

Falstone Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on 6th February 2024

Present – S Cowan(chair), M Halliday, A Mansfield and S Walker.

No. Activity

1 Apologies for Absence – From J Richardson. S Jopling was absent.

2 Public Participation

Mrs S Nicholson , as a resident of Hawkhope Hill, she requested a better placed ‘No Through Road’ sign. A more prominent sign will hopefully deter visitors from driving into Hawkhope Hill looking for Kielder Water.

3 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Previously circulated from the January meeting were agreed and signed as a true record.

4 Matters Arising

Bus Shelter – A quote of £200 was received to install a PIR light inside the bus shelter. It would be requested that metal trunking be used and if possible attached to the outside of the bus shelter instead of the inside.

Cemetery Wall – one section of repair has been completed satisfactorily. Hopefully the second repair will be started soon. Northumberland County Council are responsible for the work.

Festive Lights – 2 reindeer silhouette figures have been purchased. The cost of £134.98 is funded by a balance held from the Jubilee celebrations.

Festive Falstone will be reminded to remove the old Christmas lights from the trees within the Jubilee Park

5 Planning Applications - none

6 Village Website – The annual hosting for Falstone.org has been renewed at £221.69.

7 Correspondence

Forestry England have notified that there will be a consultation going out regarding a project to re-introduce Wild Cats to Kielder.

8 Tennis Club

Mrs S Nicholson, representing the Falstone village hall committee, informed the council that Falstone Tennis Club is no longer functioning, and have handed back the tennis court to the village hall committee, as the agreement dictates. There is a consensus that if a tennis club is not viable the area could be turned into a multi use games area (MUGA). The village hall committee are not in a position to take on such a large project themselves and ask if the parish council could become involved.

The parish council agreed in principle to support the utilisation the tennis court area but a further debate with a full council would have to take place. Also the VAT status of any work would need to be clarified. It was agreed the tennis club committee should make the tennis court secure by repairing the holes in the fence.

9 Financial

Bank balance at 2nd February was £11482.02.

WeRChristmas, £134.98 paid for supply of 2 reindeer silhouettes.

JustHost – Renewal for hosting Falstone.org, £221.69

10 Village Hall Update

The village hall is a registered Crisis Centre. During long power cuts the hall can be opened for provision of heat, food and a warm drink.

As a member of Northumberland Community Energy, there could be a possibility for new extra solar panels which could feed to battery storage. A generator for use at the hall would also be useful.

The village hall AGM is scheduled for 16th April

11 AO B

A surface drain from the building plot at Crosshills, continues to run down to the main road. NCC will be asked to check it.

Date of next meeting Tuesday 5th March, 2024.

Signed

Date

Website www.falstone.org or follow on facebook