
Brinkburn and Hesleyhurst Parish Council

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting on: 9th May 2023
Meeting at: Longframlington Memorial Hall
Meeting Time: 7.30 p.m.
Present: Mark Fenwick (MF) Vincent Milburn (VM), David Owen (DO), Jackie Scarpa (JS), Jamie Whicker (JW)
In attendance: Clerk: Garth Rhodes

The meeting opened at 7.33 p.m.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Steve Bray (SB), Lesley Hall (LH)
2. **Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting 17th May 2022**- were approved as a correct record and signed as such (Proposed VM, Seconded JW, All in Favour).
3. **Annual Review: Cllr Owen gave a summary of issues from the past year:**
In many respects this had been a very quiet year for the Parish Council, with little in the way of planning and built environment activity. However, environmental issues had been more to the fore, particularly the proposal for the development of the Rothbury Woodland Creation Project. We were awaiting further developments on this. It would appear that the original proposals were to be scaled back. It was hoped that the voice of the Parish Council and its residents had made a positive impact on the proposal. The Parish was very lucky to have so many people with significant knowledge and expertise of the environment and sustainability. The very serious deterioration of the condition of the roads in the parish have been a major concern. In a county where there seem to be more roads than people, this was a county wide problem. However, the roads in the Parish have been in an appalling state. After numerous and sometimes vociferous requests NCC Highways has responded to effect repairs. The road from Garleigh to Lees Siding has been resurfaced whilst in other areas, potholes have been filled. This will be an ongoing exercise. DO was delighted with the establishment of the Climate Change and Biodiversity Committee which had brought together a lot of interested people from the Parish to address some important issues through an ambitious work programme. Thanks to JW for bringing this together. The recent litter picking activity with groups of 15-17 people had been inspiring. Thanks to JW and JS. Litter around Weldon Bridge and along the B6344 had been very problematic and hopefully our now clean roads would deter further littering. Thanks to Desmond Barker for carrying out the Internal Audit. The Clerk was thanked for his work throughout the year.
4. **Election of Officers**
 - a) **Election of Chairperson.** DO indicated that he was willing to stand as Chairperson for a further year. VM nominated DO and JS seconded. All in favour.
 - b) **Election of Vice Chairperson.** VM indicated that he was willing to stand as Vice-Chairperson for a further year. DO nominated VM and MF seconded. All in favour.
 - c) **Agree new Cheque Signatories and complete forms.** DO, VM and the Clerk to remain as bank signatories for the forthcoming year.
 - d) **Councillor responsibilities for the coming year were agreed:**
 - Chairperson: DO
 - Vice Chair: VM
 - Climate Change & Biodiversity Committee JW/JS/MF
 - Cluster Meetings: JS/ LH
 - Footpaths: JS
 - Rothbury Joint Burial Committee VM
 - Longframlington Cemetery MF
 - Millennium Field JW
 - National Park DO
 - Wingates Wind Farm Community Fund Committee SB
 - Parish Noticeboard SB
 - Defibrillator SB
 - Longframlington Emergency Planning Group DO
 - Rothbury Emergency Planning JW

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.55 p.m.

Garth Rhodes
Clerk
5 Wardle Terrace, Longframlington, NE65 8AB
Tel: 01665 570347 Email: Clerk@Brinkburn.net