

## **Minutes of Meeting Held Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023.** **7.30pm. Woodland Village Hall**

### **Present.**

Cllr Mr C Harding. Cllr Mr S Land. Cllr Mr R Teasdale Cllr Mr A Rutter.  
Cllr Mr N L Peckett. Cllr Mr P Brydon

### **Apologies.**

None

### **Declaration of Interest.**

None.

### **Confirmation of Minutes.**

Minutes of the meetings held 10/11/2022 & 16/01/2023 were read and agreed.

### **Matters Arising.**

1. In the absence of a clerk the chairman Mr C Harding agreed to act as temporary clerk (unpaid). Agreed by members. New clerk to be appointed – see AOB.

### **Finance.**

1. Current account assets at last bank statement is £8,702 (less unpaid invoices of £144 & £157 = £8401 actual)
2. Income & expenditure since last meeting: Expenditure of £0
3. The agreed precept plus LCTRS grant request of £3065.00 has been submitted,

### **Cemetery.**

1. A request to cut back the holly bush, front East corner to be submitted to bereavement services.
2. A request to move toppled headstones to be submitted to bereavement services.

### **Playground.**

1. Site and equipment generally in good order.
2. Price to be sought for inspection & repair of Mobilus play equipment from local qualified repairer if possible. (b/fwd from previous meeting).

### **Planning (New)**

DM/23/00062/CPO – Stanier. High Grange Middleton Road. Side & rear extension.  
Status - Pending

### **Planning (Ongoing)**

1. DM/22/00601/FPA – Gardener. Renewal of existing planning applications for 2 dwellings. Status - Pending

## **Boundary Change**

Postponed due to county ward boundary review. (estimated September 2023 soonest).

## **I.T. & Correspondence.**

1. Relevant post and email correspondence made available to the members.
2. New '.gov.uk' domain name and email addresses have been applied for through our administrator TEEC. It was agreed that email addresses should be for 'clerk' and chair (1 named councilor, cllr Harding). Email addresses for other members could be added later if they wish.

## **Any Other Business.**

1. Appointment of Clerk to the Council & Responsible Financial Officer. Cllr Harding has been acting clerk for several years and intends to surrender this role in favour of an experienced and qualified clerk, to be employed by the council. The PC budget can now accommodate this. Previously distributed job specification and salary was approved by the council. Advert to be placed with DALC, on PC website & noticeboard.
2. Cllr Becky Land has submitted her resignation from the council. The Chairman thanked her for her time in office and contribution to the council.
3. Vacancy: due to the resignation of Becky there is now a vacancy for one member on the council. Electoral Services have been advised and if a call for an election is not received from 10 electors by 20/02/2023 then the council can co-opt.
4. Edge Hotel: An Asset of Community Value (ACV) application in regard to The Edge has been submitted to DCC as agreed at the meeting of 16/01/2023. This has been acknowledged and the PC will be advised within 8 weeks of the outcome.
5. Village Hall: The parish council are custodian trustees of the hall (separate from the management committee) as legally transferred from the Coal Industries Social Welfare Organisation in 1997. It was re-affirmed by unanimous vote that the council should remain, and should not be removed from this position.
6. Coronation: It was agreed that, to mark the occasion, the council would provide a gift to the children of Woodland school. Budget of £246 agreed. Also to support any community led events in the village where possible and to investigate the purchase of a plaque to commemorate the event (poss VH contribution)
7. Grass Cutting: It was agreed to award the contract to SE Landscaping, as last year. Also to prune back a tree on Woodland village green which is overhanging the road; quoted at £150.
8. Kinninvie Junction. Following another serious accident on 08/02/2023 it was agreed that the council would write to Durham CC road safety/transport services to express our concerns. Although not in our parish this is the principal route from Woodland to Barnard castle. Clerk to write to Marwood PC in the first instance with regard to a joint/coordinated approach.
9. Litter bins. 1 new bin has been installed. 2 bins awaiting installation. Village handyman 'Gary' to be asked if he could do this.
10. Emergency Plan. Cllr Land is working on this. Possible grant for equipment. Cllr land will follow up.

**Next Meeting**

A.G.M. Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023. 7.30 pm.  
Woodland Village Hall

*This is a true and accurate minute of the meeting as agreed by the council.*

DATE .....

SIGNED .....