

# 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 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

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

In attendance: A. Richardson – Clerk

### **14. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs L. Kennedy and L. Wright.

### **15. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024 were agreed as a true record.

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

No matters arising.

### **17. Grant Applications**

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

#### **D2 Youth Zone Ltd Summer Easter Holiday Grant**

An application was received requesting funding for £2000 to support an activities programme across the school easter holidays.

After a short discussion, the members voted in favour to grant the application in full.

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

Cllr Littleton provided a detailed progress report, and advised that in summary, there is an underspend against the allocated budget, £1,955.32 spent to date.

With regards to an update on the wards and schools, a work schedule has been agreed with NCC Grounds Maintenance for Sovereign Lodge, and awaiting confirmation on progress to date.

Nothing requested or planned for Newbiggin Hall.

Awaiting receipts from Callerton Residents Association.

Awaiting receipts from Pam Cavanagh for requirements for Bedeburn Barrels Barrels and Plants ordered for Bankfoot.

Woolsington, commitment transferred to Abbotswood Project.

Varying degrees of progress with the schools, current underspend with Farne, however ongoing discussions.

Cheviot, bird boxes and solar cameras installed but issues in connecting to the school network managed by RM Software the IT provider for Smart Academy.

Investigation being undertaken.

Simonside, agreed with the clerk to carry funding forward.

Receipts due from St Marks.

With regard to other projects, plans to upgrade access, by creation of a new all-weather footpath planned for the spring at Abbotswood, and agreements have been made for the planting of approximately 100 new trees at various locations on the site.

The Parish Ponds project is going really well, with a great deal of interest being expressed, and proving very popular. Community Volunteer days arranged for 15th and 22nd March, all Members are invited.

The landowner, TW&P, have commissioned a Landscape Ecology Management Plan to be undertaken by OS Ecology.

The main outcome will be the annual maintenance plan needed to manage habitat and site improvements.

All part of the dual ambition between the Parish Council and Landowner to future proof the Ponds and surrounding area for the Community, leading towards the creation of the Parish's first ever nature reserve.

A bridlepath diversion has been included in the Planning application for Upper Callerton, to enable a gating system to be introduced and help prevent ASBO damage caused by motorcyclists.

Further discussions have been held with Northumbria Police to introduce interim measures to deter motorcycling and quad biking.

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

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

A tidy and clear up of Bluebell Dene around Eastgarth had taken place.

The planning application for the old doctors' surgery on Trevelyan Drive has been withdrawn.

Funding had been agreed to purchase four Defibrillators, one to be installed at Etal Park, the other three locations to be decided.

Building has commenced on the new Callerton School, with a view to completion for September 2025.

Road resurfacing scheduled for the end of May on Trevelyan Drive.

#### **20. Playzones Programme**

Further to the proposed scheme at the Galafield Centre which would convert the current MUGA pitch into a Playzone, members discussed various concerns that still hadn't been clarified. It was agreed that at this stage a decision couldn't be made as to whether the Parish Council could financially support the scheme. It was proposed that a meeting be convened with Noel Hanlon (Newcastle City Council) and Nathan Rogerson (Sports Management Solutions) to go through the queries.

#### **21. Newsletter Update**

The Clerk advised that the Parish Council's second newsletter had been printed and was due to be distributed last week of March.

## 22. CCTV Camera Update

The Clerk provided an update on the mobile camera that the Parish Council had financially supported regarding its success rate, noting only one major incident had been captured and reported.

A discussion ensued to the possible relocation of the camera.

It was decided to invite the Police to the next meeting with a view to obtaining official stats on ASB and also the full effectiveness of the camera.

## 23. 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.

2024/0061/01/HOU	14 Broadfield Meadows	No Objection
2023/1674/01/DET	Briardene Care Home	No Objection
2024/0130/01/TPO	Woodland to the Rear of 6 South Drive, Woolsington	No Objection
2024/0205/01/TPO	Land At Foxfield Close, Kenton Bankfoot	No Objection
2024/0121/01/HOU	3 Pecks House Farm Cottages Newbiggin Lane	No Objection
2024/0236/01/HOU	9 Princes Road, Brunton Park	N/A, Not within our Parish
2024/0115/01/HOU	8 Woolsington Park South, Woolsington	
2024/0174/01/DET	Northumbria Police, North Newcastle Command Unit Etal Lane	
2024/0287/01/TPO	Trees Middle Drive, Woolsington	No Objection

Cllr Littleton requested identification badges for members, especially when visiting site, members agreed to this.

## 24. 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	Jan/Feb 24	£	982.90
HMRC	Jan/Feb 24	£	245.60
St Wilfrid's Church (Jan)		£	40.00
John Littleton (Metro Repro)		£	54.94
Ian Anderson (Bankfoot Bio)		£	494.64

John Littleton (CHUF Donation) £ 50.00

b. The Clerk shared the financial statement document.

**25. Statement of Internal Control (for consideration and agreement)**

The Clerk shared the Statement of Internal Control document and requested Members approval; this was agreed.

**26. Any Other Business**

Cllr Littleton advised that residents had provided some good suggestions for the CIL funding, especially with regard to road safety in the Woolsington area, and discussions had commenced with Sarah Thompson at Newcastle City Council. Cllr S Pattison advised that ward members for Callerton and Throckley should be consulted.

**27. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting was scheduled for 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024, 6.30pm at St Wilfrid's Church. (however this has now been rescheduled for the 15<sup>th</sup>)

Chairman .....

Date .....