

A meeting of the Parish Council was held in Whittingham Memorial Institute at 7pm on Tuesday 21st January, 2020.

Draft Minutes

Present: Councillors B Wood (Acting Chair); K Armstrong, A Whincup, S Gray, R Bateson, J Renner, Lord Ravensworth; A Smith (Clerk).

Apologies; Chair Ian Lepingwell, Councillors K Turvey, C Durie, H Sordy, A Young.

1.Declaration of Members Interests (Only in so far as they affected items on the agenda). None.

2. Questions from members of the public. There were no members of the public.

3.Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council of 19 November 2019 (previously circulated) were signed as a true record.

4.Matters Arising from the Minutes

a. Parking congestion at certain times of the day in front of the Whittingham Memorial Institute and Whittingham C of E School; update following mobile camera temporary installation. The school had reported that the camera had now been removed and NCC were analysing the data collected before providing an update.

b. Land North of Rose Cottage, Whittingham, Removal of building materials from land North of Rose Cottage. The Parish Council had liaised with Northumberland County Council, who had requested the building materials be removed, and the area has now been cleared.

c. Removal of seeded Oak tree between Great Ryle and Ryle Lodge. The clerk had contacted NCC's trees officer Barry Wilson. Mr Wilson reported back that he had located the sapling which had already been cut back but he had tidied up the area.

d. Telephone call box-BT request for photograph. The clerk had taken photographs of the telephone call box in Whittingham which is to remain as an operating call box. BT had asked for photographs of the call box following the PC's request that if it is staying it should be painted.

e. Precept request submitted to NCC. The clerk had made the Parish Council's request for the annual Precept.

f. Update on gully cleaning in the Parish. The clerk had not received an update on requests to NCC for ditches to be cleaned around the Parish areas. NCC had reported previously that a gully tanker was off the road. Cllr Ravensworth highlighted in particular the stretch between Mile Moor Farm and Great Ryle Farm where flooding is causing the road to be treacherous with ice on cold mornings. The clerk will chase this up with Highways requesting the need for ditches to be cleaned and roads gritted (in particular school routes).

5.New Business

a. Neighbourhood Policing Team details and invite to officer to attend a meeting. The clerk had circulated a letter from Sgt Sharon Wilmore-Greaves detailing the newly restructured Neighbourhood Policing resources. Whittingham is part of Rural West, which also encompasses Powburn and Glanton, and Eglington to Elsdon and Alwinton out to Windy Gyle. This is covered by PC Paul Sykes, CSO Katie Gerrard, PC Phil Gibson and CSO Christophe Stone. Ms Wilmore-Greaves

had invited Parish Councils to forward their future meeting dates so that when on duty and available the relevant officers could drop into meetings. The clerk has forwarded the PC's dates.

b. Libraries Consultation. The clerk had circulated the consultation by the Library Service on its future provision across Northumberland covering branch services and the mobile library service. It runs until March 18th and individuals can complete an online questionnaire; <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NCCLibraryConsultation> or in paper format from libraries.

6.Planning

a. Applications during recess;

PA 19/04805/FUL New outbuilding in garden, Old Wheelhouse, Whittingham. Councillors raised no objections.

PA 19/01692/VARYCO Land West of Treetops, Callaly Road. Permission Granted.

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Definitive Map Modification Order Nos 18 &19; Cllr A Whincup is planning to attend a hearing for a Map Modification Order in May. Regarding the above orders following discussion it was agreed the clerk will write to NCC stating that while the PC appreciates that the Orders will be made it does have concerns about the state of the roads which are in a poor state of repair and therefore unsafe for traffic.

b. There were no new applications.

7.Finance The following information was received;

Parish Council Account

Brought forward from previous meeting

£7621.01

Paid out since meeting of 19th November 2019

917 Clerks wages (Nov/Dec)	£ 226.42
918 HMRC Paye 3 rd Qtr	£84.60

Paid in since meeting of 19th November 2019.

0

Balance Carried Forward £7309.99

Parish Plan Account

No transactions this period.

1157.03

Accounts for payment as of 21st January 2020

Donation to Alnham Burial Ground (as agreed at November meeting) £100

Clerks Wages for January	£113.21
Clerks travel(Alnwick to Whittingham return)	
Jan meeting at £0.45 per mile	£6.30
Admin expenses (stamps) Clerk	£7.32
Total to clerk	£126.83

To keep within budget (Precept £4435) and after allowing for fixed and ring fenced costs (previously agreed), the amounts below are allocated to each parish in the ratio of numbers of dwellings (up until 31 December). It is important to note that these are simply guidelines and can be varied.

Whittingham £494 (less £85.00 for seat – Whittingham) Northumberland Local Plan examination in Public.

Callaly £180

Alnham £124 (less £74.28 two Paddles for defibrillator)

8. Correspondence. Northumberland Local Plan examination in Public. The clerk had received correspondence from the Northumberland and Newcastle Society who will speak against the Windfarm policies in NCC's Local Plan. The Society have urged parish councillors who share their views to attend next month's hearing at Morpeth Town Hall at 2pm on February 6th to show their support.

9. Other business

Cllr J Renner mentioned the poor state of the white railings along the bridge in Whittingham which are covered in Ivy. The clerk will contact Highways.

Cllr Ravensworth again raised concerns about the potholes on Rothill Road between Rothill farm and the A697. The clerk had previously contacted Highways and had received a response to say it would be looked at but she will chase this up. Another stretch of road with potholes was by West Lodge.

The clerk reminded councillors that Rob Murfin, head of planning at Northumberland County Council, is attending the next meeting.

Date of next meeting: 18th February, 2020.

Amy Smith Clerk to the Council

25 Blakelaw Road, Alnwick

Northumberland, NE66 1BY.