

Woolsington Parish Council

Chairperson of the Council: George Pattison
Clerk to the Council: Andrew Richardson

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Minutes of the AGM meeting of Woolsington Parish Council held on Wednesday 12th May 2021

Present: Councillor G. Pattison (Chair)
Councillors J. Couchman, A. Hay, B. Hunter, L. Kennedy, J. Littleton,
L. McGuinness, S. Pattison, J. Robinson, J. Sabarre and L. Wright.

In attendance: A. Richardson – Clerk

23. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr A. Thomas

24. Report of the Parish Council

The Chairperson read out a report of the Parish Council's activity for the previous 12 months

25. Election of Chairperson

Resolved that: Councillor G Pattison be appointed Chair of the Parish Council for the ensuing municipal year

26. Election of Vice Chairperson

Resolved that: Councillor L Kennedy be appointed Vice Chair of the Parish Council for the ensuing municipal year.

27. Appointment of representatives on other bodies

Resolved that: the following appointment be made -
Newcastle Airport Consultative Committee -
Councillor J Robinson will attend if required

28. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 10 March 2021 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

29. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

Item 13: The clerk advised that the invitation to the Cabinet Member for Environmental and Regulatory Services and an officer from the Council had been issued, however neither could attend.

30. **Woolsington Parish Area Biodiversity Plan**

Cllr Littleton provided a general update, and advised that plans are progressing well, with no anticipated changes to budget.

Barrels on Etal Lane had some vandalism, litter continues to be a problem.

In Woolsington, Hawthorn hedging supplied and planted.

Still awaiting approval for planting at Bluebell Dene following Highway's intervention with Costain Jacobs, the Chair has written to YHN to resolve.

The Bedeburn site has been cleaned free of charge by Grounds Maintenance (GM) and advice provided on options. Some problems with GM workload slow to respond at moment, still awaiting next site visit for detailed discussion. Also, large scale school construction close to site, and would be good to involve school in thinking. Therefore, postpone plans for time being and ring-fence budget.

Exact location for bulb planting on Newbiggin Lane to be agreed with GM.

Discussions held with Callerton Residents Association, who are now deciding on locations for bulb planting, on course for ordering in July and planting in the Autumn.

Maintenance of Plough completed in Bank Foot.

Discussions ongoing re-location of trees, on course for November.

Problems with Taylor Wimpey not landscaping site yet, therefore unable to make final decision until it's known what & where they intend to plant trees and hedging

The Ponds restoration will be carried out week commencing 26th July.

Thank you to Members who attended the site visit, and input on potential seating, access paths, wildflower planting and conservation schemes.

Other site visits have taken place with Caroline Herbert & Thinking Communities, Kelly Coates Projects4change & young volunteers, Pam Gill Inspire Youth and Community Workers. Valuable discussions on potential for Social Prescribing and Community Youth Projects.

All of these thoughts and ideas are to be shared with Northumberland Estates for land owner's views on support and approvals. Meeting pending.

Meetings have been held with St Marks & Simonside, Farne & Cheviot to be arranged.

Cllr Couchman updated the Members on a request from D2 Youth Zone for advice and support with a potential Biodiversity project, following a discussion held between Parish Council representatives and Project Manager Angela Smith, it was agreed to make a proposal for inclusion in this year's 21/22 WPC biodiversity schedule.

Proposal for decision

1. Members are asked to approve the proposals for purchase of planters and materials for D2.

2. Members are asked to decide on suitable wording to be displayed on each planter.

3. Members are asked to agree to the use of the £1000 funding previously ring-fenced for the Bluebell Dene spring bulbs scheme.

The members agreed to this proposal.

Equipment, planting and ongoing maintenance to be provided by D2.

Cllr Littleton provided background on discussions held with Newcastle Airport regarding biodiversity plans and aspirations, and similarly, the challenges that the airport faces with conservation. This could lead to benefits for the Parish Council in partnership and sharing costs. Especially in light of potential trust discussions.

It was agreed that a zoom meeting would be arranged with Graeme Mason (Newcastle International Airport) and any members wishing to attend.

31.

Planning Applications/Matters

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest and left the meeting for the following planning items.

The Clerk provided an update on planning applications received which had previously been circulated to members.

33 Woolsington Park South – Holding objection requested.

Newbiggin Hall Shopping Centre – Objection issued.

14 South Drive – No objection.

Back Farm Cottage, (Detailed Application) – No objection.

Back Farm Cottage, (Listed Building Consent) – No objection.

1 The Oval – Holding objection requested.

32 Pinewood Close – Request that the Scots Pine Tree is not felled.

4 Main Road – No objection.

34 Woolsington Park South – Ongoing

Newbiggin Hall Shopping Centre – Ongoing

Field House, Callerton - Ongoing

32. Police Update

The Chair read out a written update around crime and anti-social behaviour which had been provided by Northumbria Police for the month of April.

15 incidents in the Callerton Ward.

69 incidents in the Woolsington & Bankfoot Ward.

246 incidents in Bedeburn/Newbiggin Hall Wards.

33. Mobile CCTV Cameras

Following email correspondence regarding a proposed joint venture to fund a mobile camera between the Parish Council and the Ward Committee, Cllr Hay proposed that the funding was ring fenced for the camera, this was seconded by Cllr Sabarre. Cllr McGuinness advised that further detail / technical specification was required, the Chair stated that the funding had now been agreed. Cllr Wright supported the proposal, and provided background on the cameras in Callerton. The Chair and the Clerk also provided some background detail and advised that an information meeting will be arranged with Paul Angus and Harninder Bola, who were both due to attend this meeting, however unfortunately gave their apologies.

34. Financial Matters / Accounts for Payment

The Clerk provided an update to Members with regard to the 2020/21 Annual accounts.

34a. The members approved the Annual Governance Statement, and

34b. The members approved the Financial Statement.

34c. 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	£	843.18
HMRC	April/May	£	210.60
CI Accountancy (Payroll)		£	216.00
NALC Subscription		£	967.93
Peter Basnett (Internal Auditor)		£	160.00
Stationary / Postage / Stamps		£	26.39

For Information purposes only as already approved via Biodiversity Project: -

Hopes Grove Nurseries	£	551.56
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For Information purposes only as agreed at previous meeting: -

N/A	£	0.00
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34d. The Clerk also shared the financial statement document.

35. Financial Regulations / Standing Orders

The Clerk requested Members' approval that Woolsington Parish Council adopt the NALC standard Financial Regulations and Standing Orders, this was agreed.

36. Any Other Business

The members congratulated Cllr Hay and Cllr Wright on their election success for Ward Councillors.

The Clerk advised that the Zoom subscription was due to end soon, the members agreed that this should be renewed as remote meetings will still be required.

The Clerk also advised that he was looking into some potential venues for future meetings.

37. Date of next meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 14th July 2021 at 6.30pm.

Chairman

Date

