**ULGHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the annual meeting of the Parish Council held in the Women’s Institute Hall on Tuesday 20 November 2017**

Councillor J Scott (in the Chair)

Councillors G Brown, Mrs L Newman and Mrs H Shaw

Also in attendance Councillor D Towns and 7 parishioners.

43/17 **QUESTIONS FROM PARISHIONERS**

Mr Carpenter mentioned that the number of cuts usually carried out in respect of the churchyard had been exceeded and was currently up to 16 cuts and the meadow needed to be cut. He asked if the Parish Council would agree to meet half the cost of these additional cuts.

This was agreed.

A resident was in attendance to ask about the planning application 17/04026/REM and he stated that he had concerns about the application as his property was directly behind the proposed new dwelling.

There had been some confusion over this application and the Chairman explained that guidance had been sought from NCC Planning. The original outline application for a dormer bungalow was approved in November 2014.

A further outline application had been considered recently (17/02732/OUT) and had been refused by NCC as the county now had a housing supply in the area and were giving more weight therefore to the local plan policies and the site was outside of the settlement boundary. However this latest application was for reserved matters appertaining to the original 2014 application. The Parish Council had just received the paperwork and still needed to consider this in detail.

44/17 **MINUTES**

Members were asked to approve the notes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16 October 2017.

Further to minute 37/17 a response had still not been received from street lighting regarding the additional street light requested. At a meeting that the Chairman had recently attended at NCC, he had asked one of the officers responsible for street lighting about the possibility of obtaining a double headed light at Orchard Close and opposite the playground, however none of the lamp posts can take a double headed light. A new standard would cost £2000.

Concern was again expressed at the lack of progress on the wind farm community benefit fund. Councillor Towns was asked to see if he could find anything out about this.

RESOLVED – The minutes be approved.

45/17 **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. **Update re War Memorial**

Councillor Brown reported that the report of the Conservation Engineer had been sent to the War Memorials Trust who had not agreed with the findings of turning the memorial 180 degrees.

Councillor Brown had received an email from the Trust saying that they would not fund these works. They had provided £600 towards the cost of the report.

The Parish Council were extremely disappointed with this decision and felt they had no alternative but to look elsewhere for funding.

A meeting had been held with an NCC officer who was responsible for the LEADER fund and an expression of interest form had been completed and sent to him for comments. The comments had not yet been received but he had promised to send comments through as soon as possible.

Whilst the WMT would not fund the works they would not object if another body provided the funding.

RESOLVED – The information be noted.

1. **Request for grant from Community Action Northumberland**

A request for a grant had been received from Community Action Northumberland. This organisation carried out a lot of work with community halls etc in the county.

RESOLVED – A grant of £100 be approved.

1. **Notification of appeal in respect of application 17/00772/OUT South croft Stables, Ulgham**

The Clerk reported on a letter that had been received from NCC in respect of a further appeal that had been lodged in respect of the above application.

Existing written representations would be considered by the Planning Inspector and if further representations were to be made they had to be sent within 5 weeks of the appeal commencement which was 31 October.

It was likely that further representations would be sent from the Parish Council.

RESOLVED – The information be received.

46/17 **Planning application 17/04026 REM**

An application in respect of reserved matters relating to the construction of a dormer bungalow at the Old Farmhouse, Town Head Farm Court, Ulgham had been received. Comments were required by 28 November 2017.

The Parish Council would consider the application and decide on their response.

47/17 **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

(i) Ulgham Village Committee

The Chairman referred to the success of the firework display held on 5 November. It was very successful and had been attended by about 800 people. The takings were in the region of £2000 and the feedback from those who attended was excellent.

Appreciation was expressed to all those who had helped out with the event.

48/17 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

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

1. Clerk, November salary, expenses, mileage £220.00
2. HMRC – paye payment, Clerk - £91.60

(c) Ulgham PCC – cutting of churchyard – cuts 14 & 15 half share - £130

(d) K9 Cleanup – Grass cutting in village and final cut of meadow - £305

(e) Community Action Northumberland – payment of grant - £100

49/17 **REPORTS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS**

Councillor Mrs Shaw mentioned potholes in the road on the Forge Estate. Councillor Towns offered to follow this up.

The Chairman reported that he had attended the Local Area Council meeting in the previous week. The planning part of the agenda had continued until 6.15 p.m. and the Council meeting had taken place after that.

Councillor Brown referred to the issue he had raised at the last meeting about the accumulation of rubbish at a property in Orchard Close. No action had been taken as yet.

50/17 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held on Monday 18 December in the WI Hall, Ulgham at 7.00 p.m.