

## WHITTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 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

**1518. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – None

**1519. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None

**1520. MINUTES** of the meeting held on **23 July 2019** having been circulated were taken as read and confirmed as a true record.

**1521. MATTERS ARISING.**

- a) **RESIGNATION OF A PARISH COUNCILLOR.** Kevin Laing had resigned after the last meeting.
- b) **WAR MEMORIAL.** Minute 1506b refers. Cllr S Gregory had contact Chris Bryce who was unable to attend the meeting. He has identified 8 soldiers from Great Whittington who died in WW1. He has raised enough money to provide a memorial in the shape of a mill stone. It is to be located in the dry stone wall of the Village Hall. Ladycutter quarry is supplying the stone free of charge. Nick Rowsell is to engrave the stone and it is hoped to have the memorial in place for Remembrance Sunday.
- c) **ENFORCEMENT ISSUES.** Minute 1507 refers. Cllr S Gregory had spoken to planning enforcement about the works on the roadside. This is a civil matter between the landowner and whoever had carried out the work.
- d) **HEDGE.** Minute 1510d refers. The newly planted hedge at Hallington crossroads had been reported to NCC. This will be chased.

**1522. PLANNING MATTERS**

- a) **ENFORCEMENT ISSUES.** Land beside Orchard Barn, West Bingfield. The planning enforcement officer has written to the land owner in relation to the works which have been carried out at the site.

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 area for personal use. <b>GRANTED</b>
19/02131/FUL	Derelict Barn South of Bingfield Farm, Bingfield	Creation of a new access and driveway
19/02177/FUL	Land to West of Hallington Mill, Hallington	Siting of a caravan and shed, on land at Hallington Mill for commercial horticultural purposes. Planning permission requested for a temporary period of 3 years with a view to gaining planning permission for a permanent timber shed after 3 years. (Retrospective)
19/01363/FUL	Land at West of High Baulk Farm, Great Whittington	General purpose agricultural building <b>GRANTED</b>
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. <b>WITHDRAWN</b>

**1523. FINANCE**

a) **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	CHEQUE	VAT	NET	CHQ NO
Mrs A Senior	Clerical services	152.00		152.00	010735
H M Revenue & Customs	PAYE	38.00		38.00	010736
Mrs A Senior	Expenses – Postages/Travel	56.13		56.13	010737
Great Whittington Village Hall	Rent – July – September 19	30.00		30.00	010738

**1524. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT.** County Councillor Mrs V Jones was unable to attend the meeting.

**1525. GREAT WHITTINGTON VILLAGE HALL AND THE VILLAGE ENVIROMENT.** The Village Hall AGM had been held last week and both Louise and Liz Treadway had stood down. A new chair is still to be appointed. It was noted that John Roberts had joined the committee. The upstairs offices had been refurbished by Anvil Homes and were being used. Monthly coffee mornings are

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ongoing and Highlights Rural Touring Company have two events coming up on 5 October and in December. John Sadler agreed to publicise the Parish Council meeting on the black board outside the Village Hall a few days before the meeting. A flyer advertising the Parish Council meeting will be printed and distributed with the Church newsletter. A Parish Council update will be produced after each meeting and posted on the notice board together with the minutes.

**1526. COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND HIGHWAYS MATTERS.**

- There is a large pot hole on the road from Great Whittington to Matfen on the bend. This had been reported as urgent to NCC however had not been repaired. This will be chased.
- It was noted some trees had been felled on the Bingfield road.
- The speed of farm vehicles travelling through Great Whittington was discussed. It was AGREED to write to the farm advising of the villagers concerns and asking for the farm vehicles to drive carefully through the village.

**1527. TREES.** Letters had been received from 2 residents expressing concerns over the trees on the village green. Trees are causing concern and upset for some residents over the proximity of the trees to their properties. It was AGREED to obtain another survey to assess the impact of the trees on residents' houses. Additional work will need to be carried out. Replanting of trees still needs to be agreed and a memorial tree will be planted in memory of Jessie Tiffen. Arborforce is to begin the tree works on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

**1528. NORTHUMBRIA IN BLOOM.** In 2013 and 2014 Northumbria in Bloom voted Great Whittington the best kept village. This was due to a dedicated group of villagers who worked hard to bring people together to make the village look the best. This group disbanded several years ago and unfortunately no-one had taken up this role since. A resident would like to inspire other residents to look after the area outside of their properties and spend an hour per month improving the main road through the village. A flyer had been produced and the Parish Council were happy for this to be distributed throughout the village. After discussion, it was AGREED to gauge the interest of the residents before registering with Northumbria in Bloom.

**1529. LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN PROGRAMME 2020-21.** NCC is asking Parish Councils to submit their top three highways and transport priority issues so they can be considered for inclusion in the LTP Programme for 2020/21. It was agreed to put forward the following priorities:

- a) Resurfacing of the road north of Hallington High Farm.
- b) Passing places on the Bingfield road.

Feedback had been received on the priorities put forward for the 2019/20 LTP. The results are below:

Priority	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 in a safe condition.
Resurfacing of Great Whittington to Roses Bower Road	No	As above.

**1530. CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND.** The AGM of CPRE had been held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2019 in Ponteland. An invitation had been sent to all councillors.

**1531. NORTHUMBERLAND LOCAL PLAN.** The Northumberland Local Plan was submitted to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government on 29 May 2019. As part of the examination, the first phase of public hearing sessions will be held in October at Morpeth Town Hall. Further details of the examination, including the programme for the hearing sessions, is available on the Local Plan Examination website at <https://northumberland-consult.objective.co.uk/protal/planning/localplan/lp-exam>.

**1532. SPORT TYNEDALE.** A request by Sport Tynedale for grant aid had been received. It was AGREED to grant £50.

**1533. CHANGES TO WATER RESOURCES ABSTRACTION LICENCES FOR PREVIOUSLY EXEMPT ACTIVITIES.** Changes to abstraction licences came into effect on 1 January 2018. If more than 20 cubic metres (20 litres) of water per day for any of the previously exempt activities is abstracted

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they now need to apply to the Environment Agency for a water resources abstraction licence. Additional information and applying for a licence can be found at <http://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/environment-and-business/removing-previously-exempt-abstraction-activities/>. To apply for a licence, applicants can go to [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk).

- 1534. TOUR OF WEST SLEEKBURN RECYCLING FACILITY.** Further tours of the West Sleekburn Recycling Facility have been arranged for November and December.
- 1535. 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL TOWN AND PARISH COUNCIL CONFERENCE.** The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Town and Parish Council Conference will take place on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at County Hall. There will be a Marketplace with refreshments available in the Restaurant from 2pm. There will be a single conference session beginning at 4pm and concluding at approximately 6pm.
- 1536. INFORMATION ITEMS.**  
Copies of all information items are available from the Clerk on request.
- NALC – weekly eNews
  - Clerks and Councils Direct – September 2019 Issue 125
  - Campaign to Protect Rural England – Countryside Voice
  - LCR – Summer 2019
  - Community Action Northumberland – CAN News – Summer 2019 July 2019 issue
  - Northumberland County Council – Waste leaflets and stickers
- 1537. PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE.** The company which hosts the Whittington PC website and domain name is closing down and as a temporary measure is now being hosted at NetNerd. MorpethNet who maintain our website is also closing and have suggested that the Parish Council find an alternative supplier of website, hosting and domain services. The Parish Council currently pay £100 per year to maintain the website plus hosting fees. The clerk had created a dummy website which would cost £50 per year to host and she will be able to carry out all amendments. It was AGREED to go with the new website [www.whittingtonparishcouncil.org](http://www.whittingtonparishcouncil.org). Mandy Senior will add all the information and make the site live.
- 1538. VACANCY FOR A PARISH COUNCILLOR.** The statutory notice had been displayed and as no request for a by election had been received, the Parish Council is able to co-opt at their earliest convenience. Cllr S Gregory advised that Steve Wheaton had expressed an interest but was unable to attend the meeting. He will be invited to attend the November meeting.
- 1539. DEFIBRILLATOR.** There is a campaign to provide a defibrillator in Hallington. It was noted that Chris Bryce had arranged the defibrillator in Great Whittington. Cllr P Martin to contact Chris Bryce.
- 1540. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 19 November 2019 at 19:30 in Great Whittington Village Hall.

\_\_\_\_\_ Chairman