

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 10th January 2024

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

In attendance: A. Richardson – Clerk
Noel Hanlon – Newcastle City Council
Nathan Rogerson – Sports Management Solutions

01. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs S. Pattison, J. Sabarre, A. Thomas and L. Wright.

02. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 8th November 2023 were agreed as a true record.

03. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

Item 76, Cllr Robinson inquired if the Sovereign Lodge Maintenance Agreement had commenced and value for money was being achieved. Cllr Littleton advised that he was monitoring it.

04. Playzones Programme

Noel Hanlon (NH) from Newcastle City Council and Nathan Rogerson (NR) from Sports Management Solutions joined the meeting to provide an overview and presentation on a proposed scheme at the Galafield Centre which would convert the current MUGA pitch into a Playzone. It was explained that a PlayZones is a modern, safe, and engaging facility, PlayZones are designed for recreational football and at least one other sport. It was explained that the Football Foundation were providing funding towards this, however a Newcastle steering group consortium would need to provide match funding, and were looking to the Parish Council for financial support to fund approximately fifty percent of the costs.

NH and NR tried to answer queries which members had, mainly around who would be the operator, booking system, insurance, vandalism, ongoing maintenance costs, etc. NH advised that the project was still at an early stage, and would be able to provide more detail in due course.

NH and NR then left the meeting. After a long discussion, it was agreed that members would draft their concerns, comments and queries so they could be forwarded onto NH and NR.

05. Grant Applications

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

Inspire Youth Tyne and Wear

An application was received requesting funding for £7,830.00 for the continuation of the Inter and Girls group sessions at the Gala Field Centre. Following a long discussion, it was agreed that unfortunately the application couldn't be granted, this was mainly due to the non-compliance of the grant conditions when a previous application that was granted.

06. Woolsington Parish Area Biodiversity Plan

Cllr Littleton provided a general update and progress report.

No changes since the last meeting to the Wards & Schools.

Awaiting Callerton Residents Association to confirm requirements for Callerton

Awaiting Pam Cavanagh to confirm requirements for Bedeburn Barrels

Awaiting Farne, St Marks` & Simonside Schools to finalise requirements following our meetings, hopefully finalised by the March meeting.

The Parish Council remains concerned about the installation of Bird Box cameras at Cheviot, Wild Intrigue contractors are having difficulties with RM Software IT providers for Smart Academy. Advised that the iPads are all installed, and now almost complete. Now is the time for birds to explore potential sites for breeding. Installation any later could cause disturbance.

With regard to other projects, a new all-weather footpath planned for the spring at Abbotswood, also article written for the Parish Newsletter, this has been a very productive and successful partnership.

At the Parish Ponds, a Baseline Ecological survey undertaken by OS Ecology of Corbridge. Landowners now working on clear short medium- and long-term management plan for 30 years for this 'important habitat and community resource'.

The Parish Council is advising them with their thinking, as Landowners not using land for Biodiversity Net Gain, therefore, the Parish Council is looking to create a Nature Reserve with the support of landowner. (this would be a first for the Parish) to integrate with the Ouseburn Way, a partnership between the City Council and the Reece Foundation and other agencies

Following the success of the community events and educational run with Tyne Rivers Trust, it was requested to allocate £3k funding from the current W&BF CIL for 3 more of these community events, this was agreed.

07. Ward Councillor's Update

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

The Christmas Parade around Newbiggin Hall, working with D2 Youth Zone was a great success, the local families thought it was brilliant, and many thanks to Cllrs Littleton and Couchman for taking the photos.

In December, following the Housing review undertaken, NCC voted to take YHN back in house at the latest July 2024.

A meeting with Action for Children has taken place, the new manager for the Outer West, positive discussion with regard to proposals and future plans.

Received funding to purchase two defibrillators, hopefully one to be positioned at St Wilfrid's Church and the other at Etal Park next to the shops. If further funding becomes available, one could be purchased for Bedeburn Road.

08. Newsletter

The Clerk advised that further to his email request for items for the Parish Council's second newsletter, he had received articles and input, with a view to having it drafted, printed and delivered in March.

09. Defibrillators Update

Cllr Couchman provided an update and advised that the defibrillators are live and operational, and that the machine at Twin Farms has already been used. NHS inform the Parish Council when a device has been used to get host to check equipment after the event, however not told of the outcome.

Quarterly checks are required by each host which was carried out in January, and remote checks are also meant to be undertaken by supplier, clarification to be sought on how this actually works.

The Parish Council has managed to secure training on Defibs and CPR to be held at the Poachers Cottage on the 31st January, this will be provided free of charge by Magpie Training, although free of charge, Magpie have asked for donations to be made to a charity, the Parish Council agreed to donate £50 to CHUF.

10. 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.

2023/1632/01/DET	39 The Oval, Woolsington, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8AS	Objection
2023/1739/01/TPO	Braeside Middle Drive, Woolsington, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8BS	No Objection
231129	Ponteland Road – Callerton Lane	The Parish Council were not formally consulted on this application. No Objection
2023/1754/01/DET	Land To The South Of 40 Woolsington Park South, 6 South Drive And 4 South Drive , Newcastle Upon Tyne , NE13 8AN	No Objection

11. 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	Nov/Dec 23	£ 1,201.10
HMRC	Nov/Dec 23	£ 300.40
St Wilfrid's Church (Nov)		£ 40.00
D2 Youth Zone Ltd		£ 2,000.00
Haywood Contracting Ltd		£ 6,270.00
Andrew Richardson (School Xmas Trees)		£ 526.00
Sparkie Electrical Services		£ 94.00

b. The Clerk shared the financial statement document.

c. The Clerk provided an estimated budget to enable members to set an appropriate precept. It was resolved: That the Precept for the financial year 2024/2025 be set at £20,000

d. The Clerk provided an update detailing CIL Funding and the ward splits.

12. Any Other Business

Cllr McGuinness inquired if a litter pick could be organized, and advised that shopping trolleys were being left lying around.

Cllr McGuinness highlighted the number of trees being cut down, and what the reasoning was behind it, Cllr Littleton offered to make enquiries.

13. Date of next meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 20th March 2024, 6.30pm at St Wilfrid's Church.

Chairman

Date