

WALLINGTON DEMESNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the annual meeting of the Parish Council held at 730pm on Monday 20th May 2024 at Middleton Village Hall

Those Present: J Ballantine (Chairman), M Seth, A Robson, D Thompson, L Brown, S Pattison

In Attendance: C Miller (Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer)

2024/43 Apologies for absence

D Dexter, G Sanderson (County Cllr)

2024/44 Declarations of Members interests

There were no Declaration of Interests.

2024/45 Election of Chairman

RESOLVED:

Cllr Ballantine proposed and seconded as Chairman. Cllr Seth proposed and seconded as Chairman. Cllr Ballantine duly elected as Chairman.

2024/46 Election of Vice Chairman

RESOLVED:

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

2024/47 Election of representatives to outside bodies

2024/47/01 Middleton Village Hall Committee

RESOLVED:

No Parish Cllr wished to be elected to the Committee.

2024/48 To consider applications for Co-option Vacancy

There had been no applications for the co-option vacancy.

2024/49 Opportunity for members of the public to raise any matter

There were no members of the public present, however a resident had contacted D Thompson in writing regarding flooding at Middleton. Matter to be added to July meeting agenda.

2024/50 Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 25th March 2024

RESOLVED:

Members agreed the minutes of the previous meeting were a true record.

2024/51 To consider future aims and objectives of the Parish Council

2024/51/01 To consider organising regular parish tidy up event(s) and health & safety implications

Clerk advised the Parish Council should not organise litter picking on roadside verges due to health and safety implications.

2024/51/02 To consider individual members aims and objectives

Matter to be removed from agenda.

2024/52 Petition to lower speed limit at Middleton. Members to receive update.

D Thompson had collected in excess of 50 signatures. It was reported sat navs recognise the area as being within a 30mph limit.

RESOLVED:

D Thompson to submit petition to County Council, making reference to the above.

2024/53 Interactive speeding signage at Scots Gap. Members to receive update.

County Council Officer had advised the interactive speeding signage should be placed near to Two Trees.

RESOLVED:

Clerk to request an on-site meeting with County Council Officer to determine most appropriate location.

2024/54 County Cllr Report: Members to receive County Cllr report.

Pothole and road maintenance ongoing. Clerk advised Cabinet Member had requested additional funding for drainage works in the County be found. County Cllr had reported road works, however Middleton Bank top to Scots Gap had not been actioned. Wallington Bridge area remained outstanding.

RESOLVED:

S Pattison to prepare list of drainage problems, Clerk to forward to County Cllr.

Clerk to query outstanding road works with County Cllr.

2024/55 National Trust. Members to receive report on National Trust matters.

Nothing to report. D Thompson to continue liaising with National Trust.

2024/56 Financial Matters

2024/56/01 The following payments require authorisation:

Payable to	Detail	Net	VAT	Gross
C Miller	March, April Salary	£380.97	NIL	£380.97
	Expenses	£19.20		£19.20
HMRC	PAYE	£126.20	NIL	£126.20
Cambo Village Hall	Meeting Room Rent	£6.00	NIL	£6.00
Northumberland Association of Local Councils	Annual membership fee	£103.00	NIL	
Clear Insurance Management Ltd	Annual insurance premium	£475.72	NIL	£475.72
HMRC	PAYE	£126.20	NIL	£126.20
M Ackroyd	Internal audit fee	£100	NIL	£100
	Printing/postage	£3.50		£3.50
Mijan Ltd	Easy PC Accounts, annual subscription 2024-2025	£60.00	NIL	£60.00
	Six month subscription 2023-2024	£30.00	NIL	£30.00

RESOLVED:

Members approved the payments.

2024/56/02 Burial Fees. Members to carry out annual review of fees and charges.

RESOLVED:

Members agreed to retain the current rates.

2024/57 Planning

2024/57/01 Planning Applications received

- 24/01400/VARYCO: Workshop, Todridge Farm – Variation of conditions 2 and 14 on 23/01489/VARYCO to allow slate roof covering rather than metal sheet roof. Mix of stone and timber cladding to external walls rather than metal sheet cladding. Clarification of proposed treatment plant – no objections.

2024/57/02 Planning Applications approved

- 24/00407/LBC: 4 Front Row, Cambo – Listed Building Consent for maintenance repairs to include improvements to the current electrical system, alongside the installation of Grade 2:LD2 fire detection
- 24/00553/FUL: 20 Oakford – Building above existing garage to form new bedroom at first floor

2024/58 Neighbourhood Management - To report/update on action regarding issues within the parish

2024/58/01 Members to consider footpath issues

Newbiggen House to Cambo unpassable due to overgrown shrubbery. Wallington to Cambo overgrown.

RESOLVED:

Clerk to report to G Sanderson.

2024/58/02 Members to receive update on audit of footpaths within the parish

D Thompson continuing audit of parish footpaths.

2024/58/03 Members to receive update on grit bin installation at Willow Park

County Council had advised a bin would be placed after Easter, however this was still outstanding.

RESOLVED:

Clerk to recontact County Council.

2024/58/04 Analogue telephone system. Members to consider implication of system switch off.

Antennas were now installed on the emergency services mast at Grangemoor. British Telecom were holding drop in sessions county wide regarding analogue switchover.

RESOLVED:

L Brown to attend drop in session.

2024/58/05 Scots Gap planters. Members to consider purchase of replacement planter(s).

RESOLVED:

Members agreed a budget of £100 for replacement planter/compost.

2024/58/06 Byeways Open to All Traffic. Members to consider BOATS within the parish

D Thompson advised there were three BOATS within the parish. Grangemoor to Rothley being a bridleway A cyclist group had submitted a further application for a BOAT. County Council to close BOATS for six months, however they would then require repair. The Parish Council supported the permanent closure of the BOATS.

2024/58/07 Dog fouling within the parish. Members to consider resident complaint

A resident had complained to L Brown about dog fouling in Oakford. "No Dog Fouling signage" is displayed in Oakford. Persons allowing their dogs to foul should be reported to County Council.

2024/59 B4RN/B4NTR Broadband matters. Members to receive update.

Works progressing, Kirkwhelpington build scheduled. Local funding required, currently 6% short of the £120K. Meeting scheduled in Kirkwhelpington 29/5/24.

2024/60 New Clubhouse at Wallington F.C. Members to consider resident concerns relating to parking.
Planning application ongoing, issues around ecology had been resolved. Some residents in Scots Gap had submitted comments relating to parking on match days, which had raised issues with County Council Highways Department. The clubhouse need to accommodate so many cars. Highways had downgraded the amount of parking, with several additional documents to be submitted. If approval is not given, further land may be required.

2024/61 Audit of Accounts y.e 31/3/24

2024/61/01 To consider and agree any actions arising from the report of the internal auditor

a) To show the split between the net amount paid and vat when reporting any payments to the Council.

RESOLVED: Council accepted the recommendation.

b) To show the power under which any grant has been made.

RESOLVED: Council accepted the recommendation.

c) To check that all minute pages have been signed by the Chairman.

RESOLVED: Council accepted the recommendation.

d) To report the following payments had been omitted from the agenda/minutes 2023-2024. HMRC – PAYE – Direct Debits - £176.40 25/5/23; £42.60 22/10/23; £44 25/1/24; Davidson – Christmas tree lights – £284.25; e) Insurance premium should state £468.62 (tax and admin fee omitted from agenda/minutes)

2024/61/02 To approve the Governance Statement

RESOLVED:

Members approved the Governance Statement.

2024/61/03 To approve the draft annual accounts for 2023/2024

RESOLVED:

Members approved the draft annual accounts for 2023-2024.

2024/61/04 To approve the Accounting Statement and explanation of variances

RESOLVED:

Members approved the Accounting Statement and explanation of variances.

2024/61/05 To approve the Exemption Certificate

RESOLVED:

Members approved the Exemption Certificate.

2024/61/06 To approve public right of inspection dates of 3rd June to 12th July 2024

RESOLVED:

Members approved the public right of inspection dates of 3rd June to 12th July 2024.

2024/62 Bank signatories, N&SI Investment Account. Members to consider savings account with Lloyds Bank

RESOLVED:

Funds to be transferred from N&SI Investment Account

Clerk to open savings accounts with Lloyds Bank.

2024/63 Public transport. Members are asked to consider resident comments relating to lack of public transport

Adapt run a weekly bus service to Morpeth. A resident of the opinion 1.5 hours in Morpeth is insufficient time. It was felt bus users need to make comment to Adapt themselves.

2024/64 Members to arrange inspection of Parish Council assets

Clerk advised headstones within Cambo Burial ground required inspection.

RESOLVED:

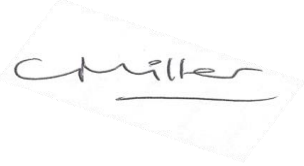
J Ballantine to carry out safety check.

2024/65 Urgent Business/Items for next agenda

Annual display of Christmas tree to be added to next agenda.

2024/66 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Wallington Demesne Parish Council will be held on Monday 22nd July 2024 commencing 730pm in Cambo Village Hall.



Claire Miller
Parish Clerk

The meeting closed at 9pm

DRAFT