

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of Warden Parish Council held on Monday 9th January 2023 commencing at 7pm in Newbrough Town Hall

Those Present: Cllrs S Robson (Chairman), Cllr SJ Heminsley, Cllr WJ Foot, Cllr L Kay, Cllr D Bowman, Cllr J Martin, County Cllr N Morphet, C Miller (Clerk), two members of the public

2023/01 Apologies for Absence

Cllr D Liddle, Cllr G Charlton

2023/02 Declaration of Members Interests

Cllrs S Robson & SJ Heminsley declared an interest in the Railway Inn.

2023/03 Opportunity for members of the public to raise any matter

There were no matters raised from the public.

2023/04 Minutes of previous meeting held on Monday 7th November 2022

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 7th November 2022 be accepted as a true record.

2023/05 Allotments - to receive update on pump for well

Cllr D Liddle to install pump in due course.

2023/06 Litter pick

Date for next litter pick to be confirmed at March Parish Council meeting.

2023/07 Roads/footpaths/village maintenance

County Cllr had reported subsidence at Mossy with County Council Structural Engineer to investigate, and which appeared to be a drainage problem. However there was a long waiting list for this type of repair. It was agreed the area can be particularly icy.

County Council Highways Maintenance and Streetworks Departments were debating who was responsible for the sunken patches at the crossroads in Fourstones. Streetworks believed as the defects were over two years old they were no longer Northumbrian Water responsibility, however Highways Maintenance did not agree with this as the defect was due to the sub-base and believed it was NW. The drainage problem on the road west of the garage was partly the responsibility of NW and who had completed their repairs. For information, NW were also responsible for toby's (stop cock covers).

Cllr Bowman advised the overgrown area at Warden Bridge had been fenced off due to the septic tank and soakaway at the Boatside Inn, however there was no reason why weeds should be there. The landowner to provide further information in due course.

2023/07/01 Progress regarding the reduction in speeding traffic through the villages

The petition to recommend a speed reduction from the level crossing past the paper mill had attracted the 50 signature threshold and would go before the Local Area County Committee 14/3/23.

J Martin reported monitoring strips had been placed at East Fourstones Lane, however County Cllr advised the official results appeared to conclude the area did not meet the criteria for further enforcement.

2023/07/02 Footpath clearance works/hedgerow obstructions

Volunteers had cleared the footpath from Fourstones to the school, and it was agreed an excellent job had been carried out.

2023/07/03 To receive update on proposed village signage/planters

There had been a date arranged to install planters however the weather had not been conducive. No further progress had been made with the signage installation.

2023/07/04 To receive update on recycled seating at Crossgates

County Cllr had received quote of £405 to install the seat onto a concrete base. It could be installed with spikes which would cost the Parish Council nothing, although assistance would be required for the installation. It was agreed Cllr Bowman would seek a second quote for a concrete base, and if under £200 a base would be arranged.

2023/07/05 To receive update on Dog Fouling Warning signage at Crossgates

Cllr Liddle to organise.

2023/07/06 To receive update on play area repairs

Repairs to be carried out when weather suitable. Play area had now been re-opened.

2023/07/07 To consider issues with refuse burning at Limeworks

Tenants were to place warning signage to advise plastic cannot be burned.

2023/08 Planning

2023/08/01 Planning Applications received

No planning applications had been received.

2023/08/02 To consider issues relating to Prudham Quarry Planning Proposals

The Highways Agreement had still not been signed, therefore works could not commence.

2023/08/03 Approval of Planning Application received

- 22/03350/VARYCO: Hillside, Fourstones – Variation of Conditions 2 & 4.

2023/09 Reports

2023/09/01 Town Hall

Nothing to report.

2023/09/02 Northumberland County Council

There were no Section 106 monies available for play areas, and nearly £89K available towards outdoor sport. The Locality Officer covers the whole of the Tynedale Area and had been asked to provide their job description. They would then be invited to a future Parish Council meeting. County Cllr advised the County Council can only take enforcement action on pavement parking where there are yellow lines in place. Although technically illegal the police only have resources to look into the most serious long-term cases, however taxi pavement parking can be reported to the County Council.

2023/09/03 Sportsfield Association

Nothing to report.

2023/10 Financial Matters

2023/10/01 Payments to be authorised:

- C Miller – November, December salary plus backpay due to NJC pay award for year ending 31.3.23 not received until November 2022 - £562.64 (£1/hour increase); expenses - £34.71

It was resolved to approve the payments.

2023/10/02 To consider budget 2023-2024

Reserves were accessed during 2021-2022 and had been utilised on improved signage, footpath/road clearance. A reserve of 75% of the precept value should be the minimum held. Open spaces accounted for a third of the annual expenditure. Parishioners should be made aware of what the increased funds had been spent on and this would be transmitted via the Stanegate. It was resolved to approve the budget for 2023-2024. **ACTION: Cllr S Robson to include information on reserve spending for Stanegate article.**

2023/10/03 To consider precept requirements 2023-2024

It was resolved to approve the precept requirements of £9500 for 2023-2024. **ACTION: Clerk to confirm to County Council.**

2023/10/04 To receive acknowledgement of grant from Tynedale Hospice at Home

Acknowledgement of grant noted.

2023/10/05 Newbrough First School – Repair to MUGA steel fencing - to receive update on working group of two Councillors from Warden and Newbrough Parish Council's and representative(s) from the school, to explore how to establish the MUGA as a sustainable community / school facility, and agree the scope of works for the required repairs.

Meeting had been held at the School with Newbrough Parish Council and Chair of Sportsfield Association present. The SA had agreed in principal to take on the MUGA, with legalities required to amend their constitution. Headteacher to contact Diocese to confirm landowner, and quotes to be sought for fence replacement and surface repair. County Cllr to enquire whether his annual allowance could fund surface replacement.

2023/10/06 To confirm on-line banking has been set-up

Clerk confirmed on-line banking was now in place. **ACTION: Clerk to contact HSBC and request all signatories have on-line access.**

2023/11 The Railway Inn

Nothing to report.

2023/12 To receive update from Climate Change Group

Meeting to be held Tuesday 17th January 2023. Collaboration event to consider net zero by 2030 to be held at Hexham Mart 25th January 2023, 545 to 730pm, with all welcome. Energy, transport and land management topics to be considered.

2023/13 To consider Crises Management in the parish

Meeting had been held November 2022, facilitated by the County Cllr and Helen Hinds, Civil Contingencies Officer at County Council. Cllr S Robson to populate the Crises Management Plan template, however personal liability of Parish Councillor's had come into question, should a Council adopt a plan and something goes wrong. Clarification from Helen Hinds on the position regarding Councillor's personal liability awaited before drafting of the plan progressed.

2023/14 Election of Parish Cllr as Newbrough school governor

No Parish Cllr wished to be elected as a school governor. Item to be removed from agenda.

2023/15 To consider King Charles Coronation May 2023

Newbrough Parish Council had enquired whether Warden wished to contribute to commemoration mugs for schoolchildren, at a cost of £364 to each council, and it was resolved to agree to the proposal. It was agreed a function would be held, involving lighting the beacon at 8pm on the Coronation day and singing God Save the King. Attendees to bring their own refreshments. **ACTION: Clerk to confirm agreement with Newbrough Parish Council of mug purchase; Cllr S Robson to compile information article for Stanegate regarding beacon event.**

2023/16 To receive items for next meeting

There were no items for the next meeting.

2023/17 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Warden Parish Council will be held on Monday 6th March 2023 commencing 7pm in Newbrough Town Hall.



Claire Miller, Clerk to Warden Parish Council

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE
Allotments	CLlr D Liddle to install water pump by March 2023
Replacement village signage	CLlr D Bowman and D Spearman to organise planters in due course.
King Charles Commemoration	Clerk to confirm mug commemoration mug purchase with Newbrough Parish Council; CLlr S Robson to compile information about beacon lighting for Stanegate.
On-line banking authorisation	Clerk to contact HSBC and request all signatories have on-line access.
Bank account reserves	CLlr S Robson to include in Stanegate report how reserves had been utilised
Precept 2023-2024	Clerk to confirm to County Council the precept level of £9500 for 2023-2024

The meeting closed at 825pm