

WHITTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 23 July 2019 at 7.30pm in Great Whittington Village Hall (Subject to Parish Council approval)

PRESENT: Councillor S Gregory, Chairman of the Council together with Councillors P Martin, A Williamson, E Gillam and J Sadler

Also present: Mrs M Senior, Clerk to the Council

1503. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr K Laing and County Councillor Mrs V Jones

1504. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None

1505. MINUTES of the meeting held on **14 May 2019** having been circulated were taken as read and confirmed as a true record.

1506. MATTERS ARISING.

a) **FOOTPATH SIGN.** Minute 1500 refers. This had been reported to NCC.

b) **WAR MEMORIAL.** Minute 1510a refers. Chris Bryce had raised £500 from 2 events towards the War Memorial Fund. He is looking at an outdoor memorial and is aware of the conditions and criteria re the War Memorials Trust. He would like to attend the next meeting to discuss his progress/plans. The names on the small Great Whittington Memorial are duplicated on the war memorials in Corbridge and Matten. It was questioned whether a name can be on more than 1 memorial. Cllr A Williamson is to contact the War Memorials Commission or Royal British Legion to enquire as to the conditions and criteria of providing a war memorial.

1507. PLANNING MATTERS

a)

| REFERENCE | ADDRESS | DESCRIPTION |
|-----------------|---|--|
| 19/00975/FUL | Land to South East of the Lodge, South Farm, Hallington | Proposed change of use of part of an existing grazing field by constructing a menage / outdoor equestrian arena for personal use. |
| 19/01363/FUL | Land West of High Baulk Farm, Great Whittington | General purpose agricultural building. GRANTED |
| 19/01887/VARYCO | Woodland Barn, West Bingfield | Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) pursuant to planning application 18/02320/FUL in order to change the design of the building |
| 19/00433/FUL | Land to North of Bingfield House, Bingfield | Retrospective application for removal of approximately 10 x 3m of verge (edged red on Plan 1) in order to widen access way to Bingfield Farmstead GRANTED |

b) **ENFORCEMENT ISSUES.**

- Planning application 19/01701/AGTRES. Not circulated to the Parish Council for comment as it is a permitted development application.
- The information regarding the claimed land on the Ryal road had been passed to enforcement for investigation. Cllr A Williamson would be happy to meet onsite if necessary.

1508. FINANCE

a) **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

| PAYEE | DESCRIPTION | CHEQUE | VAT | NET | CHQ NO |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------|------|--------|----------|
| Mrs A Senior | Clerical services | 152.00 | | 152.00 | 010732 |
| H M Revenue & Customs | PAYE | 38.00 | | 38.00 | 010733 |
| J C Accountants | Internal audit | 36.00 | 6.00 | 30.00 | 010734 |
| Income | | | | | |
| Northern Electric | Wayleave | 15.22 | | 15.22 | 29.05.19 |

1509. GREAT WHITTINGTON VILLAGE HALL AND THE VILLAGE ENVIROMENT.

Cllr J Sadler gave an update on matters relating to the Village Hall. The Village Hall has a new website <https://greatwhittingtonvillagehall.co.uk>. A link to the Parish Council website will be included. It was noted that the gate post had collapsed and the wall to the rear of the Village Hall was in need of repair. The Parish Council has £250 allocated in its budget to the Village Hall which could be used towards the repairs. Cllr J Sadler mentioned the possibility of Electric Vehicle Charging Points at the Village Hall.

A discussion took place over the use of the Village Hall's alcohol stock by private events. This will be looked into.

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1510. COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND HIGHWAYS MATTERS.

- a) **WEBSITE.** The website needs to be updated. Mrs M Senior will arrange for this to be done.
- b) **TREES.** It was AGREED to give the go ahead to Arborforce to carry out the work on the trees as specified in the tree assessment report. Confirmation of a health and safety plan will be requested. The trees around the Old Blacksmiths Shop will be hard pruned away from the building. A survey will need to be carried out to assess the damage the Rowan Tree roots could cause or heave, if removed. Any wires encroaching on the electricity wires are the responsibility of NEDL.
Cllr S Gregory had spoken to Simon Ogg regarding the replanting of trees. Suggestions are; White Beam, Field Maple, Rowan, Flowering Cherry. Councillors will meet with Simon Ogg to discuss further. Trees of 7-8 feet high will be purchased to replace the felled trees.
- c) **CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN.** John Roberts is to follow up on a conservation management plan for Whittington Parish.
- d) **HEDGE.** A hedge has been planted on the verge near to the crossroads at Hallington which could cause a problem with sight lines at the junction. This will be reported to NCC Highways.
- e) **SKIP.** There is a skip in the road in Great Whittington which has no lights or cones. NCC will be contacted.

1511. **LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN PROGRAMME 2020-21.** This was deferred to the September meeting.

1512. **LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN FEEDBACK 2019-20.** Feedback on the priorities submitted for 2019-20 is listed below together with any action taken.

| Priorities | Included | Comments |
|--|----------|--|
| Installation of rumble strips either end of Great Whittington village by 30mph signs | NO | May not be appropriate for agricultural village. Installation of rumble strips could lead to residents complaining about excessive noise and vibration when farm traffic negotiates them. |
| Resurfacing of Bingfield Road | NO | The maintenance issue has been recorded and will be considered when developing future planned maintenance programmes. In the meantime Area Maintenance teams will continue to monitor and carry out any minor works required to maintain a safe condition. |
| Resurfacing of Great Whittington to Roses Bower | NO | As above |

1513. **NORTHUMBERLAND DAY 2020.** Northumberland Day 2020 is involving Parish/Town Councils in challenge to support the day. It is a relay between parishes and/or WI or other community groups within a village/town location who sign up to take part. The group would pass a flag, not a baton and will start at some point in spring 2020, according to how many parishes participate. The relay will start at one end of the county and end at the other. Parish 1 is given the Big Northumberland Day Flag (4m x 2m) and is tasked with getting it to the next parish in the relay by the most innovative means possible, whilst also creating an interesting, animated, show stopping photo of the flag in the parish. That parish then passes it to the next, in another interesting way and so on until the flag reaches the final participating parish, just before Northumberland Day 2020 (24th May 2020).

1514. **THE QUEENS HEAD.** Confirmation received that the Queens Head Public House has been listed in the Public Register of Assets of Community Value for five years.

1515. **GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY POLICY.** There are occasions when a Member of a Parish Council may wish to declare the receipt of a gift or hospitality to avoid unwarranted imputations. There is a form available to complete should the need arise. The form should also be used to record any hospitality received in the course of Council duties.

1516. INFORMATION ITEMS.

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

- NALC – weekly eNews
- Clerks and Councils Direct – July 2019 Issue 124

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- Campaign to Protect Rural England – North East Newsletter Summer 2019

1517. DATE OF NEXT MEETING. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 17 September 2019 at 19:30 in Great Whittington Village Hall.

_____ Chairman