

ULGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the annual meeting of the Parish Council held in the Women's Institute Hall on Monday 17th May 2021

Councillor J Scott (in the Chair)

Councillors G Brown, Mrs L Newman, Mrs H Shaw and Mrs D Wilson

Also in attendance 4 parishioners and County Councillor D Towns

1/21 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman circulated copies of his annual report. As part of his report he thanked his colleagues for all their help and support during this difficult year. He also was pleased to welcome Councillor Debra Wilson to the Parish Council. He also congratulated Councillor Towns on his re-election as County Councillor for the area.

The Chairman welcomed everyone back to physical meetings after a period of being unable to meet in person.

2/21 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN 2019-20

Nominations for the position of Chairman of the Parish Council for 2021-22 were invited.

RESOLVED – Councillor Jim Scott be re-appointed as Chairman for the coming year.

Councillor Scott thanked his fellow Councillors for their continued support.

3/21 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN 2021-22

Nominations for the position of Vice Chairman of the Parish Council for 2021-22 were invited.

RESOLVED – Councillor Mrs Helen Shaw be re-appointed as Vice Chairman for the coming year.

Councillor Mrs Shaw also thanked her fellow colleagues for their continued support.

4/21 QUESTIONS FROM PARISHIONERS

A resident who lived near to the former antiques shop asked Councillor Mrs Wilson if she could outline her plans for the building. He was concerned about the lack of parking in that area which could impinge on his property.

Councillor Mrs Wilson stated that she had outline plans to change the building into a clinic for breast milk storage. She hoped it could become a breast milk bank which was unique to this area. The plans had not yet been formally submitted but she agreed to keep the resident informed of developments.

On behalf of the UVA a resident asked if it would be possible for the Parish Council to contribute towards the cost of the hanging baskets this year. The Parish Council had paid £200 last year and agreed to pay £100 this year.

A query was raised about the Parish Council contributions to the churchyard grass cutting. The costs had increased this year and the PCC asked what the Parish Council were prepared to contribute.

The Parish Council had budgeted for a contribution of up to £1500.

Councillor Mrs Shaw had raised a query with Widdrington Station and Stobswood Parish Council to see if they would be willing to begin paying towards the costs again, but she had not received a response.

Councillor Mrs Wilson asked if it would be possible to acquire some anti-littering posters for the park area. There seemed to be an increase in litter such as drink cartons etc being left.

The Clerk would source some posters.

The Chairman reported that he had been contacted by a resident who claimed to have had a large number of cigarette cartons deposited in his garden and into the hedge. He had asked if something could be included in the newsletter regarding littering.

It was suggested that a slimline bin could be sited near to the bus stop which may help with the problem. The County Council would need to agree to empty the bin.

The Clerk agreed to obtain prices.

The resident had also brought up the speed indicator sign and had questioned the data on speeding.

5/21 MINUTES

Members were asked to approve the notes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17 August 2020.

In relation to Minute 2/20 the Chairman reported that cameras had been acquired by the Druridge Bay Regeneration Partnership to use up remaining funds and these could be circulated around the area.

In relation to 5/20, the Chairman reported that permission had been given to install a water connection across the meadows area. A fee had been paid to the Parish Council.

RESOLVED – The minutes be approved.

6/21 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

RESOLVED - The following appointments to outside bodies were agreed:

- (i) Sisters Wind Farm Community Benefits Fund Committee – Councillor J Scott
- (ii) Ulgham Village Committee – All Councillors were members of this Committee through the UVA or Playing Fields.
- (iii) Druridge Bay Regeneration Partnership – Councillors Mrs H Shaw and Mrs L Newman

7/21 CORRESPONDENCE

(i) Zurich Insurance – annual renewal of insurance

The Clerk reported that the annual renewal of insurance had been received from Zurich at a cost of £563.14 for 2021-22.

RESOLVED – The Parish Council agreed to renew the insurance with Zurich.

(ii) Northumberland Association of Local Councils (NALC) – Nominations to County Committee

Requests for nominations to the above Committee had been received from NALC who had written to the Clerks of East Chevington, Widdrington Station & Stobswood, Widdrington Village and Ulgham Parish Councils. Nominations were requested by 25th May.

Councillor Mrs Wilson was willing to be nominated.

RESOLVED – The Clerk would advise NALC of the nomination of Councillor Mrs Wilson by the deadline date.

(iii) Email from the manager of the Northumberland Communities Together Food Partnership – Morpeth Group

The Clerk reported that an email had been received from the above organisation asking to make contact with any groups who they could network with to discuss a vision and delivery platform for the kind of food system needed for the future.

The Clerk was asked to pass the email to the UVA

(iv) Wor Bella project

The Clerk reported that an email had been received from a Northumberland born internationally produced playwright from Tyneside who was putting on two plays in March 2022 about WW1 Munitionette footballers. One was based in Northumberland and was called 'Howay the Lasses' and one was about Bella Reay one of the ladies who played for Blyth Spartan Ladies League.

The playwright was asking all parish and town councils in the area to promote these plays in newsletters and their websites. The information had been sent to Helen Dunn for the newsletter and would be placed on the website.

8/21 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

(i) Ulgham Village Committee

There had been no meetings of the UVA.

9/21 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

- (a) Clerk, May 21 salary, expenses, mileage £158.92
- (b) HMRC – paye payment, Clerk - £91.60
- (c) Zurich Insurance annual renewal - £563.14

- (d) Ulgham PCC cutting of churchyard 50% cost of five cuts - £450
- (e) J M Champion – grass cutting in the village/cutting of meadow - £450

10/21 REPORTS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

The Chairman reported that there had been a burned-out car in the meadow last year that had driven through the gate. Arrangements had been made to have a stile installed.

Councillor Towns stated that he would be having a drive around the area with the Highways Manager and they would be looking at the road leading to the Croft and at Ulgham Lane as the condition of the roads was generally poor.

He was also looking at having a new dropped kerb installed on the opposite side of the road to Woodlands. This would accommodate a resident who used a wheelchair being able to access the bus stop safely.

He also reported that he had received some complaints regarding one of the properties being re-developed at Ulgham Grange and he had referred that to planning enforcement.

11/21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on Monday 21st June 2021 in the WI Hall, Ulgham at 7.00 p.m.