

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HORSLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 23 JANUARY 2023  
AT 7.00PM IN HORSLEY WI HALL**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs M D Senior, Chairman of the Council together with Cllr C Turnbull, R D Lillie and Mrs S Glover

0123.01 **APOLOGIES** Cllrs S Lynch and C Roe.

0123.02 **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, IF ANY.** None

0123.03 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2022.** It was proposed by Cllr M D Senior, seconded by Cllr Mrs S Glover and AGREED that the minutes of the meeting held on **21 NOVEMBER 2022** be signed as an accurate record.

0123.04 **ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2022**

- a) Handyman. Minute 1122.09c refers. It was noted that the advert for the handyman should read 10 hours per **month**.
- b) West End Slip Road (A69). Minute 1122.09b refers. NCC Highways had AGREED to replace the large sign at the bottom of the slip road facing the junction.
- c) Gateway signs/Planters. Minute 1122.04a refers. It was AGREED not to pursue the installation of gateway signs/replacement planters however further enquiries will be made regarding the installation of new Vehicle Activated Signs.
- d) Lion and Lamb Bus Stop. Minute 1122.04b refers. Still no progress on the replacement bus stop sign or repainting of the yellow lines at the Lion and Lamb bus stop. This will be chased via the County Councillor.

0123.05 **COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT.** Cllr Holly Waddell was unable to attend the meeting however sent the following written report. Councillor Waddell had attended the Full Council meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> January where the following items were discussed.

- a) **Submission to the boundary review** - Northumberland Ward Boundaries are being looked at by the Boundary Commission as there are some wards in the county which have grown considerably in the last few years. The goal is to have each ward contain 4000 electors. There is a 10% allowance above and below this. Bywell Ward is 7.5% short so should be unaffected. The challenge to the rebalancing of numbers is keeping communities together. That is why the council makes a submission to the boundary review. It means that local knowledge of people and places is considered. The NCC submission is not the final review as this will come from the Boundary Commission later this year.
- b) Challenge board interim review- The Challenge board is the independent board set up to monitor the council's response to the Caller review. Their report noted that the council is making good progress towards tackling the issues the Caller report highlighted. One concern it raises which stood out to me when reading was the pace of change. The review expressed concerns that when change is rapid, mistakes sometimes are made, and you end up back at the start. It urged caution in the progress of the council in making lots of structural changes rapidly and allowing changes to settle before moving on to the next.

0123.06 **CORRESPONDENCE** received since the November meeting had been circulated to all councillors by email, as and when received, and noted.

- Community Action Northumberland – Monthly CAN eNews and notice of AGM
- NALC – Weekly eNews
- Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments Ltd – Notification of external auditor appointment for 5 years from 2022-23 – 2026-27.
- Northern Powergrid – Emergency Power Cuts Stakeholder Briefing and Invitation.

0123.07 **FINANCE**

- a) **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.** It was proposed by Cllr M D Senior, seconded by Cllr Mrs S Glover and AGREED to approve the expenditure on the list circulated.

## HORSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	GROSS AMOUNT	VAT	NET AMOUNT	PAYMENT METHOD
Mrs A Senior	Clerical Services	559.33		559.33	SO
H M Revenue and Customs	PAYE	140.00		140.00	BACS
Mrs A Senior	Play Area Inspections	75.00		75.00	BACS
Horsley Village Hall	Hall rental	20.00		20.00	BACS
Adrian Jackson	Grass cutting	555.00		555.00	BACS
B&Q (Mrs A Senior)	Play area/bus shelter repair	8.67	1.44	7.23	BACS
Plexus Media Ltd – Spanglefish	Annual website hosting fee	78.00	13.00	65.00	BACS
<b>Income</b>					
Lloyds Bank	Interest	2.57		2.57	10.12.22
Lloyds Bank	Interest	4.60		4.60	09.01.23

### 0123.09 PLANNING

- a) **Planning Decisions.** Details of the planning decisions as circulated were AGREED by all Councillors and are listed below.
- b) **Planning Applications.** Details of the planning applications as circulated were AGREED by all Councillors and are listed below.

REFERENCE	ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION	DECISION
22/00384/LBC 22/00383/FUL	Slate House, Welton	To allow for the demolition and rebuild of the attached byre (boiler house), opening of original window on west elevation of outbuilding and alter internal layout. Replacement gates and new fencing to existing western entrance to yard.	GRANTED

### 0123.10 VILLAGE ISSUES

- a) **Reports on Village Issues and Highway Matters.** The sign at the top of Gallowhill Lane which is damaged has been reported. Mole hills are appearing on all of the grass verges. Unfortunately, the existing mole man has retired. The clerk will contact various pest control companies for costs.
- b) **To agree job specification and advert for a village handyman.** After discussion, it was AGREED to advertise for a handyman to carry out various tasks in the village. The contract would be for 10 hours per month (to be reviewed after 6 months) at £15.00 per hour. This will be advertised on the notice boards in the village and on the website. Closing date for applications will be 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

### 0123.11 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES

- a) **Ovingham Joint Burial Committee.** It was noted that the Clerk to Wylam Parish Council is leaving and a replacement will be appointed in due course. The inspection hatch had been installed in the lodge to allow the inspection of the roof beams etc.
- b) **East Tynedale Parish Council's Forum.** Minutes of the last meeting had been circulated and were noted. The next meeting will take place on 31 January 2023.

**0123.12 TO AGREE JOB SPECIFICATION, APPLICATION FORM, MOBILE PHONE CONTRACT AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE CLERK POSITION..** It was AGREED to advertise from 1<sup>st</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> February with interviews taking place on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023. The post will be advertised on the notice boards, website, Facebook and around the local council clerks. A mobile phone contract will be set up once a start date has been agreed. It was AGREED to provide a laptop/printer should the applicant require one. The starting date will be 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 with a 6 week handover period.

**0123.13 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.** The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.