

**Minutes of a Meeting of Carham Parish Council held in St Cuthbert's Church, Carham
on Tuesday 8 September 2020**

- 177 **Present:** Cllrs Mr P Feerick, Mr J Court, Mr W Potts, Ms V Poland, Mrs L Allan and Mrs A Changleng (Clerk) in attendance.
- 178 **Apologies:** Councillor A Murray and Mr J McGregor
- 179 **Declarations of Interest:** None
- 180 **Parishioners' Questions:** One member of the public enquired who is responsible for keeping footpaths tidy. *See notes at end of minutes.*
- 181 **The Minutes of the Council Meeting** on 14 July and **Extraordinary Meeting** of 11 August were approved as read and signed.
- 182 **Matters Arising:** Thanks have been received from Alan Cater for his gift and from Borders Pet Rescue for a donation. A dog fouling sign has been put on the litter bin at Wark Farm. Councillor Allan and her helpers have repainted Wark Telephone Box. The land around the box belongs to no one and Carham Parish Council will make a First Registration. The Clerk submitted an objection to the BT removal notice in Mindrum Telephone Box.
- 183 **Correspondence:**
Straker-Smith Farms – Road Drain at Howburn. Councillors agreed to support the proposed solution to the dip in the road which fills with water whenever there is heavy rain and is a danger to road users. The Clerk will contact NCC.
Northumberland Local Plan – Dates for Examination Hearings
Email from Mr A Franklin - Councillor Feerick will reply to Mr Franklin but the matter of the Allotment Gardens has been researched, advice sought and a decision agreed by the Parish Council.
NALC emails: The Woodland Trust is giving away hundreds of thousands of trees to schools and communities across the UK. Applications will be for trees to be delivered in March 2021.
- 184 **Planning Application:**
Proposal: **Retrospective.** Part change of use of an agricultural building to a biomass boiler room and thermal stove.
Location: Tithe Hill Farmhouse, U1128 Road to Tithe Hill Farm, Cornhill on Tweed TD12 4QD
Applicant: Tweedie
Application No: 20/12306/COU
Case Officer: North Area Team
No objections but it was noted this is retrospective.
- 185 **Local Transport Plan 2021/22:** The speed of vehicles, especially timber wagons, travelling through the villages of Wark, Carham and Mindrum was discussed. Before submitting a priority, it was suggested that evidence be gathered and the use of speed guns manned by volunteers was considered.
- 186 **Wark Play Park:** A councillor is unable to be in paid employment by the Parish Council but Councillor Court has offered to carry out inspections for no payment. Councillors agreed to an independent yearly inspection. Covid19 guidelines and sanitiser have been put on the play park fence and equipment cleaned. Small repairs to the fence have been made and rabbit holes filled in. Councillor Court has also been keeping Carham War Memorial tidy by strimming the grass surrounding it.
- 186 **Finance:** There is £4,123.34 in the bank.
- 187 **Date of Next Meeting:** **Tuesday 10 November in St Cuthbert's Church, Carham at 6.30pm.**

Public Rights of Way

Northumberland County Council is responsible for:

- asserting and protecting the public's rights
- keeping rights of way free from obstructions
- keeping the surface of the path clear from natural vegetation
- signposting the paths when they leave metalled roads
- waymarking the paths where the route is unclear
- recording the rights of way on the Definitive map

The landowner or tenant is responsible for:

- providing and maintaining stiles and gates
- cutting back overhanging vegetation
- not obstructing the rights of way
- not ploughing field edge paths
- reinstating cross field paths e.g. within 14 days of ploughing
- ensuring that the line of the path is clear on the ground in cultivated fields and not obstructed by growing crops

The parish council can:

- maintain any footpath or bridleway in its area
- draw problems to the attention of NCC
- make improvements to the right of way
- agree new routes with landowners and farmers