

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of Carham Parish Council held in St Cuthbert's Church, Carham on Tuesday 10 May 2022, following the Annual Parish Assembly.

320 Appointment of Office Bearers

Chair: Cllr P Feerick proposed by V Poland and seconded by L Allan. A Declaration of Acceptance of Office was completed and signed.

321 Apologies: County Councillor M Mather, Councillor J Court and Councillor J McGregor.

Councillors approved an extension of time for Councillor McGregor due to business commitments abroad. This will be reviewed after six months.

322 Declarations of Interest: None

323 The Minutes of Council Meeting of 8 March 2022 were approved as read and signed.

324 Matters Arising

- The gullies in Carham and Wark have been cleaned out by NCC. The bridge near the Border at Carham is in need of repair and NCC will carry out this work.
- After removing the trees at Wark Telephone Box the tree landscaper is organising a sub contractor to dig up the stumps. The Clerk is awaiting a quote. After the work is carried out Wark Farm has kindly agreed to take away the stumps and debris for disposal.
- New road signs and marking have been put in place by NCC at West Learmouth Junction. Councillor Mather will liaise with NCC to resolve ownership of the land to enable the hedge and fence to be sited, as previously agreed.

325 Correspondence (*circulated*)

- The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Fund – A grant of £446.69 has been received from NCC to support celebrations in Wark and Carham on 5 June. It was agreed to purchase tables and chairs which can also be used by any resident in the parish for future use. Disposable cutlery and tablecloths etc. will be purchased for the party in Carham, as requested.
- Letter from Carham Residents – copy of letter sent to NCC received.
- Planning Validation Checklist – consultation.
- Support for Tree Planting in Your Parish – Carham Parish Council owns no land on which to plant trees and farmers use their own resources for tree planting.
- Carham Parish Footpaths Walk Report – on 9 April six walkers enjoyed a circular route starting and finishing at Pressen Farm, with an extension taking in quiet lanes and footpaths.
- Northumbria Connected – information on an easy way for residents to send and receive messages received from Northumbria Police.
- Community Resilience Workshop – Councillor Poland will attend a meeting on 18 May in Kirknewton Village hall at 6pm. Following the winter storms, communities and NCC are working closely to respond to future emergencies in a more cohesive way.

- 326 Planning Application:**
 Proposal: Erection of 6 no. single bedroom apartments with swimming pool, sauna and integrated garaging for tourism purposes
 Location: Land at Courtyard Gardens, Wark, Cornhill on Tweed
 Applicant: Mr Lindsay Pratt
 Application No: 22/01248/FUL
 Case Officer: North Area Team
 Observations to the Clerk before 31 May for submission to Northumberland County Council.
 Councillor Poland will draft a response from Carham Parish Council.
- 327 Broadband Update:** Cllr. Poland informed councillors that no more can be done by the Parish Council to get superfast broadband to remote areas of the parish via the proposed Borderlink service. It has been a year since Borderlink and Northumberland County Council attended the Parish Council meeting and it is possible that Borderlink is no longer interested in providing the service. The Chair will contact Peter Straker-Smith, Broadband Co-ordinator, to ask him to liaise with Borderlink and the Diocese once again.
- 328 May Newsletter:** Councillors discussed items for the May newsletter with Councillor Poland.
- 329 Wark Play Park – Inspector’s Report:** In April the play park was tidied up and equipment cleaned. There is a loose chain on the climbing frame and this was cemented into the ground. There are a lot of leaves to be raked up. By May the chain has been pulled out of the ground and this will be repaired again. Rabbit holes in the fence were repaired.
- 330 Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2021/2022 was approved by Councillors**
5.1 to 5.5 Draft copies circulated
5.1 There were no actions arising from the report of the Internal Auditor.
5.2 The Annual Governance Statement was approved.
5.3 The Draft Annual Accounts for 2021/2022 were approved.
5.4 The Accounting Statement was approved. There was no Explanation of Variances.
5.5 The Certificate of Exemption was confirmed and approved.
- 331 Approval of Risk Assessment and Register of Assets:** Approved on the motion of L Allan and seconded by P Feerick.
- 332 Appointment of Responsible Financial Officer:** Mrs A Changleng was elected. Proposed by P Feerick and seconded by V Poland.
- 333 Appointment of Internal Auditor:** Mr James Bell was elected. Proposed by V Poland and seconded by L Allan.
- 334 Finance:** There is £6439.90 in the bank. Approval was given for the payment of NALC subscription (£93.47), Data Protection (£35.00) and NALC training (£75.00).
- 335 Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 12 July in St Cuthbert’s Church Carham at 6.30pm.**

Items carried forward to be discussed:
 Traffic Calming Measures in Carham
 Defibrillator Project