

# Woolsington Parish Council

Chairperson of the Council: George Pattison

Clerk to the Council: Andrew Richardson

[woolsingtonpc@gmail.com](mailto:woolsingtonpc@gmail.com)

## **Minutes of the meeting of Woolsington Parish Council held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

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

In attendance: A. Richardson – Clerk

### **12. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs L. McGuinness, S. Pattison, J. Sabarre & L. Wright

### **13. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

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

Item 08: Kingston Village: Cllr G Pattison declared a non-pecuniary interest and left the meeting for the following planning discussion. Cllr Littleton advised that following the Parish Council's omission to be consulted on this planning application, he liaised with Newcastle City Council planning officer Sarah Davitt, who was very helpful and able to advise on all the matters raised, Cllr Littleton would like it recorded his appreciation.

Cllr Littleton raised concern about the process, as the Parish Council should not be omitted from consultation on a such a major application as this. It has happened on several occasions before, however never on such an important one as this.

Cllr Robinson advised that this was part of the One Core Strategy.

Cllr Littleton highlighted that there are other major applications in the pipeline, and that the Parish Council needs to be vigilant, to avoid potential oversights. The Clerk advised that he would email the Assistant Director for Planning to raise these concerns on behalf of the Deputy Chair and the Parish Council.

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

Cllr Littleton provided a general update on changes since the last meeting. As 2022/23 draws to a close, the programme is almost complete. The latest budget statement is available on request from the Clerk. Schools have just about used up their allocation, Cheviot School have had a meeting with `wildintrigue`, a local company, rewilding and nature specialists, about nature photography. Installing cameras in bird boxes

and displaying on flat screens in class. Awaiting quotations. Very much an experiment, costs v success rate. Could roll out to other schools.

Agreed a plan with Callerton Residents Association for shrubs and plants.

Overall, a slight underspend expected against forecasted costs.

Continuing issue with litter at Bluebell Dene, widescale fly tipping and filth, public health concern.

Abbotswood Management Plan produced for site & habitat improvements.

Budget set. Individual tasks being costed by Tilhill the Airport contractors and work will proceed on priority basis within budget limits.

An opportunity has presented itself to introduce some new footpath boardwalk to access the site (MARMAX) to improve public access.

Considering using a small amount of Woolsington & Bankfoot CIL allocation to fund this, discussions to be held with Cllr G Pattison and Cllr L Wright.

With regard to the Ponds project, met with new landowner and Haywood contractors on site to plan the new woodland walk. A quotation has been received. Landowner assessing method statement & risk assessment. Hope to start this month, if not will probably have to wait until end of breeding season in September

Aware that the planning application for Upper Callerton is with Newcastle City Council, however not released yet. The application will have details of proposals for bridleway and other site improvements.

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

Cllr Hay advised that it had been a quiet few months since the new year, however there has been a lot of casework and ward-based issues that residents have raised. A meeting was held with Lou Haigh, Labour Shadow Secretary of State for Transport to discuss the poor bus service that affects most of the residents in the outer west, hopefully improvements will be made.

Launch of the inclusive economic strategy for the city, this is looking at how everyone can have equal opportunities to succeed and reach their full potential, alongside that an anti-poverty strategy.

The budget has also just been passed, which unfortunately saw an increase to Council Tax.

#### **17. Hazlerigg Parish Council – Wildlife Enhancement Corridors**

Cllr Littleton and Cllr Couchman provided an update on the meeting attended at Hazlerigg Parish Council in January. Opportunities of a joined-up approach to linking wildlife enhancement corridors, capitalising on the Airport's commitments, funding and supporting the delivery of the City Council's objectives.

#### **18. Defibrillators**

Cllr Littleton advised that he had been approached by a resident of one of the local shops in Woolsington, who had offered to house a defibrillator and provided the electric supply, and wondered whether this would be covered by CIL funding, members were in agreement that it would. Cllr Hay mentioned that Newcastle City Council have funding available for the installation of defibrillators, and advised that he would inquire.

A discussion took place as to whether there are any other locations that may benefit from one.

**19. Planning Matters**

Cllr G Pattison 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.

2022/2076/01/ADV	Shell, Skyway Filling Station	No Objection
2019/0666/01/OUT	Land To The West Of Brunton Lane, North Of Brunton Bridge And East Of Sunnyside	Woolsington Parish Council not officially consulted on this application, therefore as previous in 2020, Holding Objection submitted.

**20. Financial Matters / Accounts for Payment**

a. Approval was given to the following payments, itemised in the Report of the Clerk circulated with the papers for the meeting –

Clerk Salary	Feb/Mar 23	£	920.30
HMRC	Feb/Mar 23	£	230.20
St Wilfred's Church		£	40.00

For Information purposes only as agreed at previous meeting: -

Andrew Richardson (Site123 Website)	£	251.82
Andrew Richardson (Site123 Domain)	£	25.24

b. The Clerk shared the financial statement document.

c. The Clerk shared the Community Infrastructure Levy annual report for 2022.

**21. Any other business**

Cllr Littleton highlighted the Civility and Respect Pledge which NALC had urged local councils to sign. The Chair asked for clarity before members could agree to support.

**22. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting was scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 6.30pm at St Wilfred's Church

Chairman .....

Date .....

