

**Minutes of a Meeting of Carham Parish Council held in St Cuthbert's Church, Carham on
Tuesday 9 July 2019**

- 099 Present:** Cllrs Mr P Feerick, Ms V Poland, Mrs L Allan, Mr J Court and Mrs A Changleng (Clerk) in attendance.
- 100 Chair's Welcome:** Cllr Feerick welcomed Cllr Allan to her first meeting and both signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Cllr Poland was thanked for preparing the newsletter and councillors for distributing them. The Carham Parish Walk along the paths, verges and commons around Wark on 15 June was well attended by 14 walkers.
- 101 Apologies:** Cllr A Murray
- 102 Declarations of Interest:** None. The Clerk gave a brief resume of the NALC Standards training session in June attended by herself, Cllr Poland and Cllr Murray. Councillors were reminded that updating Declarations of Interest is the responsibility of individual councillors. Councillors do not need fill out a new Declarations of Interest Form whenever they make a change to their register of interests. They can put it in writing and post to Democratic Services or email is acceptable to democraticservices@northumberland.gov.uk (copy in Carham Parish Clerk).
- 103 Parishioners' Questions:** None
- 104 The Minutes of Council Meeting** of 14 May were approved as read and signed.
- 105 Matters Arising:** The Clerk is still in correspondence with NCC about the grit bin, finger posts and dangerous tree.
- 106 Correspondence:**
- Northumberland Domestic Abuse Service
 - Northumberland Local Plan
 - ILG Seminar on Market Towns in the Borders
 - Love Northumberland Hate Litter Campaign
 - Removal/Reduction of Physiotherapy Services in Northumberland
 - Local Transport Plan – There are no new priority issues. The Clerk will reply to ask when the safety measures will be put in place at West Learmouth road end as agreed with NCC last year.
- 107 Website:** Cllr Poland has arranged for the Carham Community Website to be hosted and managed by Wordpress at a cost of £65.00 p.a. At the next meeting councillors will discuss what should be on the website other than Parish Council information and how to encourage use. The website address is <https://carhamparish.org>
- 108 Wark Play Park:** The landscaping has been done but the wooden edges need to be lowered in accordance with the Play Park Inspector's report. Mark Heatley will be contacted by the Clerk to discuss the best way to remedy this trip hazard. Councillors agreed that extra depth of bark chippings should be added to the roundabout and see-saw areas and the wooden edging to be replaced around the climbing frame, also in accordance with the inspection report. Mark Heatley will be asked to carry out this work. There are holes in the rabbit netting which may have been damaged by NCC operatives when strimming the grass. The return pins are missing from the large vehicle gate so it no longer self returns. Cllr Court has replaced the broken bolt on the notice board.
- 109 Roadside Verges:** Grass verge cutting appears to be inconsistent on the smaller side roads. Some farmers cut their verges but other verges are uncut leading to safety concerns. It is not known when NCC contractors are due. Councillors agreed to support Plantlife's campaign to protect roadside verges. Cllr Court was thanked for tidying up Carham War Memorial.
- 110 Finance:** The audit has been completed with no issues being raised. The Annual Governance Statement has been published on the website and notice board..The Clerk/RFO has applied to the Bank of Scotland for Internet Banking to manage all payments and view balance at any time. Authentication has been received. The current bank balance is £3,448.65. Approval was given to pay the Play Park Inspector's Report (£25).
- 111 Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 10 September in St Cuthbert's Church, Carham at 6.30pm**