

BRANXTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council website: www.branxtonvillage.weebly.com

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 10th September 2019 In Branxton Village Hall at 7.00p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman I MacGregor
Parish Councillor I Wilson & A Waddell
Clerk I Hunter
County Councillor A Murray from Min No 449
1 member of the public

Min 446 -Election of Chairman for the remainder of 2019/29- Parish Councillor J Wilson proposed & Parish Councillor A Waddell seconded Parish Councillor I MacGregor as Chairman for the remainder of 2019/20. Parish Councillor I MacGregor accepted the position and signed the Declaration of Acceptance.

Public Question Time- None

Community Police – The Clerk read out the following update:

Since 10th May 2019 there has been one recorded crime in Branxton village relating to a public order offence. This has been dealt with by warning following the wishes of the injured party and is of a low level. There has been no other specific issues or crimes recorded in Branxton for this time period.

In a wider context we have suffered from a number of farm related thefts and burglaries relating to farm equipment / quads etc. I would ask that the community be reminded to report any suspicious vehicles or persons to police, and to remain vigilant, keeping valuables and outbuildings locked and secure.

Min 447- Election of Vice-Chairman for the remainder of 2019/20- The Chairman proposed & Parish Councillor J Wilson seconded parish Councillor S Rudge as Vice-Chairman for the remainder of 2019/20.
Parish Councillor S Rudge to sign the Declaration of Acceptance at the December meeting.

Min 448- Parish Councillor resignation- Parish Councillors accepted the email resignation from Parish Councillor P Turnbull.
Parish Councillors agreed the advertising of the vacancy. The vacancy notice will be displayed once it has been agreed by Northumberland County Council.

Apologies for Absence: Vice- Chairman S Rudge. The Clerk informed the meeting that the Vice-Chairman had submitted a request for leave of absence until the December Parish Council meeting as she was unable to attend the Parish Council meeting tonight, which would mean she was unable to attend a Parish Council meeting within a 6-month period. Parish Councillors agreed to grant the request for leave of absence until the December meeting

Declaration of Interests: None

Request for Dispensation: None

Minutes of the Meeting: The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 14th May 2019 previously circulated were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Min 449- Trees in Branxton Village- Parish Councillor J Wilson advised the meeting that she along with the Chairman, & some residents had met with Barry Wilson the Tree Officer at Northumberland County Council on site to look at the condition of the trees in the Main Street.

- Barry Wilson advised them that even though the roots are showing there is not a problem with the trees.
- Barry Wilson also stated that there are no TPO's on the trees.

Parish Councillors agreed to suspend Standing Orders

The member of the public raised concerns about the tree overhanging the road at the junction at the north-west end of the village, stating the condition of the tree has been raised in the past.

Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk contact Barry Wilson the Tree Officer at Northumberland County Council and ask if he will attend a site meeting with Parish Councillors to look at the current condition of the tree.

Standing Orders reinstated.

Min 450- Conclusion of Annual Audit 2018/19- The Clerk informed the meeting that as no questions have been raised by residents' with either the external Auditor or the Parish Council the Annual Audit for 2018/19 is now concluded.
Parish Councillors agreed the Annual Audit for 2018/19 is now concluded.

Min 451- Annual Insurance Premium- Parish Councillors ratified the payment of £175.07 to Northumberland County Council for the Annual Insurance premium.

Min 452- Defibrillator- Parish Councillors ratified the payment of £114 for new pads for the defibrillator.

Min 453- Financial Statement

- Bank of Scotland Account £740.43

Min 454- Accounts for Payment –

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|----------------------------|----------|---|
| • A Deptford | £ 114.00 | Replacement pads defibrillator |
| • Northumberland C Council | £ 175.07 | Annual Insurance premium |
| • E I Hunter | £ 155.40 | Clerk's Salary 16 hours @ £12.15 per hour |
| • HMRC | £ 39.00 | PAYE |
| • E I Hunter | £ 24.01 | Expenses |

Min 455- Correspondence

- 1- **Clerks & Councils Direct-** July newsletter
- 2- **CPRE-** Summer newsletter
- 3- **Age Uk-** request for a donation

- 4- **Carers Northumberland**- Information
- 5- **NCC**- Polling District Review
- 6- **NCC**- Northumberland Day 2020 Parish Challenge
- 7- **NCC**- Waste Information & stickers
- 8- **Environment Agency**- Information for Changes to Environment Agency Water Resource Licensing
- 9- **Hospice Care**- Information
- 10- **NCC**- Invite to Annual Town & Parish Council Conference 3rd October
- 11- **Healthwatch Northumberland** – Invite to the Northumberland Conference on 16th October
- 12- **Northumberland County Council**- Notification of examination hearings for Local Plan
- 13- **Clerks & Councils Direct**- September newsletter

Min 456- Local Transport Plan- Parish Councillors agreed the following 3 Parish Council priorities for the Local Transport Plan for 2020/21

1. The pavements at the east of Branxton village need to be resurfaced.
2. Double white lines are required on the A697 near the north junction to Branxton. This is on safety grounds to stop vehicles overtaking vehicles waiting to turn right into Branxton
3. Resurface the road from Branxton Church to Branxton Building cottages.

Min 457- Bank Signatories- Parish Councillors agreed Parish Councillor A Waddell to be added to the list of bank signatories. The Clerk to organise the forms.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Min 458- Speeding in Branxton Village- Parish Councillor J Wilson tabled a letter from Branxton Village Hall Committee, which raised concerns about the speed of the traffic going through Branxton which included farm traffic. The concerns are on safety grounds especially as children cross and play on the road. Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk report the issue to the Police, and contact Highways at Northumberland County Council asking for a site meeting to consider a location for a speed warning sign as well as placing speed wires on the road to gather information about the speed of the traffic. County Councillor A Murray said he would consider funding a speed warning sign depending on the costs involved. The Clerk informed the meeting that the Parish Council would be responsible for future maintenance etc of the speed warning sign. Parish Councillors agreed a volunteer speed watch group could be a possibility.

Date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 10th December 2019 at 7.00 p.m. in Branxton Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 8 p.m.

Chairman_____

Ch's Initials_____