Woolsington Parish Council

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

woolsingtonpc@gmail.com

Minutes of the meeting of Woolsington Parish Council held on Wednesday 8th November 2023

Present: Councillor J. Robinson (Chair)
Councillors J. Couchman, A. Hay, J. Littleton, J. Sabarre, L. Spencer and A. Thomas

In attendance: A. Richardson – Clerk

72. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs L. Kennedy, L. McGuinness, G. Pattison, S. Pattison and L. Wright.

73. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 20th September 2023 were agreed as a true record.

74. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

Item 70, the clerk advised that the local schools had taken up the Parish Council's offer of a real Christmas Tree.

75. Grant Applications

The Clerk advised that there was one grant application to be considered.

D2 Youth Zone Ltd Christmas Activities

An application was received requesting funding for £2,000 to contribute to a Christmas Parade.
Cllr Robinson and Cllr Hay declared an interest as they advised they would be taking part in the parade, therefore didn't take part in the discussion.
After a short discussion, the remaining members voted in favour to grant the application in full.

76. Woolsington Parish Area Biodiversity Plan

Cllr Littleton provided a general update and progress report.
Newbiggin Hall: Maintenance agreement for Sov Lodge bed on Newbiggin Lane is now re-instated with Newcastle City Council Grounds Maintenance Section. First visit completed in October 23. Monthly checks will be carried out to ensure value for money.
Bedeburn: request from Pam Cavanagh to replenish barrels on Lowbiggin. Pam puts a lot of work into her displays, and maintains them all year round. Members approved the proposal for up to £500.
Bank Foot: discussions have taken place regarding a new flower bed/rockery to be maintained by residents at entrance to the KBH site. This not part of the

Developers obligations. Parish Council is waiting for Residents to come up with a proposal up to £500.
Callerton Village: approval was previously given to Callerton Residents Association for plants & stock for up to £500, awaiting progress report.
Woolsington Village: request for its £500 allocation to be donated to Abbotswood project for new plant stock. Members approved the proposal to transfer £500 to the Trust Accounts
All schools work going very well, they are all very enthusiastic as Biodiversity and Outdoor Learning is now a fundamental part of the curriculum.
The Parish Council is actively involved in working with the schools in the planning of these curriculum objectives.
Farne: meeting planned for this week with Mark Dixon
Simonside: meeting recently held with Emma Hill, agreements reached on next phase of programme, invoices expected soon
Cheviot: budget to be spent on installation of 3 bird boxes and cameras linked to School IT system. Boxes installed by Wild Intrigue. Cameras and connections due soon – school contact is Stef Sands
St Marks: meeting planned with Lyndsey Gray this week.
Parish Ponds: the Bluespaces project is now complete. It has been very successful, meeting the targets for Improved access to open green and blue spaces and conservation. Main deliverables were:
Creation of a half km woodland walkway.
Creation of a protected conservation area.
Creation of inlets & outlets with shallow scrapes, shelter coves & protruding banks for wildlife protection.
Planting of rushes and the removal of self-seeded Willow saplings.
Community Education event on ‘Understanding Pond Life` which took place on in July along with the Tyne Rivers Trust – pond dipping + invertebrate sampling, guided walks with ornithologist + botanist.
Community Educational Day ‘Understanding Your Local River` Woolsington Village Green which took place in September along with the Tyne Rivers Trust - river dipping + invertebrate sampling, SUDS house model, river model, hapazome printing.
Schools have now expressed interest in this event. Site visits are being considered to the Ponds for next year
Next Steps: working with the landowner on
Discussions with Newcastle City Council Rights of Way Officer about proposed diversion to Bridleway.
Ecological Survey for future site maintenance requirements for the landowner.
Exploring the benefits to the Community in establishing the Ponds as a Nature Reserve.
Abbotswood: thanks were expressed to Cllrs Wright and G. Pattison for their input and advice and for their attendance on site with Graeme Mason and other Airport officials.
This beauty spot is now proving to be extremely popular with the Community.
The Airport is again to feature the progress made under the `Trust Agreement` with the Parish Council in its annual Corporate Social Responsibility press release & report.
Recent progress includes:
Community planting and site maintenance events

Planting of specimen trees
Planting of Spring bulbs - Wild garlic, Bluebells and Snowdrop
Agreement to introduce a new pathway to improve access. This is planned for Spring 2024

77. Ward Councillor's Update

Cllr Hay provided an update with regard to ongoing work in the Kingston Park South and Newbiggin Hall Ward.
The planning application for 5G phone mast proposed for Yetholm Place has been withdrawn, although approval has been granted for one on Newbiggin Lane however away from any residents.
An application is in for the old doctor's site to increase the number of floors and build flats.
Ward funding has been approved for the Christmas Parade on the 20th December.
Ward funding has also been approved to provide speed signs on Newbiggin Lane.
Busy with case work from residents regarding housing concerns, particularly damp.
Housing review untaken by NCC/YHN regarding social housing has now closed.

78. Defibrillators Update

Cllr Couchman provided an update, the three defibrillators have been successfully installed, one each at the following sites, The Poachers Cottage, Twin Farms & Haircraft. These are now registered with the emergency services and are fully operational.

79. Planning Matters

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

2023/0269/01/DET	Land to the South of A696, West of Newbiggin Lane and North of Hareydene (upper Callerton), Newcastle Upon Tyne,	No Objection
2023/1343/01/HOU	36 Station Road, Kenton Bankfoot, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8AG	No Objection
2023/1345/01/HOU	40 Foxfield Close, Kenton Bankfoot, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8AY	No Objection
2023/1412/01/TPO	High Beeches Middle Drive, Woolsington, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8BS	No Objection

2023/1372/01/DET	Newbiggin Hall Clinic Trevelyan Drive, Newbiggin Hall, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE5 4BS	Objection
2023/1359/01/NOT	Footpath Outside Lifestyle Foods Yetholm Place, NE5 4ED	Objection
2023/1492/01/DET	Land to the East of 6 Morton Crescent, Callerton, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE5 1NY	Objection

80. 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	Oct 23	£	460.25
HMRC	Oct 23	£	115.00
St Wilfrid's Church	(Sept)	£	40.00
Mazars		£	378.00
NCC Grounds Maintenance		£	420.00
Callerton TARA		£	280.00
John Littleton (EA Bluespaces)		£	50.00
John Littleton (Safety Signs)		£	23.06
Blachere Illuminations		£	435.60
Curae-Group		£	1,553.76

b. The Clerk shared the financial statement document.

81. Any Other Business

Nothing to report.

82. Date of next meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 10th January 2024, 6.30pm at St Wilfrid's Church.

Chairman …….

Date ……