



WYLAM PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WYLAM PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 8th JANUARY 2023**

Present: Councillors A Armstrong, D Carney (Chair), L Barker, M Jones, C Percy

Also present: T Wood (Parish Clerk)

Questions from Members of the Public.

Three members of the public were present. A resident reported that on 17th January 2024, it would be 150 years since local newspapers had characterised Wylam as the 'worst colliery village'. 20 buildings constructed in 1874 are still standing in the village. The resident suggested that this anniversary be commemorated as the beginning of a new era for the village. A second member of the public suggested that this could be a springboard to highlight the history of Wylam.

The Village Handyman raised issues around road safety in the village. It was noted that these are covered in the Clerk's report.

Resolved that

- i. The Parish Council would discuss the proposal for an 1874 anniversary commemoration later in the agenda.
- ii. The Clerk to update relevant members of the public on outcome of the above discussion.
- iii. The Village Handyman to provide updates for inclusion in the Clerk's report.

Report from County Councillor H Waddell.

Councillor Waddell gave an update on Fix My Street and its success with residents and Town and Parish Councils. It was noted that that the NCC Budget meeting would be taking place in Hexham. Questions about the Budget should be sent to Holly in advance. There was no update on a start date for the agreed one-way scheme at Tyne View.

Resolved that

- i. Members to send any Budget questions to Councillor Waddell.
- ii. Councillor Waddell to provide Clerk with update on the progress of the Tyne View scheme.

Report of the Volunteer Tree Warden.

The Volunteer Tree Warden report was received by members.

1. Apologies for absence.

J Hanley.

2. Declarations of Interest from members on items on the Agenda.

The Clerk declared an interest in item 13f.

Signed: Diana M Carney Date: 12 / 02 / 2024
Chair of Meeting

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th December 2023.

Resolved that

- i. The Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 13th November be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. Clerk's Report.

The Clerk's Report had been circulated to Members. The document was discussed. The Clerk updated members on NCC's Open Space questionnaire. It was reported that some play equipment at Hedley Road Play Area (the responsibility of Karbon Homes) was in poor condition.

Resolved that

- i. The report be received.
- ii. Clerk to contact Karbon Homes regarding the safety of Hedley Road Play Area.
- iii. Clerk to confirm costs of the Parish Council hosting a Christmas event at Charlie's Corner.
- iv. Clerk to update actions agreed at the meeting which will be circulated to Members for information and action as necessary.

5. New Councillor Induction Pack – further review

C Percy had no changes to add to the document. The document was approved by members. L Barker to provide feedback on the effectiveness of the document after 6 months as a Councillor.

Resolved that

- i. The document be approved.
- ii. The Clerk to review the document with L Barker in July 2024.

6. Wylam Parish Council Advisory Groups Update

• Road Safety Working Group

A meeting of the group is to be organised.

Resolved that

- i. Clerk to contact NCC regarding feedback on the status of the Parish Council's Local Transport Plan priorities.
- ii. Clerk to circulate date of the Group's next meeting.

• Museum and Heritage Working Group

No Heritage meeting has taken place.

Resolved that

- i. Clerk to meet with National Trust re marketing of Volunteer opportunities.
- ii. Clerk to meet with National Trust re charges for guided walks.
- iii. C Percy to provide further Rail 200 information at next meeting.
- iv. C Percy to ask Fiona Forsyth (TVCRP) for an update on outstanding actions.

• Haughs Local Nature Reserve Management Group

Formal meeting of the group to be arranged.

Resolved that

- i. M Jones to report to the next meeting.

• Wylam Litter Group

Members discussed village litter picks. Spring litter pick is confirmed as 16th March and had been advertised in the Winter Globe.

Resolved that

- i. M Jones to update Wylam Litter Pick poster.

Signed:

Diana M Carney

Date:

12/02/2024

Chair of Meeting

- ii. Clerk to circulate date of next litter pick on village notice boards and via posters and social media.
- iii. Clerk to circulate dates to interested groups.

- **Climate Action Group:**

Email had been sent to members of the Group with no response. J Hanley to organise meeting for members to review the activity of the Climate Action Group in line with the original remit of the Group.

Resolved that

- i. J Hanley to organise meeting of group.
- ii. J Hanley to prepare a report outlining all activities of the Climate Action Group be prepared.
- iii. This report to be considered by the Parish Council at its March meeting.

7. Wylam Parish Council – Email and Website

The new Parish Council website is almost ready to go live, with some pages to be noted as under construction. Link to be shared with members to upload historical documents.

Resolved that

- i. Members to provide support for import of information.
- ii. M Jones to share website link.
- iii. Members to have responsibility for page information.
- iv. Clerk to contact village groups for updated information and confirm page requirements.
- v. D Carney to proof text on the website.

8. Winter Globe

Winter Globe has been circulated to residents. No comments received from residents on the entrance sign placement.

Resolved that

- i. Members to prepare content for Spring Globe.

9. Wylam 150-year commemoration

The resident's proposal was noted by the members, and further discussion will take place to take this forward.

Resolved that

- i. Celebration to be discussed in tandem with other proposed Parish Council events.

10. Wylam Entrance Sign Placement

An article had been included in the Globe. No feedback from residents has been received.

Resolved that

- i. The Clerk to contact Northumberland County Council regarding sign placement.

11. Wylam Community Flood/Resilience Plan

The Volunteer Flood Warden Group continues to monitor flooding hotspots in the village. No meeting has taken place. The Clerk's meeting with Wylam Institute Committee to discuss resilience planning is to be rescheduled.

Resolved that

- i. Lead Flood Warden to continue to update volunteers of action notifications.
- ii. Lead Flood Warden to provide update at next meeting.
- iii. Clerk to organise Resilience planning meeting with Wylam Institute Committee for early 2024, following attendance at Wylam Institute Committee meeting.

Signed: *Diana McCarney* Date: *12/02/2024*
 Chair of Meeting

12. Neighbourhood Plan Update

The meeting with the Neighbourhood Plan team will take place on 17th January. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

13. Finance

Members reviewed receipts and payments, the Budget Update to December 2023 and bank reconciliations to October 2023. The Budget Outturn and draft Budget and Precept demand for 2024/25 is to be discussed and confirmed pending further information at an Extraordinary Meeting. After examining availability of finance, it was agreed to increase the Clerk's hours from [18] to [24] with effect from 1st January 2024.

Resolved that

- i. The payments detailed in Appendix D be approved.
- ii. The Budget Update December 2023 be received.
- iii. The Bank reconciliations to October 2023 by received.
- iv. The quotations detailed in Appendix G be approved.
- v. Clerk to confirm date of Extra Ordinary Meeting.
- vi. The increase in hours (from [18] to [24] for the Clerk be approved with effect from 1st January 2024.
- vii. The Local Government Pay Agreement 23/24 be noted.

14. To review correspondence received

Correspondence received was reviewed.

Resolved that

- i. The report at Appendix J be received.
- ii. The correspondence received since last meeting be noted and actioned where appropriate.

15. Planning Matters

The information on planning matters was received.

Resolved that

- i. The report at Appendix K be received.

The Council passed a resolution excluding the press and public from the meeting in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted (sensitive information).

16. Riverside Land

The Parish Council received the report from the latest monthly inspection.

17. Minor items & items for the agenda of a future meeting

D Carney suggested Village Zones for grass cutting and rewilding be added to the February agenda. Members discussed confirmation of the date of the proposed away day for Councillors.

Resolved that

- i. Clerk to add Village Zones to the February agenda.
- ii. Clerk to contact members regarding availability.

18. Date of next meeting

Ordinary Meeting – Monday 12th February 2024

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed: *Diana M Carney* Date: 12/02/2024
Chair of Meeting