

Whittingham Callaly & Alnham Parish Council
Acting Clerk: Councillor Karen Armstrong, Sayer Cottage, Whittingham, NE66 4UP
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PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of the Whittingham, Callaly & Alnham Parish Council held on Tuesday 18 October, at 7.00pm at Whittingham Memorial Hall.

Present, In attendance B Wood (BW) Chair, K Armstrong (KA), Prof. J Clark (JC), A Whincup (AW), S Gray (SG), E Gardner (EG), J Renner (JR), N Riordan (NR), C Durie (CD), R Bateson (RB), K Turvey (KT)

ITEM	DISCUSSION
126/22 Apologies for Absence & Declarations of Interest	A Young (AY) There were no declarations of interest.
127/22 Public Participation/ Questions	No questions received.
128/22 Minutes of the Previous Meeting	The Minutes of the meeting on 20 September 2022 were APPROVED as a true record.
129/22 Neighbourhood Plan	<p>An update was given by JC on the Neighbourhood Plan who has confirmed that a full meeting took place with team including Sarah Brannigan of NCC on the 22 September to discuss way ahead. A further meeting is planned for 20 October 2022.</p> <p>In the first instance the PC have agreed to support the collation of E Mail addresses from around the Parish which will be undertaken via a hand delivered mail shot (1 page only), which will ask for names and e mail addresses of any interested parties so they can be involved/updated on progress.</p> <p>Whittingham C of E Primary School - Due to catchment areas a number of parents will live outside of the Parish therefore it was also suggested that Parents are also afforded the same opportunity. AW has agreed to speak to the Head Teacher (who is also a member of the NP Committee) to allow us to include the mail shot in children's school bags.</p> <p>KA promised to speak to Penelope Bailey about the Vale News and whether this can also be used to disseminate information and deliver updates.</p> <p>New E Mail address set up to accommodate - wcaneighbourhoodplan@gmail.com</p> <p>Also looking to agree a date for a Public Meeting Q1 2023</p>

130/22 Highways Matters

Vehicle Activated Speed Sign - Following the agreement of Councillor Steven Bridgett to fund a speed sign out of his 22/23 Budget NCC have now come back with his requested quotes.

The overall fully commissioned price is £6052.

We have not yet had a response from our E Mails to Councillor Bridgett so it has been agreed that BW, our PC Chairman will ring him directly.

131/22 Planning Applications

22/03449/FUL - 7 Towerside, Whittingham - **Supported**

22/03390/FUL - Plot 1, Land North of Turnpike Cottage, Whittingham - **Supported**

To consider applications received since the agenda was prepared.

22/00773/FUL & 22/00779/LBC - Land South West of Lorbottle Hall, Whittingham - **Granted by NCC**

22/02523/FUL - Old Court House, Whittingham - **Granted by NCC**

132/22 Finance

- i). The monthly finance report for October was received.
- ii) Village Hall Room Hire for PC Meetings - £78 & Royal British Legion Wreath - £35 Payments Approved by PC
- iii) Clerk's salary and expenses not required in October as per 57/22
- iv) As part of budget planning the Acting Clerk KA wished to point out that the PC do not have enough funds to carry out all projects on its wish list. Whilst there are reserves the PC need to prioritise as it does have some responsibilities that would need to be covered off in an emergency.
The Councillors spent some time prioritising and will consider further.
Pre-cept requirement will be requested by NCC for 2023-24 which will be agreed and any uplift will be considered at our November 2022 Meeting.

133/22 Adoption of Phone Box

Chris Breeze, Village Handyman has reviewed the phone box requirements and is confident that he can repair and refurbish. The Parish Council is very grateful that he has given his undertaking to work for the benefit of the parishioners as far as possible. KA is currently exploring the possibility of obtaining the required paint at a discount.

134/22 Matters Arising

- i) Risk Assessment Tree Survey March 15th 2022 and Tree Surgeon - Quote received for pruning and general tidy which, due to budget constraints, PC have decided to delay for the time being. Will continue to re-visit.
- ii) Path along river bank - Quote received but due to budget constraints the PC are unable to proceed. Will continue to re-visit.
- iii) Repairs - Chris Breeze, Village Handyman has been given a budget of £400 which will only allow him to undertake the most urgent of repairs to benches and other bits and pieces around the Parish. The PC will continue to monitor and review in light of budget restraints.

135/22 Notice Board for Callaly

There was a discussion around Notice Boards for both Callaly and Alnham.

RB has been in discussions with local craftsman who is willing to produce a notice board for Callaly with double doors, no glass but a sloping cover over the top. The final location to be agreed to enhance design.

The PC also wish to offer a notice board for Alnham but unsure of location. KT is to review and consider if this is possible.

Whilst the Parish Council do have budget constraints it needs to ensure that all residents have the same opportunity for news. Whittingham already have 2 notice boards and with Callaly's broken and Alnham not having PC need to ensure that this is offered.

A figure of £400 has been suggested as a contribution for each.

136/22 DAB Radio Reception

JC raised the lack of DAB Digital Reception across Northumberland and our Parish. JC would like the Chairman to write to Ministers and MP's to ascertain how they propose to make this fair. Excerpt below:

"The government rightly takes satisfaction in the fact that DAB broadcasts now reach over 90 per cent of households; but this leaves large geographical areas of the North East without DAB coverage. This is a problem for three reasons in particular: (1) the nature of the rural economy is changing, and good communications are an important prerequisite for growing forms of business here that rely on them. 'Levelling Up' is a policy with especial relevance in this context. (2) Climate change makes extreme weather events more and more likely; there are implications for emergency services. (3) The international situation, which is well known to us all.

I write therefore to ask if you will kindly share with my Council your ministry's plans for extending DAB radio transmissions to areas in Northumberland not at present covered."

AW will also investigate as to whether DAB could utilise new mast.

137/22 Climate Change Action Plan

EG raised the topic of Climate Change and NCC adoption and toolkit to ensure that this is considered and included within the Neighbourhood Plan. The PC can also look at opportunities to lower carbon footprint.

All Ongoing

138/22 Remembrance Day Wreath

The Parish Council wish to lay a wreath and confirm that this will be ordered. Budget of £35 agreed.

Action KA

139/22 Correspondence

New Economic Opportunity for Northumberland - Harry Bradbury
Information disseminated to all Councillors. Upon review it was felt that the debate with Thompsons of Prudhoe was not one that the PC felt able to support.

Northumberland Gypsies, Travellers & Travelling Showpeople Local Plan - As part of the new plan NCC are in the process of producing a call for sites and asked all Parishes if they were aware of any land that may be suitable. WCA Parish Council is only responsible for some verges and a village green.

140/22 Any General Matters None

109/22 Time and Date of Next Meeting Tuesday 15 November 2022 at 7.00pm. Whittingham Memorial Hall.

NO MEETING IN DECEMBER 2022

Signed as a True Record of the Meeting Chair _____ **Date** _____