

## ULGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

### **Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held in the Women's Institute Hall on Monday 15 July 2019**

Councillor Mrs H Shaw (in the Chair)  
Councillors G Brown and Mrs L Newman  
Apology for absence from Councillor J Scott

Also in attendance 9 parishioners

#### **20/19 QUESTIONS FROM PARISHIONERS**

A resident asked if there was any further information regarding the caravan site. The resident did not believe that the Camping and Caravan Club had been out to assess the site as yet. The Chairman stated that the Parish Council had written to the Camping and Caravan Club raising their concerns regarding the access and disposal of waste.

She read out the email from the Club which stated that due to the access issues the site officer had confirmed that the site would be unable to accommodate caravans. They also confirmed that the site owner would be responsible for the ensuring any waste was collected. The concerns of the Parish Council would be attached to the records they held in relation to the site. As previously stated it appeared that 10 tents and 5 motorhomes would be allowed on the site. She reiterated that permission had not been required for this site and the Parish Council had not been asked to comment on the proposal. A licence had been issued for the site. The Parish Council had written to NCC to raise their concerns regarding the highways issues.

The Chairman advised anyone who had any concerns to get in touch with the Club direct.

A resident stated that he had contacted the County Council in relation to the Southcroft stables application and the removal of a condition.

The same resident also reported issues he was having with the public footpaths which had not been cut for some time. He had emailed one of the Countryside officers at NCC on 7<sup>th</sup> May. He reported on an issue he had had with a local farmer which had been quite disturbing.

The countryside officer at NCC had sent a holding reply to the resident but he had not heard anything further.

The Chairman stated that the Parish Council used to pay a contractor to cut the public footpaths back each year and NCC reimbursed the PC for the work carried out. The Parish Council were struggling to find anyone willing to do the work.

She stated that this would be raised with the footpath officer.

It was also stated that it would be useful if residents could inform the Parish Council of any concerns they were raising with NCC.

#### **21/19 MINUTES**

Members were asked to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17 June 2019.

In relation to Minute 13/19, a contractor had been engaged to cut the churchyard at a reasonable cost.

Information had been received from NCC regarding the Green Dog walkers initiative. Some dog waste bags had been received as well as promotional material. It was hoped that there were sufficient leaflets to put one through the door of each household with the newsletter.

Further to minute 15/19 some information had been received regarding speed indicator signs. The costs were in the region of £3000 per sign and this required further examination but it was hoped a sign could be provided near to Manor Farm at some point.

It was mentioned about the strips across the road that had been used effectively in other areas however, people may be concerned about the noise.

Councillors had discussed the issue of speeding with a community policewoman they had met at a recent event in Stannington. She had indicated that it would be difficult to get the Community Speed Watch equipment in this area.

RESOLVED – The minutes be approved.

## 21/19 **CORRESPONDENCE**

### **(i) Ulgham Meadows Land**

The Parish Council had learned that the meadows site was part of plot 19 that was up for sale by Harworth Estates. The Council had not been informed of the sale and the Clerk had been asked to contact Harworth Estates after the last meeting. Contact had been made by Harworth Estates who confirmed that the land was up for sale. A meeting had been held between Mr Peat of Harworth Estates and the Chairman and Vice Chairman. He had confirmed that there were three years left on the lease. Councillors were told that an offer could be put in for the land and were asked to email him with their intentions. A figure of £15,000 had been mentioned.

There was a discussion held with the UVA in the previous week when it had been agreed that a confirmation of interest would be sent to Harworth Estates, subject to funding being available. The UVA were intending to submit an application to the Wind Farm Community Benefit fund and the Parish Council had agreed to give £5000 towards the cost of purchase if needed plus meet any legal costs. Work on the application would be starting very soon as the deadline for applications was 2<sup>nd</sup> August. The land covered an area of 9.7 acres although this was disputed by a resident at the meeting who suggested it was more like 8 acres.

Councillor Towns had been asked about potential funding sources and advice regarding legal costs.

Some information regarding the history of the Meadows had been supplied by two residents which was necessary for the application.

Councillor Mrs Newman mentioned a group called the Bernician Studies group had been seen by her in the Meadows earlier that day who were studying the woodland and researching its history to determine whether there was ancient woodland on the site. She had explained the situation and they were very interested.

A query was raised about ongoing maintenance of the area if the land was purchased. This would be something that the Parish Council and the UVA had to examine in more detail and see what work was required.

RESOLVED – The information be received.

**(ii) Information re Musculoskeletal (MSK) and Pain Service (JMAPS) – briefing note from NCC**

A copy of the above-mentioned briefing note had been circulated to Councillors. This related to the intention by NHS Northumberland Clinical Commissioning Group to deliver a joint pain management service as a de-medicalised MSK and chronic pain management model which would place less reliance on medication and back injections. This was based on evidence from a successful scheme in Cumbria that had been operational for several years. Some concerns had been conveyed to parish and town councils and the Parish Council agreed with the sentiments expressed.

RESOLVED – The information be received.

**(iii) Local Transport Plan (LTP) 2020-21**

A letter had been received from NCC asking for the Parish Council's top three highways and transport priority issues for the area for possible inclusion in the LTP for 2020-21. Feedback had also been received regarding the priorities submitted for 2019-20 LTP. This related to the inclusion of a 'Not suitable for HGV vehicles' signage at the Ford at Ulgham Grange. This had been included in the LTP for the current year. The deadline for a response was Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October and it was agreed that this would be considered at the September meeting.

RESOLVED – Consideration of this matter be deferred to the September meeting.

**22/19 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

**(i) Ulgham Village Committee**

The Feast had been very successful and had been attended by more people this year. The UVA had put in the application for a defibrillator for the village which had been successful, and the equipment had been placed outside of the hall. An information session would be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> August to which everyone in the village could attend. The Parish Council would be responsible for the maintenance. In relation to the hanging baskets, it was reported that a thank you and a small gift had been given to the resident who had planted the displays. Some assistance would be provided to the UVA secretary for the village website. It would be updated. The application for the Meadows purchase would be submitted by the UVA and it was anticipated that they would own this piece of land. There was some query regarding joint ownership with the Parish Council and this required further examination.

RESOLVED – The information be noted.

**23/19 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

It was noted that the following accounts were now due for payment:

- (a) Clerk, July salary, expenses, mileage, stationery, ink cartridges £219.99
- (b) HMRC – paye payment, Clerk - £91.60
- (c) J M Champion – cutting of meadow area - £150

#### **24/19 REPORTS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS**

Councillor Brown reported on ongoing problems with overgrown hedges and plants causing an obstruction on pavements. He suggested it may be necessary to carry out some trimming back. The Parish Council had carried out some work previously and had invoiced the householder. The present owners of the property in question had given an assurance that the work would be done as a matter of urgency.

It was mentioned that the junction leading to Ulgham Grange was overgrown and the Clerk agreed to report this to NCC.

It was also agreed to include an article in the next newsletter regarding the need to cut back overhanging hedges.

There were still issues with potholes and the Clerk agreed to report these again to NCC.

#### **25/19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019 in the WI Hall, Ulgham at 7.00 p.m.