

**Minutes of a Meeting of Carham Parish Council held in St Cuthbert's Church, Carham  
on Tuesday 14 July 2020**

- 165 Present:** Cllrs Mr P Feerick, Mr J Court, Ms V Poland, Mrs L Allan and Mrs A Changleng (Clerk) in attendance.
- 166 Apologies:** Cllr. Mr W Potts
- 167 Chair's Welcome:** Cllr. P Feerick welcomed councillors and four members of the public to the first meeting to be held since the lockdown due to the coronavirus pandemic. Cllr. James Jobson has resigned from the Parish Council as he is moving away from the parish and he was thanked for his three year service and keen interest in local issues. Cllr. Poland produced the May edition of the newsletter during the lockdown and these were delivered as safely as possible and put on the website.
- 168 Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Allan declared an interest in Parishioners' Questions.
- 169 Parishioners' Questions:** Four residents of the parish were present. Dog fouling has been reported on the path next to the old Wark Farm office, leading to a private fishing area. All dog owners are requested to put dog litter in the bins provided and a sign will be put up on the bin at the path. The Clerk has received an email asking the Parish Council to clarify current ownership and previous history of ownership of various plots of allotments on Goat Common. As this is a complex issue Cllr. Feerick will seek advice from NALC.
- 170** The **Minutes** of the 10 March were approved as read and signed.
- 171 Matters Arising:** None. All meetings and events had been postponed during lockdown.
- 172 Correspondence:** Planning permission has been granted for The Bothy, Mindrum.  
Northumberland Local Plan Examination – Consultation on additional evidence.  
Airwave Site LAB175 Consultation – Proposed Base Station Site Upgrade at Downham Farm.
- 173 Wark Play Park:** In order to open the play park on 4 May a risk assessment was carried out and a notice with Covid-19 guidelines and sanitiser were fixed to the fence. The equipment was inspected, cleaned and repairs carried out. Alan Cater is finishing as Play Park Inspector and grateful thanks were given to him for his dedication since the Parish Council took over responsibility for the park in 2014. The Clerk will send a letter and a gift to Alan. Cllr. Court will take over the position of Inspector.
- 174 Telephone Boxes:** The kiosk in Wark has been sanded in preparation for painting by Cllr. Allan. Mr Mike Iveson has kindly donated paint. During the lockdown it was well used by being stocked with books, DVD's and jigsaws etc. It was agreed to give a donation to the Borders Pet Rescue charity shop for supplying some of the items. Enquiries are still being made as to who the land behind the kiosk belongs to. A small area will be kept tidy by councillors to enable painting to be carried out. A removal notice has been put in the Mindrum kiosk by BT. Councillors agreed to put in an objection on the grounds that there is a strong case for retaining a fixed line telephone service for use in emergencies in the event of any accident in a remote location and an individual may not be carrying a mobile. The Parish Council has been informed the mast at Downham Farm is being upgraded to improve mobile service provision but mobile outage could occur and for resilience a fixed line service should be available, too. The Clerk will submit the objection.

- 175 Finance:** The Certificate of Exemption form was approved and signed to be sent to the auditors. Since 1 April invoices have been paid for a play park inspection (£25), NALC subscription (£90.35), WordPress (£51) and Came & Co Insurance (£369.96). There is £4,158.34 in the Bank.
- 176 Date of Next Meeting: An Ordinary Meeting and Annual Assembly will be held on Tuesday 8 September in St Cuthbert's Church Carham at 6.30pm.**