

**Minutes of a Meeting of Carham Parish Council held in St Cuthbert's Church, Carham at 6.30pm
on Tuesday 12 November 2024**

- 543 Present:** Cllrs. P Feerick, V Poland, J McGregor, J Chubb, County Councillor M Mather and Mrs A Changleng (Clerk)
- 544 Apologies:** None
- 545 Chair's Welcome:** Cllr. Feerick welcomed all those present to the meeting, especially Janet Chubb who has been co-opted to the council.
- 546 Declarations of Interest:** None
- 547 Parishioners' Questions:** The lack of public transport in our parish has been raised previously at a meeting and a resident asked if this could be considered again. Councillor Mather informed councillors that more public transport has been arranged in north Northumberland which includes linking Branxton with larger towns and transport also crosses the Border to include villages in Scotland to access Berwick. NCC is issuing new contracts for more services and routes are under review. Councillor Mather will raise this matter again with the appropriate authorities.
- 548 The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting** on 17 September were approved as read and signed.
- 549 Matters Arising:**
- Wark Castle Notice Board - Councillors will carry out a site visit to discuss improving signage and the upkeep of the PROWs. Wooler Ward has a grant to carry out improvements on important sites and councillors can apply if a plan for Wark is desired.
- Wark Play Park – Cllr McGregor has carried out inspections during October and November and maintenance work has been carried out to address the points made in the latest inspection report.
- Land at Wark Telephone Box – Cllr. Feerick has cleared the ground and built a low wall to improve the area but garden waste has been dumped on the ground by persons unknown.
- Carham War Memorial – No wreath was laid on 11 November therefore councillors agreed that the parish council will purchase wreaths to be laid in future years.
- 550 Correspondence:**
- North Northumberland Local Area Committee Meeting on Thursday, 26 September at 6pm in Alnmouth Village Golf Club, NE66 2RZ
 - Bus Service Improvement Plan - Funding Application by 14 October
 - Guidance for Parish Clerks - Casual Vacancies and Quorums
 - Guidance for Parish Clerks – Ordinary Elections
 - Local Elections 1 May 2025
 - NALC AGM on Saturday 23 November at County Hall, Morpeth at 10.00am
- 551 Defibrillator Project:** Councillors agreed that defibrillators can be put in the phone boxes owned by the council in Wark and Carham. These will be owned by the council but maintained by Carham Parish Defibs. VAT will be reclaimed when the defibrillators are purchased.

- 552 November Newsletter:** Cllr. Poland will prepare the newsletter and include items on vacancies, Christmas church services, footpath walks, precept and a defibrillator project update, subject to space.
- 553 ElanCity Warranty Extension:** Councillors agreed to extend the warranty for the Evolis Radar Speed Sign in Carham at a cost of £199 excl. tax per year for a further three years.
- 534 Finance:** Councillors agreed not to increase the precept of £2,500 during 2025. Future expenditure was discussed and payments were authorised for Hire of Hall (£175) and Clerk's Salary (£500) in January. There is £3,411.06 in the bank.
- 535 Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 14 January 2025 in St Cuthbert's Church, Carham at 6.30pm.**