

Falstone Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11th October 2022

Present – S Jopling (chair), M Halliday, A Mansfield. Plus Mrs S Nicholson

No. Activity

1 Apologies for Absence

S Cowan and J Richardson had sent their apologies. N Welton was absent.

2 Public Participation

Sophie updated the parish council following a meeting with Northern Powergrid. Northern Powergrid Foundation charity with grant funding to allow communities to be more resilient during future power cuts. The parish council fully support the village hall committee making a grant claim for a generator and associated fittings for the Hall.

Also Community Action Northumberland (CAN) are helping the village hall become a 'Warm Hub'

Warm Hubs' have been created by CAN as places within the local community where people can be assured of finding a safe, warm and friendly environment in which to enjoy refreshments, social activity, information and advice and the company of other people'.

Community Action Northumberland works with village halls and other community buildings to ensure that:

- The building is 'fit for purpose'. CAN staff will support the management committee to undertake risk assessments, energy audits and accessibility checks. A small grant can be made available to carry out simple upgrades as well as support to find funding for more extensive work
- Governance and policies are in place
- Appropriate insurances and licences have been acquired
- Suitable volunteer recruitment processes
- Volunteers receive ongoing support and training in Dementia Awareness, Food Safety, Equality and Diversity, First Aid and more

Again the parish council give this initiative their full support.

3 Minutes of the Previous Meeting
Previously circulated, were agreed and signed as a true record.

4 Matters Arising
EV Charging Points – waiting for Village Hall reply.

Ash Dieback – Mr F Charlton, tree surgeon, had recently walked around the village looking at Ash trees on PC land.

There is only one ash tree in the Jubilee Park which is sound.

A small ash tree across the road is dying and should be removed but not sure who it belongs to.

All the ash trees within the croft area along to Mouseyhaugh, although small are dying. Mr Charlton suggests they can be taken out but do not have any safety issues. The parish council agreed to help if the trees were to be taken out.

Falstone Cemetery – Mr G Cairns, Local Services Officer from NCC, has had men complete a little work in the cemetery by taking back some bushes to expose grave stones. He was not aware of the agreement between the pc and NCC, so he has been sent a copy.

Footpath to Hawkhope Hill – Awaiting reply

Trees on The Curricks – NCC Highways have confirmed work will be carried out to remove some of the trees, during November.

5 Planning Applications –
22/02963/FUL – EE Ltd – Installation of 35m antennas and equipment
22/03178/FUL – Cornerstone – 25m tower supporting antennas and transmission dishes at Greenside. – Pleased to see shared rural network (SRN) will be involved.

6 Village Website – Nothing to report

7 Correspondence
Festive Falstone have asked permission to erect more Christmas lights in the Jubilee Park. This was agreed but at their own risk.

Spring Cottage (Drying Green) It was agreed to ask NCC regarding the area, which could be highways. But the resident will be asked to take up the matter with the seller.

GNAAS (Air Ambulance) is celebrating 20 years of service. They are launching a Clothing Champions campaign. It was agreed to donate £200 to the cause.

Josephine printed two site maps from RequestaPlan, Victoria Fountain and Spring Cottage, at a cost of £22.80.

8 Financial

Bank balance at end of September was £16663.04.

Mid Year accounts were prepared. The reserve breakdown was also discussed as was details of the Jubilee funding and balance was presented, £428.23.

9 Village Hall Update

See above under public participation

10 AO B

Local Bus Service – ADAPT confirmed that 5 or 6 people regularly use the 'dial a ride' bus service, from Kielder to Bellingham. They use a 14 seater bus and occasionally they have to put on a second bus from Barrasford due to the numbers travelling.

The parish council feel there is no further action to be taken on this matter.

National Park Sign for the Village

The sign, built into the wall is in need of a repaint.

Signed

Date

Website www.falstone.org or follow on facebook

