

WHITTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ONLINE MEETING OF WHITTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 19 JANUARY 2021 AT 7.00PM

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

Also present: Mrs M Senior, Clerk to the Council
County Councillor Mrs V Jones

0121.01 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – None

0121.02 **MINUTES** of the meeting held on **17 November 2020** having been circulated were taken as read and confirmed as a true record.

0121.03 **ITEMS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

a) **Bingfield Road.** Minute 1120.03a refers. This issue is still ongoing. Cllr S Gregory is in contact with NCC. Unfortunately, NCC had still not cleared the debris from the coach crash several months ago.

0121.04 **COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT.** Cllr Mrs Jones gave her verbal report on matters relating to NCC and local issues relating to Whittington Parish.

a) **Speeding.** Cllr Mrs Jones had asked the Road Safety Officer whether signs could be erected stating 'Twenty's Plenty'. NCC would not allow this as it would lead to confusion in a 30mph zone. The Parish Council could request a 20mph limit in Great Whittington through the LTP scheme 2021/22. Cllr Mrs Jones advised that she would support this and look to fund through her members scheme. It was suggested that a meeting could be arranged with the Parish Council, the Police and NCC Road Safety Officer to discuss options. A speed survey will be carried out by NCC and the police will be involved should the data from the survey warrant it. Enforcement of the speed limit is a police issue.

b) **Covid-19.** The roll out of the vaccine is going well and Northumberland is just finishing the first group of over 80s and starting with the over 75s. There had been some confusion over the regional centres offering vaccines. Residents are not obliged to go to these centres if they are too far way or they cannot get there. GPs will contact residents when they are due a vaccine. NCC has taken in laptops and tablets to give to people who need them for home schooling/working from home.

0121.05 **PLANNING MATTERS**

REFERENCE	ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION
20/02462/LBC 20/02461/FUL	Hallington Hall, Hallington	New build garaging area (2 buildings, one 4 no spaces, one 2 no spaces) and associated works, with conversion and extension of adjacent potting shed for home office/WC use. GRANTED
20/03460/FUL	Hallington Mill, Hallington	Retrospective change of use from C3 dwelling house to C1 guest accommodation. GRANTED
20/03952/FUL	Land West of Strawberry House, Great Whittington	Change of use of land to equestrian use including erection of stables and hardstanding and hay store/garden store (Part retrospective)
20/04257/LBC	Town Farm Cottage, Great Whittington	Listed building consent for installation of 2no conservation rooflights and replacement of 2no existing rooflights to rear elevation

0121.06 **FINANCE**

a) **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.** Payments were reviewed and it was AGREED to approve the items of expenditure on the list previously circulated.

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	CHEQUE	VAT	NET	CHQ NO
Mrs A Senior	Clerical services	160.00		160.00	010784
HM Revenue and Customs	PAYE	40.00		40.00	010785
Corbridge Parish Council	SLCC subscription	17.20		17.20	010786
Calico UK Ltd	Website domain	28.80	4.80	24.00	010787
Mrs A Senior	Postages	26.14		26.14	010788

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- b) **TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE ACCOUNTS UP TO 31ST DECEMBER 2020.** Accounts up to 31st December 2020 were accepted and approved. It was noted that the bank account balance as at 31st December 2020 was £10194.83.

0121.07 **GREAT WHITTINGTON VILLAGE HALL AND THE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT.** It was noted that the Village Hall were running a foodbank from the hall by supporting the Matfen and Stamfordham Churches Support Group. The foodbank had been temporarily suspended due to a stock take. More work is needed on getting information out to people in the Parish. Cllr S Gregory is to liaise with Joyce Roberts to distribute a flyer around the parish with a view to encouraging residents to register on the Village Hall website for the newsletter/communications. It was suggested that a flyer could be distributed with the church newsletter.

0121.08 **TO RECEIVE COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND HIGHWAYS MATTERS**

- a) **FLOODING AT HALLINGTON.** This had been reported and temporary warning signs had been placed either side of the flood. No work to rectify the issue had been carried out.
- b) **GREAT WHITTINGTON MINI QUARRY.** NCC had received several complaints regarding land in and around Great Whittington. Planning enforcement is currently investigating and will determine the land's future use as the investigation progresses.

0121.09 **CORRESPONDENCE.** All correspondence received since the November meeting had been noted and most has been circulated to all councillors by email.

- a) **Bingfield Alpacas** had contacted Cllr S Gregory regarding 3 incidents in December with the Tynedale Hunt coming through their land and distressing the alpacas. They have registered with the Hounds Off website which had been acknowledged by the Hunt Secretary however the Hunt are not making any attempt to keep off their land. After discussion, it was AGREED that this was not a Parish Council matter and should be directed to the police.

0121.10 **INFORMATION ITEMS.**

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

- NALC – weekly eNews
- Community Action Northumberland – CAN eNews November 2020
- Campaign to Protect Rural England – Countryside Voices – Autumn/Winter 2020
- Northumberland County Council – temporary road closure order; Robin Well Junction to Ryal C222- 18th January 2021
- Northumberland County Council – iNorthumberland update
- Clerks and Councils Direct – Publication No 133 – January 2021

0121.11 **ANY URGENT BUSINESS [FOR INFORMATION ONLY].**

- a) **LITTER BINS.** The new litter bin had been delivered by NCC and will be installed once the weather improves and the current lockdown restrictions have been lifted.
- b) **DOG FOULING.** Simon Ogg had erected the new signs around the village however dog fouling is still evident in the village.
- c) **TREE WORKS.** The rowan trees outside the Old Blacksmiths Cottage will be removed once the current lockdown restrictions have been lifted. It was noted that the tree stumps on the verge opposite the Village Hall are a trip hazard.
- d) **HEDGE REMOVAL.** It was noted that a hedge had been removed without permission in Southlands while building work is being carried out.

0121.12 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.** The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 9 March 2021 at 7pm. The advice from NALC/SLCC currently is for Parish Councils to still meet virtually.

Chairman