**ULGHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the annual meeting of the Parish Council held in the Women’s Institute Hall on Tuesday 16 October 2017**

Councillor J Scott (in the Chair)

Councillors G Brown, Mrs L Newman and Mrs H Shaw

An apology for absence was received from Councillor D Towns

Also in attendance 3 parishioners.

36/17 **QUESTIONS FROM PARISHIONERS**

There were no questions from the parishioners present at the meeting.

Councillor Mrs Newman stated that she had received two separate enquiries from neighbours who had concerns about trees being cut down at a nearby residence.

It was reported that if there the trees did not have a Tree Preservation Order on them then there was nothing to stop people cutting down their trees.

The Chairman reported that there had been a complaint about overhanging hedges at a residence in the village. Councillor Brown stated that he had tried to call on the resident concerned to ask him to get the hedge cut back however, he could not get a reply.

Another attempt would be made to ask the resident to cut these back and if he didn’t want to do it then K9 Cleanup who carried out the village warden duties would do it.

37/17 **MINUTES**

Members were asked to approve the notes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12 September 2017.

In relation to Minute 31/17 (iii), it was reported that the LTP submission had been sent to NCC.

The Chairman stated that he had spoken to an officer at NCC regarding the additional street light that had been asked for as part of the LTP. She had forwarded this onto her manager and promised a reply but this had not yet been received. It was recognised that NCC had a problem with a sub-contractor who were meant to be installing the new street lights.

Further to minute 31/17(vi) the Chairman reported that he had recently received a letter asking if he was still interested in being part of the Wind Farm Community Benefits Panel and that they would be contacting those interested as soon as possible. The sum of £50,000 had been paid into the account as a one-off payment because of the delay.

RESOLVED – The minutes be approved.

38/17 **CORRESPONDENCE**

**(i) Update re War Memorial**

Councillor Brown reported on the meeting with the Conservation Engineer that had taken place. He had now received a copy of his report which had been sent to the War Memorials Trust. The report broadly agreed with everything that the Parish Council and the PCC wanted and was most helpful.

He had contacted the War Memorials Trust regarding the next steps. However, the person dealing with this matter was not available and it was hoped some news would be received this week.

The War Memorials Trust had indicated that they had transferred the sum of £600 to the Parish Council’s account to assist with the cost of obtaining the report from the Engineer. Councillor Brown had checked with the bank and it had not yet been received.

The bill from the Conservation Engineer had been received and he hoped that the Parish Council would agree to this payment.

RESOLVED – The report be received and the Parish Council agree to pay the account received from the Conservation Engineer.

**(ii)** **Discussion re traffic calming measures**

The Chairman reported on feedback received from residents regarding the above proposals.

The feedback he had received was that everyone seemed to be in favour of the introduction of the 40mph speed limit on the approaches to the village but there were some people who did not favour the 20mph limit through the village.

The consultation ended on Friday 20 October and it would be useful then to find out the figures for and against the 20mph.

After discussions with Councillor Towns it seemed that Highways were still willing to go ahead with the 40mph approach scheme and leave the speed limit through the village at 30mph.

This would have the advantage of saving the cost of having the change the speed on the speed indicator sign.

RESOLVED – The Parish Council would await the results of the consultation and then decide whether to just proceed with the introduction of the 40mph speed limits on the approaches to the village or go for the full scheme.

**(iii) Letter from NCC re application 17/02732/OUT**

Councillors had been provided with a copy of a letter from the County Council regarding the above application that had been refused.

The Parish Council had submitted a comment but had not objected.

RESOLVED – The information be noted.

**(iv) Request from UVA for grant towards the firework display**

A letter had been received from the Ulgham Village Association requesting a grant towards the cost of providing the annual firework display.

RESOLVED – A grant of £200 be approved.

**(v) NCC consultation on a proposal re a new partnership for bus information**

**between NCC & Parish and Town Councils**

A letter had been received from NCC seeking the assistance of parish and town councils to help with updating bus timetables in the county.

There were currently 1800 timetables in the county and at the moment two officers drive around and change the timetables.

NCC were asking bus providers to agree to changing timetables at set times during the year rather than on this ad-hoc basis.

As a first step the County Council were seeking the assistance of parish clerks to receive the timetables by email and then arrange to have them displayed in local timetable cases. They could then provide timetables in a range of other areas such as shops, village halls and pubs.

Phase 2 of this proposal would allow for initial discussions with the larger town councils to see if the local councils would be willing to take this on or would NCC need to carry on with their current programme.

RESOLVED – The Parish Council agree to take part in phase one of this proposal for timetables to be sent to the Clerk and for them to be changed in the timetable cases and left in other places in the village.

**(vi) Street Lights**

A letter had been received relating to problems NCC were experiencing with the installation of their new street lights due to problems with a sub-contractor.

39/17 **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

(i) Ulgham Village Committee

The AGM had been held on 12 October and everyone had been re-elected to their positions.

40/17 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

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

1. Clerk, October salary, expenses, mileage £205.00
2. HMRC – paye payment, Clerk - £92.00

(c) Ulgham PCC – cutting of churchyard – cuts 8-13 half share - £390

(d) K9 Cleanup – Grass cutting in village on 30/8/17 and 28/9/17 - £270

(e) Blackett Ord Conservation Engineers – report re War Memorial - £960

(f) UVA – Grant towards cost of fireworks - £200

41/17 **REPORTS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS**

A concern was raised regarding a property in Orchard Close that was accumulating rubbish etc.

It was agreed that an informal approach would be made to the landlord if possible.

Councillor Mrs Shaw reported that the Druridge Bay Regeneration Partnership had asked for some information regarding fly tipping hotspots in each of the parishes who were members. They intended to produce a fly tipping map.

The next meeting was to take place on 2 November.

It was suggested that some debate was required on membership of the body.

The Chairman reported that he had attended the Town and Parish Council Conference on 5 October. A discussion took place on the first 100 days of the new administration and how this was working. A speed dating exercise had been held as part of the Local Area Council meetings and he had attended the Castle Morpeth LAC on 9 October. He had raised the issues of the haul road with officers and the bridle way and also the street lighting issue referred to earlier.

NCC had reported that there would be no major surprises for parish and town councils in budgets for next year. A full financial review of NCC was currently being carried out. A review of Arch was also being carried out.

Councillor Mrs Shaw reported that the Active Leisure staff would no longer be able to assist with children with special educational needs and this was a cause for some concern.

42/17 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held on Monday 20 November in the WI Hall, Ulgham at 7.00 p.m.