

ULGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held in the Women's Institute Hall on Monday 21st February 2022

Councillor J Scott (in the Chair)

Councillors G Brown, Mrs H Shaw and Mrs D Wilson

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mrs L Newman

County Councillor D Towns was in attendance.

Nine parishioners were also in attendance.

63/21 QUESTIONS FROM PARISHIONERS

The Chair mentioned that Adrian Jonas was in attendance to give a presentation at the end of the meeting regarding vehicle to grid technology. Everyone was welcome to stay for the presentation.

A resident mentioned a problem when she was litter picking. She was picking up a large number of empty vodka bottles. The community police officer would monitor the area concerned. There had also been reports of a large number of cans at the nature reserve and into the ford.

She also mentioned she was concerned at the water quality in the river. The resident said the EA would need to look into this. Another resident who had experience in this field said that river water could not be examined at this time of the year. This was likely run off from the land that was causing the water to foam and this would disappear later in the year. Another resident suggested getting the water tested in the Spring. The Rivers Trust would have a map showing overflow from sewage works. He stated that there were 79 offences of this type last year. Councillor Mrs Shaw mentioned that she had had a long communication from an environmental protection officer at NCC about fires. She may be a good person to contact.

A resident said that he had mentioned about the chevron sign at the north end of the village being down about 6 months ago and nothing had happened. The Clerk said that if it was mentioned she would have reported it but would chase it up.

64/21 MINUTES

Members were asked to approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17th January 2022.

The Chair reported that it was expected that a representative of Sanders would attend the meeting in March. He stated that something had appeared on social media about an application for the haul road which he was surprised at as the Parish Council had not been informed. The information had been checked and was mostly historical. The application was still at the pre-planning stage and discussions were ongoing.

In relation to minute 57/21 (ii), Councillor Mrs Shaw asked if it was too late to send in a response to the Storm Arwen Review Task and Finish group. She felt that problems were caused as an emergency was not declared soon enough.

Councillor Towns stated that there were several issues, the timescales given by the power company were not met and there was poor communication.

Councillor Mrs Shaw said that lessons should be learned from this as with climate change, these storm events would happen more often, and an emergency plan should be in place. She felt there was too much reliance on communities managing these situations themselves.

RESOLVED – The minutes be approved.

65/21 CORRESPONDENCE

(i) Request for donation from Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)

A letter had been received from the above organisation seeking donations towards their work.

RESOLVED – A donation of £100 be made to the CAB.

66/21 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Changes had taken place at the UVA following the AGM held on 27th January.

Thanks were expressed to the outgoing team of officials at the UVA.

Discussion had taken place about how the village had managed during the period of Covid, how a successful firework display had been held, the VE/VJ event was managed and the hanging baskets had been a success.

There had been a huge effort from the community during Covid and Storm Arwen. A big success was the regular UVA which was distributed during Covid. Thanks were expressed to the Rendezvous for operating as much as they could and it was hoped to get back to a rota in the following week. A new project was the printed newsletter which was being trialled and appeared to be successful. The next meeting would be on the 3rd March at 7.30 p.m. and everyone was welcome to attend.

67/21 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

- (a) Clerk, February 2022 salary and mileage - £154.66
- (b) HMRC – PAYE payment, Clerk - £91.60
- (c) JM Champion – first payment for emptying dog waste bins (to be paid on 1/4/22) - £500
- (d) H Shaw – reimbursement of expenses incurred - £36.37

68/21 REPORTS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

Councillor Mrs Shaw stated that she had got in touch with the animal officer at NCC to ask for advice about how to deal with people who pick up dog waste, bag it and then leave it. The officer had said that leaflets were not being printed at the moment. It was felt that something should appear in the newsletter this month and next month to remind dog owners to pick up and disposing of the bag correctly.

Councillor Mrs Shaw had asked NCC about people having bonfires and whether there were any rules about this. She was advised there were only guidelines and these would be displayed and included in the newsletter about bonfires.

69/21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on Monday 21ST March 2022 in the WI Hall, Ulgham at 7.00 p.m.