

## **Falstone Parish Council**

Minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022

### **Annual Parish Meeting**

Present – S Jopling (chair), S Cowan, M Halliday, A Mansfield

Mr G Varty and friend Mark.

Mr Varty confirmed he is progressing with refurbishment of the Black Bull in Bellingham, creating 4 holiday lets and reopening the bar. This business will compliment the proposed sports/leisure developments he has for Donkleywood, Falstone

He also confirmed he has on trial, a large grass cutting machine which mulches grass, which could be suitable for the grass cutting contract at Falstone. Hopefully the machine can be viewed in action soon.

### **Annual General Meeting**

Chairperson Proposal – S Jopling was nominated and seconded by Sandra and Mark. Steve agreed.

Vice chair - S Cowan nominated by Mark and Steve. Sandra agreed.

Village Hall committee – Andrew to continue.

Cemetery Committee – Sandra and Steve.

### **Usual Monthly Meeting**

No. Activity

1 Apologies for Absence – Received from J Richardson. N Welton was absent

2 No Public Participation

3 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Previously circulated, were agreed and signed as a true record.

4 Matters Arising

EV Charging Points – Information was gathered from Bellingham PC, but K Hopper of NCC was keen to visit the old charging point with a view to upgrading. His views not yet received.

It was discussed that maybe EV charging points could be installed within the car park between 4 and 5 The Croft.

Improving Local Bus Service - Steve agreed to set out some questions for a door to door survey on the Local bus service. Kielder will be

asked to take part too. Steve and Sandra were willing to undertake the door to door.

- 5 Planning Applications –  
22NP0035 – Extensions at the Blackcock, creation of a micro brewery, shop and holiday accommodation.  
The main concern is the lack of public car parking within the village but the application is supported.
- 6 Village Website – Nothing to report
- 7 Correspondence  
Northumbria Police – Northumbria Connected is their tool to ensure they are delivering on issues that affect all communities. It was agreed to join up to express some policing concerns.  
  
Falstone Cemetery – a complaint was received for some damage to a headstone in the cemetery. It was agreed to obtain a quote for a possible repair.
- 8 Financial  
Received from Northern Powergrid, £24.58 for wayleaves.  
Invoice from NALC, subscription, £73.64, agreed.  
  
The accounts for fy 21/22, previously circulated and signed as agreed.
- 9 Village Hall Update  
Andrew reported that a few of the committee members had resigned, and adverts have been circulated for new members.  
The fence around the new oil tank has been erected. Hall hire rates need updating and some work within the hall ie pat testing is due.
- 10 Village Support During Powercuts  
A quote of £10k plus was received from Nixon Hire, for a 30kva ex demo generator, was thought to be unsuitable.  
G Varty suggested a couple of contacts for further advice.

11 AO B

It was suggested to write to local businesses to contribute to the parish council, as their business rates do not benefit the council.  
Agenda item for next meeting.

It was agreed to chase the removal of some dangerous trees on the Currick, near Donkleywood.

Cemetery Gates

A quote of £600 was received for work on the cemetery gates, to repair and some re alignment. It was suggested to contact NCC as they are responsible for the cemetery boundary.

Signed

Date

Website [www.falstone.org](http://www.falstone.org) or follow on facebook