

WHITTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 16th January 2018 in Great Whittington Village Hall
(Subject to Parish Council approval)**

PRESENT: Councillor S Gregory, Chairman of the Council together with Cllr A Williamson and Cllr P Martin
Also present: Mrs M Senior – Clerk
 County Councillor Veronica Jones

1333. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Mrs E J Tiffen

1334. MINUTES of the meeting held on **21st November 2017** having been circulated were taken as read and confirmed as a true record.

1335. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. None

1336. BADGERS END. Tony Baker attended the meeting to discuss the pre-planning application submitted to NCC for a new access into the development. Mr Baker had met with the Village Hall committee and members of the Parish Council in August 2017. A response had been received from NCC re the new access and they had stated that it was not advisable to create an access via the Village Hall. There would be legal issues to overcome with crossing part of the Village Hall garden and NCC felt that this would make the development too domineering. Mr Baker had offered to make some improvements to the Village Hall including the tarmacking of the car park, creating a new access to the side and pebble dashing the building. Mr Baker is to forward the response from NCC to the pre-planning application to the clerk who will circulate to all councillors. The councillors will meet to discuss this further.

1337. MATTERS ARISING.

- a) **ROAD SIGNS.** Minute 1324b. Cllr A Williamson queried the position of the signs and the priorities. Cllr Mrs V Jones is to take this up with the Highways technical team. The farm traffic sign is still to be installed and the signs at Hallington Mill are to be replaced.
- b) **WAR MEMORIAL SEAT.** Minute 1325a. Cllr S Gregory is to inspect the seat.
- c) **LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN PROGRAMME.** It was noted that the priority should be the resurfacing of the Great Whittington to Ryal road. It was also noted that the verge had been dug up on the Rowers Bower road and hogging had been dumped at the side of the road. Cllr S Gregory had received no response from Highways Dept. County Councillor Mrs V Jones will chase this up.
- d) **GRITTING.** County Councillor Mrs V Jones will chase this up.

1338. PLANNING MATTERS

- a) It was noted that a large mound of earth had appeared on the opposite side of the road from Telephone Exchange. This will be reported to NCC Planning Department.

REFERENCE	ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION
17/03439/VARYCO	Farm Buildings, North Clarewood Farm	Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) pursuant to planning permission 15/04228/FUL. Repositioning of windows and amendments to internal layout in order to retain original window openings. Redesign of previously approved extension to south side of Unit B to incorporate existing stone walls. GRANTED
17/03432/FUL	Land at North West of The Whiggs, Great Whittington	Proposed open air equestrian arena with change of use of land from agricultural to equestrian. GRANTED
16/00013/FUL	Land North of North Cottage, Great Whittington	Erection of single storey detached dwelling house with rooms in the roof. GRANTED
17/03959/LBC	The Temperance, Great Whittington	Listed Building Consent for the removal of existing single glazed windows and replacing with new single glazed timber windows with side opening, secondary glazing internally. GRANTED
17/04114/FUL	Great Whittington Telephone Exchange	Resubmission: Proposed change of use Sui Generis to C3 dwelling house (holiday accommodation) including single storey extension and small dormer window. GRANTED

1339. EXPENDITURE AUTHORISATION:

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	CHEQUE	VAT	NET	CHQ NO
J Cotton Ltd	Grass cutting	148.80	24.80	124.00	010674
Mrs A Senior	Clerical Services	140.00		140.00	010675
H M Revenue & Customs	PAYE	35.00		35.00	010676
Mrs A Senior	Expenses – postage/phone	42.05		42.05	010677
Great Whittington V/hall	Hall hire – May – Nov 2017	60.00		60.00	010678
Jo Anne Garrick Ltd	Neighbourhood Plan	450.00		450.00	010679

WHITTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

1340. NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN.

Confirmation is awaited from NCC Planning Department. Once confirmation has been received then the plan will be ready to submit to Northumberland County Council who will commence their 6-week consultation period.

1341. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT.

County Councillor Mrs V Jones gave her verbal report on matters relating to NCC.

- a) **GRITTING.** It was noted that NCC are gritting the roads through Great Whittington although is not a priority route.
- b) **RESURFACING WORK.** It was noted that the Ryal to Great Whittington road will receive attention in the new financial year. This will be funded from the pothole fund. The Bingfield road is to have micro surfacing carried out. The potholes will be filled and then the road will be sealed. This should be carried out by the end of this financial year.
- c) **NCC WEBSITE.** The NCC website is being upgraded and will be a lot more reactive.

1342. VILLAGE HALL AND THE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT.

- a) **VILLAGE HALL.** The Village Hall committee is to obtain prices to finish off the work to the handrail. This is a health and safety issue. The Parish Council had agreed to fund the work.

1343. HIGHWAYS MATTERS.

- a) **POT HOLE.** There is a large pothole on the road out of the village towards Matfen going east. Cllr Mrs V Jones will report this.
- b) **GREAT WHITTINGTON TO ROSES BOWER ROAD.** Cllr S Gregory had drafted a letter to the Highways Department regarding the state of this road. Cllr Mrs V Jones had taken the Highway Inspector to look at the road before Christmas however no action had been taken. Letter will be sent to Highways Department requesting action.

1344. TO CONSIDER BUDGET AND PRECEPT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2018/2019.

A draft budget had been prepared and circulated to all councillors. It was agreed to add £500 into contingency. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr A Williamson, seconded by Cllr P Martin and AGREED to levy a precept of £4350 on NCC for the 2018/2019 financial year. This remains the same as the previous year.

1345. CORRESPONDENCE.

All correspondence received since the November meeting had been listed on the agenda and was duly noted.

1346. EXTERNAL AUDITOR.

PKF Littlejohn LLP had been appointed external auditors for the period 2017-2022. The Annual Return will now be known as the Annual Governance and Accountability Return and will be sent out after the end of the financial year.

1347. TRAINING SESSIONS – PLANNING.

Northumberland County Council are holding further training sessions for Town and Parish Councils on Development Management/Planning Update. The training is to be delivered on Thursday 1st February 2018 from 6pm – 8pm in Dene Park House, Hexham.

1348. INFORMATION ITEMS.

Copies of all information items are available from the Clerk on request.

- Campaign to Protect Rural England – Countryside Voice Winter 2017
- Clerks and Councils Direct – January 2018
- NALC – weekly eNews
- LCR – Winter 2017

1349. NOTICE BOARD.

Mrs Senior provided information/costs for a replacement noticeboard. It was AGREED to purchase a wooden notice board from Greenbarnes. An A2 landscape glazed noticeboard (SBA2L) is to be ordered with Whittington Parish Council lettering. Cllr A Williamson is to ask the Village Hall committee if the noticeboard can be erected on the side of the Village Hall. It was felt that the current position is unsuitable. Once agreement has been reached on the location of the noticeboard, Mrs Senior will order.

1350. GREAT WHITTINGTON MEMORIAL.

Cllr A Williamson had received an email asking if the Parish Council knew the whereabouts of the WW1 Great Whittington Memorial. Cllr Williamson advised that the memorial may have been located in the garage of a resident. Historical Archives had come to see the memorial and took photos however it would appear that they did not take the memorial away. It was felt that the Parish Council should ask for the memorial to be returned to the Parish for safekeeping.

1351. GRASS CUTTING.

Cllr Mrs C Edy was to speak to residents to see if the grass cutting around the war memorial in Hallington can be arranged.

1352. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 20th March 2018 at 19:30 in Great Whittington Village Hall.

Chairman