

Draft Minutes of the Meeting of West Allen Parish Council - Thursday 1 June 2017 at 7.30 in Ninebanks Church Hall

Present: Steve Agar, Jennifer Brown Alan Greaves, Ian Reed and the Clerk to the West Allen Parish Council Barbara Ingman.

Apologies: John Martin

- 1 Following the election held in May it was necessary to elect a Chairman:
Steve Agar was elected as Chairman (proposed AG seconded IR) and Ian Reed as Vice-Chairman (proposed SA seconded AG)
- 2 Matters arising from previous meeting discussed under correspondence.
- 3 **Correspondence:**
Removal of items that litter the sides of the Ward Way – following email exchanges between Steve Agar and Liz Barnes regarding the removal of the old container, remains of caravan and discarded vehicles, the County Council visited the site but couldn't do anything as they felt the rubbish had negligible residential impact. It appears from the Land Registry map that the rubbish is on common land and the Council agreed to assist in funding the removal of the rubbish. Steve Agar will arrange to hire a skip and contact a scrap man and Liz Barnes said she would get people together to load it.
Insurance cheque signed
NALC subscription renewed
- 4 **Planning:**
Farneyshield Telecoms Mast Ninebanks Hexham Northumberland NE47 8DW – no observations

The Council had previously seen the planning application Ref 16/00618/FUL re the conversion of a barn at Middle Rigg and did not have any observations to submit. NCC approved planning for this conversion. Joe Robinson wrote to us seeking support that the conversion sits naturally within the area and has a low environmental impact. Other nearby residents have contacted Steve Agar and informed him of their serious concerns. The Council decided that it isn't our responsibility to comment.
- 5 **West Allen PC Website** - <https://northumberlandparishes.uk/westallen>
Website is finished and past minutes have been uploaded. List of Councillors contact details and website address now on the notice board in Ninebanks. Any suggestions for additions and changes should be emailed to Barbara.
- 6 **Audit** – annual audit documents have now been received from BDO and the annual governance statement was approved.
- 7 **Any other Business:**
It was agreed to increase the clerk's fees from £200 to £250 per year due to the increased workload on the website. An increase in the precept should be applied for in December to cover the extra £50 expenditure.
- 8 **Date and times of next meetings:**
Thursday 14 September 2017 (moved from 7 September), Thursday 7 December 2017.