**Woolsington Parish Council**

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| **Chairperson of the Council: George Pattison** | **39 Wellburn Road** |
| **Clerk to the Council: Andrew Richardson** | **Washington** |
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**Minutes of Electronic meeting of Woolsington Parish Council**

**held via Zoom on Wednesday 10th June 2020**

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| Present: | Councillor G. Pattison (Chair) |
|  | Councillors J. Couchman, L. Kennedy, J. Littleton, L. McGuinness, S. Pattinson, J. Robinson, J. Sabarre and A. Thomas |

In attendance: A. Richardson – Clerk

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| **64**  **65.**  **66.**  **67.**  **68.**  **79.**  **80.**  **81.** | **Confirmation of Chair and Vice-Chair (2020-21)**  Coronavirus Legislation has removed the need for the annual meetings to be held in 2020. The appointments made at the 2019 annual meeting continue until 2021. Cllrs Pattison and Kennedy confirmed they are happy to continue.  **Apologies for absence**  Apologies for absence were received from Cllr L. Wright. Non-attendance and no apologies received from Cllrs B. Hunter and G. Pendleton.    **Minutes of Previous Meeting**  The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 11 March 2020 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.  **Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes**  Item 58: Cllr Couchman confirmed that the Head Gardner at Sovereign Lodge had been fully paid for work carried out outside the Lodge grounds.  Item 60: Cllr Couchman informed the members that following the previous Clerk’s investigation into missing Planning Applications emails, they had been found in the Spam folder.  Cllr Littleton also mentioned that ongoing discussions/investigations are taking place with Sarah Davitt in the Planning Section with regard to WPC not being notified of various Planning Applications, Whorlton School being a prime example, as well as arranging a Planning training session for any members who would be interested.  Item 56: Cllr Thomas requested that the School Book Scheme item to be placed on the Agenda for July’s meeting.  **General Parish Council Area Catch-Up**  The Chair provided an update on the new state of the art GP Surgery in Newbiggin Hall, following a planning meeting he had attended, plans had been approved.  Members were updated on the recent Graffiti incidents in Woolsington Village and Newbiggin Hall, trees had also been snapped. A Northumbria Police Representative to be invited to future meetings.  Cllr Littleton provided an update regarding the crocus carpet which had been planted to honour the women’s movement, without any notification Newcastle City Council dug it up and damaged it to erect new signs. Also, two of the six liquid amber trees will need to be replanted as they will obscure the view of the signs when grown.  Furthermore, two additional signs are not only visually intrusive, the sign for traffic heading south also has misleading information.  The Chair requested that the Clerk write to Newcastle City Council regarding this matter.  A resident informed Cllr Couchman of a planned Drive-In Cinema to be hosted by Newcastle Airport in August, there had been no consultation with residents or the Parish Council, the only notification was via a link for the Chronicle webpage. Concerns were raised over traffic management plans, discarded litter and toilet facilities. Cllr Couchman to pass the link to the clerk to then be circulated to the members.  The Chair requested that the Clerk write to Newcastle Airport regarding this matter.  **Website**  Cllr Littleton commented that whilst a positive start had been made on the current website, there was still a lot of work required to bring it up to date with regards to introducing webpages, community engagement, Neighbourhood Plan, Grant System and any other form of dialogue.  Dinnington Parish Council website was mentioned as a good example.  Cllr Littleton stated that extra work would be required by the clerk to carry this out and proposed that the clerk’s hours were increased from 6 hours to 9 hours, Cllr Couchman seconded the proposal.  Cllr Robinson queried whether funding was being paid to students at the University, Cllr Sabarre confirmed that it isn’t, only an annual subscription of £89.  **Accounts for Payment**  Approval was given to the following payments, itemised in the Report of the Clerk circulated with the papers for the meeting –   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  |  |  | | Clerk Salary | April/May | £ 485.64 | | HMRC | April/May | £ 121.20 | | Clerks Expenses | April/May | £ 48.47 | | Room Hire | March | £ 25.00 | | NALC | Annual Subscription 20-21 | £ 1062.52 | | Zoom | Annual Subscription 20-21 | £ 143.88 | | Cllr Littleton | Biodiversity Project – Etal Lane | £ 115.00 |   The Clerk mentioned that he intended looking into reclaiming VAT.  **Date of next meeting**  The next meeting was scheduled for 8th July at 6.30pm online via Zoom.    Chairman …………………….  Date ………… |