

**Minutes of a Meeting of Carham Parish Council held online via the Zoom Platform  
on Tuesday 9 March 2021**

- 214 Present:** Cllrs Mr P Feerick, Mr J Court, Ms V Poland, Mr J McGregor, Mrs Lynda Allan, Councillor A Murray and Mrs A Changleng (Clerk) in attendance.
- 215 Chair's Welcome:** Councillor Poland was thanked for setting up the Zoom Meeting which is necessary because Covid-19 restrictions are still in place.
- 216 Apologies:** None
- 217 Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Allan (item 222)
- 218 Parishioners' Questions:** None
- 219 The Minutes of the Council Meeting** on 12 January were approved as read. Clerk to arrange signature of Chair post meeting.
- 220 Matters Arising:**
- Airwave Communications Mast – comments sent to Planning
  - Tree Planting Programme at West Learmouth – comments sent to Forestry Commission
  - Book Box – Glendale Connect funded the production of 10 boxes but Carham PC has not been successful in obtaining one
- 221 Correspondence:**
- Census 2021 – 21 March in England. Scotland postponed until 2022.
  - Local Election Arrangements in May – to promote the polls, to make the register of electors as accurate as possible and promote alternative ways for electors to cast their vote.

The Clerk participated in an NCC Nomination Briefing via Zoom on 2 March and briefed councillors on the process for Parish Council Elections on 6 May. The Clerk will print and deliver nomination papers to candidates. The nomination period is between 29 March and 8 April. The Clerk will obtain a copy of the Electoral Roll to insert the elector numbers required. The completed nominations will be collected by the Clerk who will take them to Berwick to be checked at an appointed date and time.

- 222 Traffic Calming Measures in Wark:** Cllr McGregor submitted a detailed report on the questionnaire hand delivered to 26 homes, all those on the B6350 and the residents of Blue Row. There are 17 homes on the main road. One is vacant and one is to let. Responses were received from 15 houses representing 100% of the permanent homes directly affected by traffic speeding on the main road. Councillors discussed points raised by residents and agreed that a letter will be drafted by Cllr McGregor, approved by councillors, and signed by Cllr Feerick, to be sent to NCC and our MP. Emails received from residents (data removed) will be included in correspondence to ensure a forceful argument will be made to prioritise the safety of residents, especially children, bearing in mind environment issues e.g. structural damage and noise. Cllr Murray pointed out that NCC's experience of 20mph road signs is bad but may be a part solution linked with another method of traffic calming. Councillors suggest a permanent speed camera would be the best solution but they understand the constraints NCC are under. Cllr McGregor will email residents who responded to the questionnaire to keep them updated.

- 223 Wark in Bloom:** Cllr Allan reported a positive response to plans to enhance the village. Cllr Court has supplied half barrels which will be sited and filled with flowers when the weather is better. Cllr Feerick will put a notice on a stake at the telephone box informing residents Carham Parish Council has applied for adverse possession of this site. Councillors intend to tidy up this area and residents are discouraged from dumping garden rubbish in the trees.
- 224 Footpaths Group:** Janet Chubb sent a report and update on the Rights of Way around Sunilaws, Pressen and Piperdean Lane. She is still waiting to hear from NCC about health and safety training to allow volunteers to carry out practical work on maintenance of the Rights of Way. Cllr McGregor expects to send her his report on the footpaths in Wark within the next two weeks.
- 225 Planning Applications:**
- Proposal: Proposed concrete hardstanding  
Location: Land At Tithe Hill Farm Cornhill-On-Tweed Northumberland TD12 4 QD  
Applicant: Mr M Tweedie  
Application No. 21/00452/FUL  
Case Officer: North Area Team  
No objections
- Proposal: Retrospective. Part change of agricultural building to a biomass boiler room and thermal store  
Location: Land At Tithe Hill Farm Cornhill-On-Tweed Northumberland TD12 4 QD  
Applicant: Mr M Tweedie  
NCC has granted permission
- 226 Wark Lay-by Litter:** Cllr McGregor and volunteers received permission from Wark Farm to gather all kinds of litter which has been tossed over the fence. The Clerk will request a litter bin from NCC to be placed in the lay-by to try to alleviate this problem.
- 227 Winter Weather Conditions:** The pond at East Learmouth overflowed and flooded the road but the sluice has been cleaned and much of the pond has now been drained away. There was a lack of gritting on Wark Bank which caused difficulties for traffic but the local farm contractor did his best to clear the roads as much as possible.
- 228 Finance:** There is £4,683.34 in the bank. The Clerk is awaiting instruction for the forthcoming audit.
- 229 Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday 11 May (Ordinary Meeting and Annual Assembly) to be held in St Cuthbert's Church, Carham at 6.30pm or via the Zoom Platform. Councillors will be kept informed.

Councillor Anthony Murray (Wooler) is retiring very soon and the Chair thanked him warmly for his commitment to the Parish of Carham over many years. His knowledge and guidance has been appreciated by many serving Councillors and Clerks, not forgetting his "little pot of money," as he calls his budget, which has helped to pay for improvements in the parish. Carham Parish Councillors and Clerk wish him good health and a happy retirement.