowledgement of grant from Great North Air Ambulance

Grant acknowledgement received.

2024/12 Planning

2024/12/01 Planning Applications received

No planning applications had been received.

2024/13 Neighbourhood Management - To report/update on action regarding issues within the parish

Unopened cars had been rifled in Scots Gap. Graffiti had appeared on 30mph near Oakford at the same time. The sign approaching the junction opposite Willow Park indicates it is a through route and the main road, which is incorrect. M Seth to provide photographic evidence for Clerk to report to County Council.

2024/13/01 To consider footpath issues within the parish

Footpaths in Scots Gap had been actioned. Footpath problems in Oakford had been reported via Fix My Street. Problems continue with flooding on footpaths to Wallington.

2024/13/02 To receive update on audit of footpaths within the parish

There were around 18 miles of rural public footpaths in the parish, an audit would establish where they go to and any repairs required.

2024/13/03 To receive update on grit bin at Willow Park

Further to previous meeting, County Council Officer had swiftly replied to the request and was to attend the site. Clerk to chase up.

2024/14 To receive information regarding B4RN/B4NTR Broadband matters

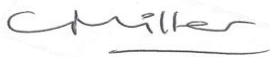
30 people had been connected in Barrasford, however there is still a funding gap, Ray Wind Farm having provided £100K for the Barrasford parish. Wallington Demesne parish would need investment by the community, and public meetings organised.

2024/15 To receive update on proposal for new clubhouse at Wallington F.C.

Planning application had been submitted, however bat survey required, which would not be resolved until May 2024.

2024/16 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council will be held on Monday 25th March 2024 commencing 730pm in Cambo Village Hall.



Claire Miller
Parish Clerk

The meeting closed at 840pm