

# Woolsington Parish Council

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

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## **Minutes of the meeting of Woolsington Parish Council held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

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

In attendance: A. Richardson – Clerk  
Ian Smith – Newbiggin Hall Community Choir  
Angela Smith – D2 Youth Zone  
Michelle Mitchell – Inspire Youth Tyne and Wear

### **64. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs J. Couchman & S. Pattison

### **65. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2022 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

### **66. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes**

Item 56: Cllr Littleton advised that it should read 2 years not 32 years with regard to contributions for Abbotswood.

### **67. Grant Applications**

The Clerk advised that there were three grant application to be considered.

#### **Newbiggin Hall Community Choir**

An application was received requesting funding for £1,500 to support the local choir with tutor's fees and a trip to London to perform.

Ian Smith (IS), a member of the choir joined the meeting to present the application and answered queries which members had, he also advised that the London trip had been cancelled.

IS then left the meeting.

After a short discussion, it was agreed that as the London trip was no longer going ahead, the application couldn't be granted in full, however the Parish Council decided that the grant can be supported and donate £1,000 to the project.

#### **D2 Youth Zone**

An application was received requesting funding for £2,500 to put on a Christmas Parade.

Angela Smith (AS) from D2 Youth Zone joined the meeting to present her application and answered queries which members had.

AS then left the meeting.

After a short discussion, the members voted in favour to support the application and the grant was agreed in full.

### **Inspire Youth Tyne and Wear**

An application was received requesting funding for £10,550 to support youth sessions at the Gala Field Centre.

Michelle Mitchell (MM), from Inspire Youth Tyne and Wear joined the meeting to present the application and answered queries which members had.

MM then left the meeting.

After a long discussion, it was agreed that the application couldn't be granted in full, however the Parish Council decided that the scheme can be supported and donate £2,400 to the project.

### **68. Woolsington Parish Area Biodiversity Plan**

Cllr Littleton provided a general update on changes since the last meeting.

In the Bedeburn Ward, Bedeburn Road/Lowbiggin complete.

Newbiggin Hall Ward, Bluebell Dene complete.

Bankfoot still in process.

Callerton Village ongoing.

Woolsington Village funding to be transferred to the Abbotswood development.

Ongoing work with the four local Schools.

Cllr Robinson was unhappy that the two bags of left-over bulbs from the Bluebell Dene planting day were donated to Farne and Cheviot, and not distributed amongst the four schools, Cllr Littleton advised that the two bags couldn't be easily split, and suggested that Simonside and St Marks get first refusal the next time.

### **69. Ward Councillor's Update**

Cllr Hay provided an update with regard to ongoing work in the Kingston Park South and Newbiggin Hall Ward.

The old GP surgery and medical centre on Trevelyan Drive has had an application rejected by planning to convert into flats.

Ongoing work between highways and the developer at the site of the old Newbiggin Hall Shopping Centre to ensure developer carries out its pledges with regard to planting of trees and maintenance of the land.

Working with D2 Youth Zone regarding the proposed Christmas Parade.

Ongoing work at the Galafield to recruit new staff in the hope of getting the soft play opened.

Cllr Wright provided an update with regard to issues in the Callerton and Throckley Ward, there is now no shop to be opened next to the newbuilds at Callerton, and problems with buses due to shortage of drivers.

Cllr McGuinness advised that there is an issue with the barriers/fencing at the top of Etal Lane which is supposed to separate the playing field from the recently completed A1 Development, this is potentially very dangerous as at the moment there is nothing to prevent a child or a dog wandering onto the motorway. There was a discussion around who's land this is,

however Cllr Hay advised that he had arranged for temporary fencing to be reinstated in the short term and that he would pursue the matter.

**70. CIL**

The Clerk welcomed members suggestions on potential projects that the Neighbourhood Portion could fund, with a view to drawing up a list. Cllr G Pattison advised that infrastructure work is required to various parts of the Parish, in particular resurfacing work to Trevelyan Drive, Cllr Robinson echoed this.

Cllr Littleton outlined proposals for the Woolsington & Bank Foot Ward based on outcomes from a succession of Parish Council surveys. Initial requirements November 2022.

Parish Ponds: Habitat and site improvements based on the management plan produced in partnership with Landowner, Northumberland Estates and the City Council, also in a matched funding bid with Northumbria Water bluespaces project

Abbotswood: Habitat and site improvements and Wildlife Enhancement Corridor development and maintenance, in partnership with the Newcastle Airport and Tynexe (the management company formed with Newcastle City Council) in a Trust agreement.

Future project work for 2023/24.

Restoration of Bluebell Dene, working in partnership with the City Council to introduce a range of habitat and site improvements on a year-by-year basis in particular the supply/planting of spring bulbs and wildflowers via Grounds Maintenance or an external specialist provider, removal of litter and site maintenance, however this would be subject to the agreement of the ward members for Newbiggin Hall, a discussion ensued, it was agreed to revisit at the January meeting.

The second phase for the Parish Ponds was identified to be undertaken in stages, i.e., a range of site, access, and habitat improvements, working in partnership with the Upper Callerton Housing Consortium (consisting of the landowner and developers and the City Council) and support from external agencies (e.g., Environmental Agency and Northumbria Water). Cllr Robinson expressed concern that the Parish Ponds is on the Duke of Northumberland's land.

Newcastle City Council's Bee Friendly City, deploying Newcastle City Council Grounds Maintenance and Ecology services plus a specialist external provider to introduce wildflower meadows in grass verges in Bank Foot & Woolsington in sites agreed by the City Council.

Cllr Littleton provided estimate costs for all the proposed schemes.

**71. Elections May 2023 / Elections Act 2022 / CGR**

The clerk provided an update on a meeting he had attended with Newcastle City Councils Democratic Services section with regard to the Elections in 2023, and advised that the guidance would be circulated.

## 72. Planning Matters

Cllr G Pattison and Cllr L Wright 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.

2022/0938/01/DET	Shell, Skyway Filling Station	No Objection
2022/1135/01/DET	Callerton Parkway	Objection Raised
2022/1495/01/DET	Airview Park Main Road	No Objection
2022/1618/01/HOU	46 Woosington Gardens	No Objection
2021/1622/01/DET	Station Road	Holding Objection
2022/1144/01/DET	Newbiggin Hall Clinic	Objection Raised
2022/1788/01/TPO	28 Pinewood Close	Ongoing
2022/0533/01/DET	6 Morton Crescent	Ongoing

## 73. Christmas Trees for Schools

The clerk advised that he had received an email from one of the local schools asking if the Parish Council would again be making a donation of a real Christmas Tree like last year, the members thought this was a good idea, and all four local schools would be offered a tree.

## 74. Financial Matters / 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	Oct/Nov	£	1107.50
HMRC	Oct/Nov	£	277.00
St Wilfred's Church		£	40.00
PKF Littlejohns LLP		£	720.00

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

John Littleton (Prestwick Terrace/Dobbie's & Cowells GC)	£	121.93
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For Information purposes only as agreed at previous meeting: -

Citizen's Advice	£	4000.00
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The Clerk also shared the financial statement document.

## 75. Any other business

The Clerk advised that there was a proposed meeting of the six local councils to be held on the 19<sup>th</sup> December with the Chief Executive Pam Smith from Newcastle City Council.

The Clerk also advised that an invitation had been received from Hazlerigg Parish to attend their January 2023 meeting to discuss wildlife corridors

and biodiversity, Cllr Littleton volunteered to attend with the Clerk.

**76. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting was scheduled for 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 6.30pm at St Wilfred's Church

Chairman .....

Date .....