

# MELKRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Quarterly Parish Council Meeting held on 7 September 2022 at 7.00pm

**PRESENT:** Cllr T Lewis (Chairman), Cllr M Oliver, Cllr K Stronach,  
Cllr S Vallance

**In attendance:** Mrs K Little – Clerk

County Councillor Alan Sharp (arrived 7.30pm)

1 Member of the Public

### **347/22 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Hingston

### **348/22 Minutes of meeting held 11 May 2022 to agree**

Proposal for the minutes of meeting held 11 May 2022 be agreed

Prop: Cllr Oliver      Sec: Cllr Stronach      Agreed

### **349/22 Declarations of Interest in accordance with Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011, members to declare any interests in items on this agenda – None declared**

### **350/22 Reports/updates**

- 350/22/01 Update of planning application of land south of Ashlea, Melkridge from Cllr Sharp regarding response from Northumbrian Water as to where the surface water will go – Cllr Sharp produced correspondence received from NWL dated 6 August 2018, which stated surface water will discharge either to the existing watercourse or via soakaway. Members asked how the burn will be accessed as this is through someone's property and so far, no discussions have taken place. How will the surface water from the development be dealt with as there has no evidence on a plan as to where the detail of discharge, pipes and gully. Members asked for a copy of the plan, Cllr Sharp to follow up and stated planning permission has not been granted, just reserved matters
- 350/22/02 Update regarding electricity connection on exiting pole – clerk had received an email from Northern Power stating need to contact local authority for a connection. Cllr Sharp to follow up connection on pole beside where telephone box had been sited and check if able to facilitate electricity power. Need to contact British Heart Foundation for further information to fit an unmetered supply
- 350/22/03 H&DJBC Report – update from NCC – email received 1 September 2022 from Helen Lancaster stating she has been away on extended leave but this will now be progressed
- 350/22/04 Response from Steve Mitchinson – A69 Road Link – email forwarded to National Highways. Cllr Sharp to follow up with Ben Morgan and Ben Dobson lighting at the junction
- 350/22/05 Queens Platinum Celebrations – Cllr Lewis thanked Cllr Oliver for

his persistence and contribution for organising leaflets and food for the afternoon tea to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee and thanked local residents for providing food and supporting the event, which was a very enjoyable occasion. Discussions were held regarding holding a bonfire event

350/22/06 Update from Cllr Sharp regarding cattle grid repair on road at Edges Green – Cllr Sharp reported NCC have been carrying out work to the U-roads in the area and will be doing work to the cattle grid in the next couple of months, Cllr Sharp to contact the resident with an update. Cllr Sharp reported £2,500 from his small schemes allowance had been spent repairing footpaths including the footpaths in Melkridge

**351/22 To consider Melkridge bus timetable changes**

Cllr Sharp stated NCC have been working with Aviva and Stagecoach to resolve some issues, but he was disappointed there had been no local consultation regarding the changes for reducing level of bus service to every two hours in Melkridge with alternative buses going via the A69 between Henshaw and Haltwhistle. It was reported the new timetable was not acceptable as residents unable to get to work on time. School transport and concession travel was also discussed and buses not following the new timetable. Cllr Sharp produced data from NCC showing number of boardings for March 2022, which was disputed by members. Clerk to request a meeting with Chris Curtis from NCC to discuss issues raised

**352/22 Visual Inspection of trees in Millenium Park**

Cllr Stronach and Cllr Vallance reported some overhanging branches need to be cut back

**353/22 Millenium Nature Park – update**

Cllr Vallance produced an expenditure report for planting scheme to agree  
Prop: Cllr Oliver Sec: Cllr Stronach Agreed  
Cllr Stronach to ask if scouts can help with the planting of the trees and Cllr Lewis to trim the west side of the park

**354/22 Correspondence**

354/22/01 Great North Air Ambulance – thank you for donation  
354/22/02 Road Link Annual Report – noted  
354/22/03 NCC Transport Plan Capital Programme 2023-24 – to request lighting on A69 junction  
354/22/04 NCC – Local Plan 2016 – 2036 – *adopted March 2022*  
355/22/05 Option to opt out of the SAAA central external auditor appointment arrangement – agreed not to opt out  
Prop: Cllr Vallance Sec: Cllr Lewis Agreed

**355/22 Finance**

355/22/01 Annual review of clerks' salary – inline with NALC pay scales to increase by 7%  
Prop: Cllr Lewis Sec: Cllr Stronach Agreed

355/22/02 Accounts for approval and payment:  
Prop: Cllr Oliver      Sec: Cllr Lewis      Agreed

100484	Kevan Stronach (Padlock)	£21.99	£4,795.27
100485	K Little	£242.43	£4,552.84
100486	HMRC	£52.40	£4,500.44

**356/22 Village BBQ - defer**

**357/22 Date and Time of next meeting – 14 December 2022 at 7.15pm**

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

**SIGNED AND ACCEPTED AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE ACCOUNT OF THE  
MINUTES FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7 SEPTEMBER 2022**

**Chairperson.....**

**Date.....**