

DRAFT MINUTES OF KNARSDALE WITH KIRKHAUGH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD MONDAY 15TH MAY 2023

Meeting commenced at 8.10p.m. following on from the Annual Meeting.

Present: Cllrs M Mennie (Chair), JJ Raine (Vice Chair), A Armstrong, J Reed, J Stynes & W Watson.

Apologies: Cllrs J Grieves & I Hutchinson (NCC)

Several parishioners were in attendance.

Public Question – Must be submitted in writing prior to Parish Council meetings to allow for a detailed and accurate response. None received.

1. Chair & Vice Chair:

Chair: M Mennie - proposed by A Armstrong, seconded by W Watson, there were no other nominations.

Vice Chair: JJ Raine – proposed by M Mennie, seconded by A Armstrong, there were no other nominations.

2. Minutes (including any ratification of decisions taken) of meetings held 13th March 2023 were agreed and signed.

3. Declaration of Interest: None.

4. Parish Councillor Co-option: Jon Stynes, proposed by A Armstrong, seconded by M Mennie, the necessary paperwork was completed.

5. Matters Arising:

Highway Issues: Scheduled work on Burnstones bridge – has not started, still awaiting clarification on track status – public right of way or a permission right of way. Heavy vehicles still seen travelling across the bridge which is dangerous – no further update.

Railway bridge over the Knarr (South Tyne Trail) – the necessary safety work still to be done.

Low Bridge sign at Lambley – sign at Brampton and Lambley but not very visible – new sign in the design stage – no update.

Drainage issue at Community Hall, all the drains require attention – request for NCC Highways to meet with M Mennie who can show/explain all the issues.

Church Lonning (Pennine Way) – Clerk to contact Cllr Hutchinson to ascertain whether NCC Rights of Way can assist re parishioner's letter.

Old School: Advice received, the Parish Council go for adverse possession and register with Land Registry.

South Tyne Railway: No update re the field.

Tree Preservation Order: Photos to be forwarded to NCC as requested.

South Tyne Trail: vehicles using it as a road, accessing it from Burnstones, travelling at speed – churning up surface and a danger to walkers – Clerk to contact NCC Rights of Way again to ascertain what action they are taking to stop this – no update.

Public Right Of Way/Witness Statements: Cllr Armstrong no further info.

Maintenance: Maintenance of the bus shelters and seats – Cllr Stynes to assess the work needed.

Notice Boards: Council agreed the proposed new noticeboards, Clerk to confirm with Knarsdale Estate.

Play Park Inspection: No response so far from companies for a qualified person to carry out annual inspections.

Watering Hole Leak repaired. Cllr Hutchinson to be asked to remind the relevant person of the outstanding work.

Hanging baskets/planters: – Responsibility/maintenance of the Parish Council's brackets, chains and hanging baskets, which have been up for a number of years was discussed, if there is any concern they will/should be taken down, some have been already. If the WI or any parishioners wished to use the brackets/chains (smaller baskets will be used) they should be aware of this, the Parish Council will not be responsible for the watering of hanging baskets/planters. The Parish Council agreed to continue a small financial contribution towards plants etc.

Signed: Date:

6. King Charles III Coronation - It was agreed to purchase a seat, this would replace a seat which is beyond repair.

7. Planning Applications:

23/00988/FUL (NCC) Construction of two storey and single storey rear extensions and installation of rooflights – Cherry Tree Cottage, Slaggyford CA8 7NH

22/04763/LBC: Listed building consent for repair works to include re-laying existing stone slates, the addition of rainwater goods, rebuilding of areas of loose masonry, structural stitching, repointing and the renewal of rotten lintels – Bastle House at Epiacum, North West of Whitlow Cottage, Alston. NCC Granted Permission.

8. Financial:

Monies: £10,519.18 (includes £773 ring fenced Transparency Grant & £39.91 Powergrid payment) PLUS 1st Precept Payment £2,433 = £12,952.18.

LESS: Community Hall hire/donation £200.00, NALC Subs £89.34, NALC Website £75.00, BHIB Insurance £562.60, Bank Charges £13.50 = £12,011.74 (includes £698 ring fenced Transparency Grant).

Risk Assessments: Financial & Management Risk Assessment document – no amendments – next review May, or earlier if necessary. Fidelity Guarantee it was agreed cover for £2,000 was adequate as cheques require 3 signatures Clerk's plus two cllrs and that any additional cost on insurance is disproportionate to the risk involved.

2022/23 Audit Report:– Annual Return for the year ending 31 March 2023 and statement of assurance completed and signed as appropriate, accounts had been verified by Internal Auditor, all relevant paperwork will be displayed. Cllrs had previously reviewed internal audit procedure and the present Internal Auditor to be asked to continue for another year. The appointed independent Internal Audit, is completely unbiased and competent to carry out the audit. As part of the audit they had full access to all documentation, including Auditor's briefing notes and discussion with Parish Clerk.

Certificate of Exemption completed as gross income/expenditure did not exceed £25,000.

Online Banking: Cllrs and Clerk to process updated documentation to change bank from HSBC to Unity

9. Transparency, Open-ness & Accountability:

Nothing to report, policies, procedures etc – will continue to be reviewed and amended as necessary.

10. Tynedale Local Area Council:

Next meeting – 16th May 2023.

11. Correspondence:

Electric Car Guide

Guy Opperman posters

12. Any Other Business:

Parking Burnstones Junction – speak to NCC Highways re yellow lines, letters to residents.

Potholes – road from Burnstones Junction to Church – NCC to be notified.

Better signage for outlying properties to assist emergency services – NCC to be contacted but this may be a Satnav issue.

13. Date of Next Meeting: Monday 10th July 2023 at 7.30p.m.

Meeting closed at 9.25p.m.