

**Minutes of a Meeting of Carham Parish Council held in St Cuthbert's Church, Carham at 6.30pm
on Tuesday 11 July 2023**

428 Present: Cllrs. P Feerick, J Court, V Poland and Mrs A Changleng (Clerk).

429 Apologies: Cllr. J McGregor.

430 Chair's Welcome: Cllr. Feerick welcomed councillors and 1 member of the public to the meeting.

431 Declarations of Interest: None

432 Parishioners' Questions: None

433 The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 9 May were approved as read and signed.

434 Matters Arising:

- The speed sign at Carham has been successfully installed. The speed sign at Wark was flashing the incorrect speed after the original fault was repaired. It appears to have righted itself but until the hedge is cut back it is not possible to be sure about this.
- Carham Parish Footpath Group – NCC has acknowledged receipt of the application for a Definitive Map Modification Order but there is not enough information on the Evidence Forms to recommend that the public footpath rights have been reasonably alleged to exist. The Clerk has informed Janet Chubb.
- Planning Applications – both Carham Hall applications have been withdrawn. Comments on the retrospective planning application for 2 barn conversions at East Learmouth have been sent to NCC. The Parish Council has been advised by NCC that an invalid planning application was submitted for 2 more fishing lodges, already on site, at East Learmouth and they are awaiting a new application. Concern has been expressed by councillors that these are retrospective.
- Wark Telephone Box – The Community Police Officer was informed by the Clerk about the theft of all the books etc. from the box. Volunteers under the guidance of a co-ordinator will keep the area tidy.

435 Correspondence: (circulated)

- A Casual Vacancy has arisen on Carham Parish Council but NCC has advised the Clerk that there is no need to hold an election, therefore a Notice of Vacancy has been published to co-opt a new councillor.
- NCC has advised users of an upgrade to the mobile library service through the purchase of 3 multipurpose vehicles.
- North Local Area Committee Meeting to be held on Thursday 27 July in Warkworth Village Hall at 6.00pm.

436 2024-25 LTP Programme Consultation: No new priorities are to be added but the two already on the list will remain until the work is carried out.

- 437 Defibrillator Project:** A Classic Car & Bike Show and Car Boot Sale will be held on Sunday 16 July between 9.00am and 3.00pm at Carham Farm Steading to raise funds for the project. This event has been widely advertised. The travelling tombola has visited all but two of the parish's communities, gathering an email mailing list of 50 people, and raising £405.30. After taking advice from Northumberland Community and Voluntary Action Councillor Poland advised councillors that, in the first instance, it would be best to become an unincorporated association. This would give the project access to most of the grant-giving bodies, with no limit on the amount of money it could hold. All the monies raised so far have been deposited with the Glendale Gateway Trust. The grand total, most of which has been raised since 3 April, is £1,427.00.
- 438 Wark Play Park:** Playsafety carried out the Annual Inspection on 9 June. Recommendations include cleaning the rubber matting and eliminating the gaps between the tiles, coating the climbing frame with preservative and cleaning algae off the rocker. The mesh on the gate has sharp edges. The bark under the roundabout is compacted and requires raking.
- 439 Wark Village Hall Proposal:** Councillors were informed of a proposal to purchase a new village hall for Wark. The Charities Commission, who holds monies raised from the sale of the original village hall, will be asked to release funds for the initial costs of submitting a planning application etc. The Lottery and Prince's Trust both have funds available through grant applications for this type of project, subject to planning consent. Carham Parish Council is being advised of this proposal because it is responsible for the proposed site at the play park. As landowners NCC has already been approached and the response has been favourable.
- 440 Finance:** Approval was given for payment of £90.00 for the Annual Play Park Inspection. There is £2,973.56 in the bank.
- 441 Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday 12 September in St Cuthbert's Church, Carham at 6.30pm.