

Woolsington Parish Council

Chairperson of the Council: George Pattison

Clerk to the Council: Andrew Richardson

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Minutes of the meeting of Woolsington Parish Council held on Wednesday 18th September 2024

Present: Councillor G. Pattison (Chair)
Councillors A. Hay, L. McGuinness, L. Kennedy, J. Littleton, J. Robinson.

In attendance: A. Richardson – Clerk

59. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs J. Couchman, S. Pattison, J. Sabarre, L. Spencer, A. Thomas and L. Wright.

60. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 17th July 2024 were agreed as a true record.

61. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

Cllr Littleton provided an update on the A696 Parking Bay and Red Line Boundary system, and advised that this issue was raised at the last Newcastle Airport Consultative Committee by Northumberland County Councillor Richard Dodd who has called for a meeting with the Airport, Northumberland County Council and Woolsington Parish Council to discuss. Cllr Robinson asked if there had been any success contacting the Police and Crime Commissioner Susan Dungworth, unfortunately there hadn't.

Any issues in the meantime regarding parking offences made by taxis can be reported to Jonathan Bryce at Newcastle City Council.

The Clerk provided an update on Playzone Project following feedback from Noel Hanlon.

62. Correspondence

Two letters of thanks had been received, one from Twin Farms who provided a progress report on the Defibrillator outside their building, and wished to pass on their sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Members of Woolsington Parish Council for the introduction of the Defibrillator Scheme which had been funded by the Parish Council.

A letter was also received from Tom Hutchinson who wanted to say a massive thank you to the Parish Councils support on the Newbiggin Hall Football Club community day.

63. Woolsington Parish Area Biodiversity Plan

Cllr Littleton provided a detailed progress report, and advised the latest budget statement is available with the clerk.

Bedeburn, Grounds Maintenance have not yet approved the location for the proposed barrels (suspected issues with grass cutting)
Residents have requested a Plan B, to create a small flowerbed on Bedeburn Road in the grass border behind the bus stop outside No15 as an alternative. Therefore, the residents have been asked to draw a plan and the Parish Council will submit this to Grounds Maintenance for consideration. A commitment has been given by residents to maintain and water the proposed bed and infinitum.

Woolsington & Bankfoot, plants & materials have been bought to stock up the trough in Kenton Bank Hall, residents have done an excellent job.

Sovereign Lodge Bed, additional plants have been bought by the Parish Council to fill gaps where plants have been lost. Members of the Parish Council undertook some essential maintenance to remove grasses and weeds and installed the new plants. Meeting due with Grounds Maintenance in November to discuss next year`s maintenance. In the meantime, the Parish Council are looking at the option of a maintenance agreement with a local gardener, which should produce better results, members supported this proposal. It is thought that currently Grounds Maintenance does not have the capacity to fulfil the requirements of the job.

No progress to report since July on Schools.

Picnic Benches to be installed at Abbotswood in October.

An update on the road safety plans for Ponteland Road is being undertaken by NCC Traffic Management

Tyne Rivers Trust First phase of clearance of Snowberry and other non-native plants was completed in September at the Ponds.

Following consultation with Police regarding wildlife cameras and warning signs to deter Anti-Social Behaviour and motorbiking, three locations have been chosen for sites of cameras, one at entrance to main pond. Low cost, recycled, cameras will be used to begin with as a trial in October. Next steps for next year will be information boards and gates across the entrance of the main pond.

Furniture to be in place by October, it is proposed a community event will be held to celebrate this work.

Cllr Hay commented on the pollution in the Ouseburn that had been raised at meeting he had attended, and thought the good work the Parish Council are doing should highlighted. Cllr Littleton agreed to provide a progress document of all work completed at the Ponds and to circulate to Cllr Hay

64. Ward Councillor's Update

Cllr Hay provided an update with regard to ongoing work in the Kingston Park South and Newbiggin Hall Ward. Quotation received for four defibrillators, three would be within the Parish, with locations to be decided. YHN completed their move back into the City Council in July, a new housing directorate has been created, with Vicky McDermott appointed as the Director of Housing. A housing stock survey also commenced in July. Boundary review is ongoing, with new wards being proposed. Properties on the Newbiggin Hall site will hopefully start to be occupied from November

65. CIL Discussion

The clerk provided a balance on the updated funding figures and welcomed suggestions and ideas on projects that are in the pipeline.

Cllr Robinson and Cllr Hay advised that consultation is still ongoing with Newcastle City Council regarding proposals within the Bedeburn Ward, subject to agreement from Bedeward Ward members.

Cllr G Pattison in discussions to install traffic lights outside Farne School on Trevelyan Drive as the road is no longer patrolled by a lollipop person.

Cllr Littleton advised that speed checks were being done on Ponteland Road by the Highways Section which could lead to speed awareness cameras being positioned. Dropped kerbs to be installed in Woolsington.

WPC/Landowner are now looking at preventative measures to prevent Quad Bikes getting into the ponds area and to provide greater security for the main pond. Options for some fencing and an access gate are being evaluated and considered.

66. Planning Matters

Cllr G Pattison declared a non-pecuniary interest and left the meeting for the following planning items.

Cllr Robinson took the Chair, the Clerk provided an update on planning applications received which had previously been circulated to members.

2024/1034/01/HOU	27 Foxfield Close, Kenton Bankfoot,	No Objection
2024/1065/01/DET	39 The Oval, Woolsington,	Holding Objection
2015/0897/78/RES	Site Bounded by Whorlton Hall and Cottages to the North, Westerhope Golf Course, Chapel Park Estate	N/A
2024/1269/01/HOU	78 Broadfield Meadows, Kenton Bank Foot,	No Objection
2024/1270/01/HOU	27 Kylloe Place, Newbiggin Hall	No Objection
2024/1318/01/TPO	North And South Banks of Hareydene, Bordering Brunton Mill Farm,	
2024/1352/01/DET	Land To South Of 39 Westgarth, Whorlton Grange	
2024/1402/01/TPO	35 Woolsington Park South, Woolsington,	

67. Financial Matters / Accounts for Payment

a. Approval was given to the following payments, itemised in the Report of the Clerk circulated with the papers for the meeting –

Clerk Salary	July/Aug 24	£	982.70
HMRC	July/Aug 24	£	245.80
St Wilfrid's Church (July)		£	40.00
Zurich Municipal (Misc)		£	381.55

Simonside Primary (Bio)	£	804.56
Tony Dale (Kenton Hall Bio)	£	499.33
John Littleton (N/B Hall Bio)	£	30.00
D2 Youth Zone Ltd	£	1,200.00

b. The Clerk shared the financial statement document.

c. The Clerk provided an update on the CIL funding allocation.

d. The Clerk provided an update on the audited AGAR for the year ending March 2024, advising that the external auditors had completed their review, and was pleased to report that it had been certified complete in accordance with proper practices.

68. Any Other Business

The Clerk asked if the Parish Council were willing to offer the four local schools a donation of a real Christmas Tree like the previous years, the members thought this was a good idea and agreed.

69. Date of next meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 13th November 2024, 6.30pm at St Wilfrid's Church.

Chair

Date