**ULGHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the annual meeting of the Parish Council held in the Women’s Institute Hall on Monday 17 July 2017**

Councillor J Scott (in the Chair)

Councillor Mrs H Shaw

Also in attendance Councillor D Towns and 5 parishioners.

Apologies for absence received from Councillors G Brown and Mrs L Newman.

The Chairman pointed out that the meeting was inquorate therefore no decisions could be made however items on the agenda would be discussed.

22/17 **QUESTIONS FROM PARISHIONERS**

A resident asked about the next stages for the planning application on land near to Manor Farm Cottages.

The Chairman stated that it was likely that the application would be determined by the Castle Morpeth Local Area Council meeting as to date, 23 objections had been received. Objectors would be notified of when the application was to be discussed and would be given 5 minutes in total to speak to the Local Area Council meeting. The Parish Council would also be given a 5 minute slot.

The resident asked about the response from Highways at NCC and was surprised that the junction was not viewed as a safety risk.

The Chairman stated that the Parish Council had mentioned that in their submission to the application and had offered to meet with the Highways officer to discuss in more detail.

A resident asked about the implications following the withdrawal of the Core Strategy.

There was a statement on the NCC website about the implications of the withdrawal of the Core Strategy. The former Castle Morpeth Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) would have to be used in relation to determination of planning applications.

The Chairman stated that he had attended some planning training at NCC last week and two examples of refusals had been used, one of which related to Ulgham.

Mr Carpenter asked if there was any progress regarding the bench requested by Mr Patterson.

It was reported that the bench had been delivered and would be installed as soon as possible.

23/17 **MINUTES**

Members were asked to approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19 June 2017.

In relation to Minute 13/17, the issue of the footpath between Ulgham Grange road ends to the new footpath, he stated that it was almost certain that a footpath would not be constructed however directly opposite there was the big gate into the meadows and it may be possible to put a stile gate in next to the big gate so that people could use the meadows.

The minutes were noted.

24/17 **CORRESPONDENCE**

**(i) Update re War Memorial**

Councillor Brown had provided a written update in relation to the above.

He had stated that the Faculty from the Diocese allowing the work to proceed had arrived last week and he thanked Mrs Lamb for her efforts on this. An offer had been received from the War Memorials Trust to pay up to £600 towards the costs of engaging a Conservation Engineer of their choice. This was equivalent to 75% of the lower quote sent to them.

He would deal with this on his return from holiday.

The information was noted.

**(ii) Discussion on proposals to reduce the speed limit through the village**

Councillor David Towns reported that when he was elected in May he had had a discussion with the Chairman about the speeding through the village and what could be done. A lot of residents at Ulgham Grange had mentioned speeding traffic along that road.

He reported on a scheme that had been drawn up by NCC Highways that would impose a 40mph limit at Ulgham Fence Farm that came down to 20mph through the village.

The speed limit was felt to have a psychological effect on drivers who would drive at less than 30 through a 20mph limit. It used to be the case that speed humps or chicanes were necessary for a 20mph limit however this was no longer the case.

He was keen to proceed with this scheme that would cost about £13,000 without rumble strips or £21,000 with them.

Councillors Towns wanted to know the views of the Parish Council as he would be grateful for a contribution from them towards this scheme. A basic consultation exercise with residents would be carried out. He stated that the 40mph limit along the Grange road would not happen without the rest of the scheme.

It was agreed that this would go on the agenda in September although Councillors may meet in August to discuss this in more detail.

There was a query regarding the road past the stables which was currently 60mph and Councillor Towns agreed to look into this as it would not be possible to go from a 60 limit to a 20.

**(iii) Fire and Rescue Plan 2017-18**

A copy of a letter received from the Northumberland Fire and Rescue Service had been circulated to Councillors.

Consultation on the Fire and Rescue Plan started on 10 July and concluded on 1 September.

The information was noted.

**(iv) Withdrawal of Core Strategy**

A letter relating to the decision by NCC to withdraw the Core Strategy from Examination had been received and circulated.

The reason for the withdrawal was to carry out further examination of housing and employment numbers.

A formal statement had been posted on the County Council’s website together with a link to frequently asked questions.

The information was noted.

**(v) Northumberland County Council – Local Transport Plan (LTP) 2018-19**

Information had been received from the County Council in relation to the above. A copy had been circulated to Members.

The County Council were seeking the top three highways and transport priority issues for inclusion in the LTP for 2018-19. This information was required by 30 September 2017.

This would be considered at the September meeting.

25/17 **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

(i) Ulgham Village Committee

The next meeting would be held in September.

26/17 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

It was noted that the following accounts were now due for payment:

1. Clerk, July salary, expenses, mileage £205.00
2. HMRC – paye payment, Clerk - £91.60
3. Ulgham PCC – Cutting of churchyard – half share of 6th and 7th cuts - £130

(d) JM Champion K9 Cleanup– Grass cutting in the village £180 plus cutting of

Meadow paths - £150

(e) Marmax Products – recycled plastic seat - £396.12

(f) Faculty fees for War Memorial - £291.40

(g) Contribution to UVA for hanging baskets - £200

27/17 **REPORTS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS**

The Chairman reported that he had attended the Local Area Council meeting held on 10 July.

Some planning training for parish and town councils had been held before the meeting.

28/17 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday 18 September 2017 in the WI Hall,Ulgham at 7.00 p.m., however the Clerk was on annual leave and it was therefore suggested that the meeting be held on Tuesday 12 September at 7.00 p.m. Other Councillors would be notified.