

WALLINGTON DEMESNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held at 730pm on Monday 22nd July 2024 at Cambo Village Hall

Those Present: J Ballantine (Chairman), M Seth, A Robson, D Thompson, L Brown, D Dexter, S Pattison
G Sanderson (County Cllr),

In Attendance: C Miller (Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer), G Sanderson (County Cllr), one member of the public

2024/67 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2024/68 Declarations of Members interests

There were no Declaration of Members interests.

2024/69 Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 20th May 2024

RESOLVED:

Members agreed the minutes of the previous meeting were a true record, further to amendment as follows:

2024/59: B4RN/B4NTR Broadband matters. Currently "6% short of the £120K," amended to "£120K short which is only 6% of the total budget for the whole Kirkwhelpington/Woodburn project.

2024/70 To consider applications for Co-option Vacancies

To be considered as last agenda item.

2024/71 Opportunity for members of the public to raise any matter

There were no matters raised.

2024/74 County Cllr Report: Members to receive County Cllr report.

Item moved up the agenda.

County Cllr advised potholes being reported had halved, with £10million additional funding added to the road budget, and over 12000 potholes actioned this year. Additional funding also secured for drainage and gully work. New leisure centre in Morpeth proving successful. Three new super schools being built in the County. Regarding Parish Council led petition at Middleton to lower the speed limit, other calming measures could be implemented, and a site visit could have been arranged with Highways to consider additional measures, prior to submitting petition.

RESOLVED:

Members agreed to an urgent site visit with County Council at Middleton would be held (date to be confirmed), before the petition is heard at Committee on 16/9/24.

2024/72 Petition to lower speed limit at Middleton. Members to receive update.

Discussed above.

2024/73 Interactive speeding signage at Scots Gap. Members to receive update.

Site meeting had been held with County Council and location agreed.

2024/75 National Trust. Members to receive report on National Trust matters.

The National Trust were keen to meet monthly with the Parish Council. Discussions relating to rural and roadside footpaths, Newbiggin plantation programme, broadband – NT still to sign wayleaves, but generally supportive of B4RN scheme – and Christmas tree had taken place - NT were in favour of the annual Christmas tree at Scots Gap. NT were also arranging a footpath survey, and attending County Hall, along with D Thompson, on Tuesday 30/7/24 to discuss setting up a Footpath Survey Group, with the opportunity to view the Definitive Map for the parish. M Seth reported the Wannie line was becoming overgrown.

RESOLVED:

M Seth to accompany D Thompson to future informal meetings with National Trust.

2024/75/01 Broomhouse Farm – EWCO Application

The application was predominately native woodland with a small element of Scots pine to be planted with no more than 10% large-seeded broadleaves due being in the red squirrel reserve buffer zone. New woodland would help to improve water quality, reduce flooding and provide dappled shade to keep the water temperature low

2024/76 Financial Matters

2024/76/01 The following payments require authorisation:

Payable to	Detail	Net	VAT	Gross
C Miller	May, June Salary Expenses	£380.77 £55.43	NIL	
HMRC	PAYE	£95.00	NIL	
Middleton & Todridge Village Hall	Meeting room 20/5/24	£20.00	NIL	
National Trust	Rent of football field	£150	£30	£180

RESOLVED:

Members approved the payments.

2024/76/02 Grant request from Citizens Advice Northumberland. Members to consider request.

RESOLVED:

Members agreed no grant would be given.

2024/77 Planning

2024/77/01 Planning Applications received

- 24/02119/VARYCO: Todridge Farm, Middleton – Variation of condition 2 on 23/00238/FUL to allow changes to the internal plans and subsequently window positions – no objections.
- Amended/additional information - 23/04412/FUL: Club House, Oakford – Extension and alterations to existing clubhouse – no objections.

2024/77/02 Planning Applications approved

- 23/003811/FUL: Land East of Greenside Grange, Hartburn – replacement industrial building.
- 24/00527/LBC: Stable House, Front Row, Cambo – Listed Building Consent for replacement of 3 roof windows on north elevation, slates made good around installation, replacement cladding and door to porch and internal alterations.

2024/77/03 Planning application withdrawn

- 24/00526/FUL: Stable House, Front Row, Cambo – Replacement 3 roof windows on north elevation and associated works.

2024/78 Neighbourhood Management - To report/update on action regarding issues within the parish

2024/78/01 Members to consider footpath issues

Problematic footpath at Middleton had been reported via Fix My Street. Concrete deck of footbridge at Hartburn Grange Farm damaged.

2024/78/02 Members to receive update on audit of footpaths within the parish

Discussed earlier.

2024/78/03 Members to receive update on grit bin installation at Willow Park

County Council had apologised for the delay with organising the grit bin. Salt had been removed earlier in the year. When the new batch arrives in the Autumn the bin will be placed and loaded.

2024/78/04 Analogue telephone system. Members to consider implication of system switch off.

Customers need to speak to their provider. Rural areas will be the last to transfer over, and it is expected a mobile signal will be in place by that point. Mobile signage should improve as each mast will cover all providers. B.T. customers to be provided with a free battery back up for their digital system, which will have a 16 hour life in rural areas.

2024/78/05 Scots Gap planters. Members to consider maintenance and planting of tubs.

Volunteers prepared to continue with the maintenance and planters. Herbs in one tub an alternative.

RESOLVED:

1. Members agreed to replace the broken tub, with a budget of £100.
2. A budget for bedding plants of £100 agreed, half for perennials.

2024/78/06 Byeways Open to All Traffic. Members to consider BOATS within the parish

The three BOATS in the parish were formally closed 25/5/24 (although no new signs had been erected) with notices citing various safety issues. County Council to visit site before the end of the closure period to assess next steps which would be repair, or an application for further temporary/permanent closure(s)

2024/78/07 County Council Local Transport Plan Requests 2025-2026. Member to agree areas for inclusion.

RESOLVED:

Members agreed to retain the 2024-2025 requests as follows:

1. Safety measures at Paynes Bridge, at least two accidents had occurred in the past year with information to be included in request.
2. Traffic calming measures at Middleton.

2024/78/08 Flooding at Middleton. Members to consider resident concerns.

Resident had requested assistance to study the Flood Reduction Scheme installed in Middleton after the 2007 flooding. This had seven parts, one of which, the culvert under the Wannie Line, being repaired January 2023, however other items have not been maintained and require repair. There is also an issue with the classification of the flooding risk in the village. Several concerns required clarification.

1. Is there a programme to check the measures are still working, is this County Council responsibility.
2. Are there any other measures County Council should be implementing.
3. Information on Environment Agency website does not seem accurate.

M Seth advised tree planting could assist with prevention of flooding.

RESOLVED:

D Thompson to contact Environment Agency and seek clarification on the matters discussed.

2024/79 B4RN/B4NTR Broadband matters. Members to receive update.

Permission had been given to provide broadband in Kirkwhelpington.

2024/80 New Clubhouse at Wallington F.C. Members to consider resident concerns relating to parking.

Planning application had been re-submitted. County Council Highways were satisfied with the parking provision.

2024/81 Lloyds Saving Account. Members to receive update.

Clerk advised Lloyds Saving Account had been opened, with interest received on a monthly basis.

2024/82 Christmas Tree. Members to consider arrangements for 2024 tree.

Christmas tree supplier contacted. School children willing to make decorations.

RESOLVED

1. Members agreed to organise a Christmas tree at Scots Gap.
2. Clerk to confirm whether a licence is required for use of the land on an annual basis.
3. There could be an option to plug into the street light - Clerk to seek further information.

2024/83 Ray Wind Farm Community Interest Company Director. Members to nominate Parish Cllr.

Community Interest Company were seeking to recruit from the wider area where Parish Council's have no representatives.

RESOLVED:

M Seth nominated as the Parish Council representative.

2024/84 Cambo Burial Ground. Members to approve repairs to headstones under health and safety.

Five headstones required urgent repair at a cost of £180/headstone. 11 further headstones required less urgent action. Relatives of the deceased were responsible for repairs, however if they could not be traced or able to finance, the Parish Council were obliged to cover the cost(s).

RESOLVED:

1. Members accepted the quotation and agreed to organise the repairs.
2. An attempt to contact relative(s) to be made.

2024/85 Urgent Business/Items for next agenda

Signage for Cemetery had disappeared. Environment Agency reports indicated overflowing problems from Scots Gap Sewage Treatment Works – item to be added to next agenda. Public bus service to be added to next agenda.

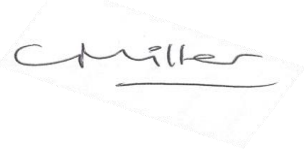
2024/70 To consider applications for Co-option Vacancies

RESOLVED:

Members agreed to co-opt Simon Roberson to the Council.

2024/86 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council will be held on Monday 23rd September 2024 commencing 730pm in Middleton Village Hall.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Miller', is enclosed within a faint, rectangular border.

Claire Miller
Parish Clerk

The meeting closed at 915pm

DRAFT