

**Minutes of the Meeting of West Allen Parish Council held on Thursday 4 March 2021 at 7.00 Electronic meeting using Zoom software.**

**Present:** Steve Agar, Helen Adams, Colin Horncastle, Alan Greaves, John Martin, Ian Reed and Barbara Ingman

- • Welcome. The Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3 December 2020 were accepted as a true record.
- • Matters arising from previous meeting. Roads – John Martin pointed out that water was still running down Mohope Bank and Colin Horncastle will be asked to look into this problem which makes the road dangerous in icy conditions.
- • Correspondence:
  - • Online emergency resilience training for Northumberland communities (email circulated in February). Alan and Steve both looked into this but it was aimed at areas with major flood risks.
  - • Alleged Public Right of Way – A letter from Northumberland County Council asked if the Council supported an application to upgrade a public footpath to a restricted byway in Mohope, west of Fairplay. The Council strongly rebuts this application as the footpath is already subject to erosion, is extremely boggy and sees the chance of further applications to change this to a BOAT.
  - • Refurbishment project of the Ninebanks Church and Community Hall  
A letter requesting assistance and financial support from the West Allen Parish Council was received from Helen Manson. It was agreed to inform the group that the Council fully support this project and appreciate that it will be of huge benefit to residents by enhancing village life and that whilst we are keen to support the village, the Council don't have funds readily available but if they are unsuccessful with their funding applications we will reconsider a possible donation.  
  
Colin Horncastle also suggested that he may have access to funds through Northumberland County Council but this is dependent on who actually owns the hall as the funding isn't available if the hall is owned by the church.
- • Local Elections - Parish Nomination Papers are attached.  
Ian Reed won't be standing for election and the Council recorded their thanks to Ian for many years of service and for looking after issues in Carrshield. It would be beneficial to the Council if someone from Carrshield took over his role and something will be posted in the noticeboard in Carrshield to this effect.

Barbara will circulate by email the necessary papers Councillors need to complete to be re-elected.

- • Planning – no correspondence
- • Any other Business  
Payment of the Clerk's wages were authorized.
- • Date and times of next meeting – Thursday 3 June 2021 at 7.00 at Middle, Ninebanks, Hexham, NE47 8DL