

## A Meeting of Whittingham, Callaly and Alnham Parish Council Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2021, via Zoom at 7:00pm

**Present:** Chair Ian Lepingwell (IL), Councillors: B Wood (BW) K Armstrong (KA), A Young (AY), C Durie (CD) J Renner (JD), A Whincup (AW), S Gray (SG) Lord Ravensworth (LR)

R Bateson (RB) H Sordy (HS)

**In Attendance:** Lesley Long (Clerk)

### ITEM

#### 36/21 Public Questions

The Clerk reported that there were no public questions.

#### 37/21 Apologies for Absence & Declaration of Interest

K Turvey. There were no declarations of interest.

#### 38/21 Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Tuesday February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

The Minutes were ACCEPTED as a true record.

#### 39/21 Matters Arising

- i. **Dangerous Tree on Eslington / Netherton Road:** The Clerk reported that NCC Highways had not responded to 2 emails requesting details of the S154 Notice and landowner. The Clerk will seek further advice. **ACTION - Clerk**
- ii. **Text for website History Page.** The text has been uploaded.
- iii. **Progress on Ground Clearance for private footpath** AW reported the initial groundwork was complete. AY will put the contractor in touch with AW, who is overseeing the project. The hardcore for the path will be delivered direct to the site, rather than stored off site and double-dropped. **ACTION AY & AW**
- iv. **Risk Assessment for users of the private footpath.** – AW confirmed he will prepare the risk assessment and take supporting photographs for the Clerk to send to the insurers as soon as construction of the path is complete. **ACTION AW & Clerk**
- v. **Whittingham Scout Group request for storage space.** AW reported that there was a location behind the Village Hall on which the Ravensworth Estate was agreeable to the Scouts placing a container. CD had put the Scout Leader in touch with Gareth Williams from Tarmac to source a container.
- vi. **Citizens Advice Northumberland – Request for Donation.** The council elected not to donate.
- vii. **Landowners Meeting with Steven Bridget** re BOAT applications. There was nothing to report.

**40/21 Tarmac Community Engagement** Tarmac have indicated that they are willing to help with future community projects. The contact is Gareth Williams, Quarry Manager.

#### 41/21 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 – Section 53

- i. **Withdrawal of Objection to DMMO Orders, 9,11, 12 & 13** Following receipt of advice from NCC Legal Services and the Parish Clerk, the parish council DECIDED to withdraw its original objection to the above Orders. The Clerk to inform NCC Legal Services. **ACTION - Clerk**
- ii. **Pre-Order Consultation – Eslington. Alleged Bridleway/Byeway No 28 (Points K- L)** The Parish Council had received a Notice of Consultation as a Statutory Consultee. It was concluded the parish council had no comments to submit. **ACTION - Clerk**

**42/21 Highway Matters.** The Clerk will follow up with Cllr Steven Bridgett, as the temporary repair works have not been undertaken within the stated timeframe. **ACTION Clerk**

**43/21 Planning**

- i. **21-00619-OHL** – Northern Powergrid pole and line replacement- NEUTRAL Response submitted.
- ii. **21-00736-FUL** – Treetops. Demolition of flat roof and construction of new extension – Clerk to submit a NEUTRAL response. **ACTION – Clerk**
- iii. **20-04228-FUL** – Land North of Turnpike Cottage. NOTED permission had been GRANTED.

**44/21 Planning Enforcement**

It was AGREED that the Clerk would advise the Enforcement Officer to close the file on case reference 20/00979. **ACTION - Clerk**

**45/21 Election 2021** – KA reiterated that if councillors wish to stand again for the parish council, she needed to receive their completed Nomination Forms by March 29th, to take to the Elections Office for checking on March 30<sup>th</sup>. The Clerk reminded councillors to print out the whole form and to complete the section on Elections Expenses – even for a Nil return. Failure to submit an election expenses form is a criminal offence which incurs a fine. **ACTION – ALL**

**46/21 Finance Report & Payments**

- a. The Finance Report for March 2021 was RECEIVED and AGREED
  - i. The balance of the Treasurers Current Account is = £6,768.40
  - ii. The balance of the Parish Plan Account is = £1,157.03
- b. The following payments were AGREED
  - i. Clerk’s salary for Mar 1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 (15 hours @£10.44) less PAYE £138.40
  - ii. Clerk’s expenses for Feb 16<sup>th</sup> – March 16<sup>th</sup> 2021 £ 11.50

**47/21 Correspondence** (not covered elsewhere on the Agenda)

- a. Email from Stocksfield parish clerk flagging the issue of old defibrillator batteries not holding charge. The Clerk had circulated the information to Whittingham Memorial Hall and will send it to KT to check if it applies to the defibrillator at Alnham Village Hall. **ACTION – CLERK**

**48/21 Any General Matters**

**Condition of red phone kiosk in the village.** It was noted that the paintwork was deteriorating and the kiosk is looking very shabby. The Clerk undertook to find out if permission is required from BT to repaint the phone box.

**49/21 Time and Date of next meeting** - Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 7.00pm via Zoom

**Scheduled Meeting Dates for 2021**

- May 18th at 7.00pm
- June 15th at 7.00pm
- July 20th at 7.00pm
- September 21st at 7.00pm
- October 19th at 7.00pm
- November 16th at 7.00pm

**Signed as a True Record of the Meeting**

Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_