

BRANXTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council website: www.branxtonparishcouncil.org

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 12th September 2023 In Branxton Village Hall at 7pm.

PRESENT: Chairman N Wood Vice-Chairman S Rudge
Parish Councillor A Darbyshire
Clerk I Hunter
2 members of the public

Public Question Time: A member of the public asked if there were any updates on the abandoned vehicle. Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk contact County Councillor M Mather for an update, as well as contacting the local Police Officer.

Community Police – The Clerk read out the following report:
No crimes or incidents of note since the last meeting. Branxton is generally a low crime area so this is not unexpected but is always good to report.
No reports of poaching or rural type crimes in the outer area. Must remain vigilant re this as the fields have been cut so sometimes the reports of poaching does rise this time of year.
No reported issues with speeding/ASB in the area but NPT do try to get out in the general area when we can doing local speed checks.
As ever can I ask that attendees consider signing up for Northumbria Connected via our website which will provide further info relevant to our area.
Unfortunately, I won't be able to attend as not on shift at the time of the meeting.

Apologies for Absence: County Councillor M Mather

Declaration of Interest: None

Request for Dispensation: None

Minutes of the Meeting: The previously circulated Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 9th May 2023 were agreed as a true record. The Chairman signed a hard copy.

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Any urgent matters arising from the minutes if not already on the agenda-

Min 632 (Min 631)- Grass cutting- Parish Councillors considered the grass cutting schedule provided by Northumberland County Council and agreed the Clerk organise a site meeting with Northumberland County Council Neighbourhood Services and Parish Councillors to discuss possible changes to the grass cutting schedule for 2024. Parish

Councillors also, agreed the Clerk invite County Councillor M Mather to attend the site meeting.

Min 633- County Councillor report- No report, as County Councillor M Mather was not in attendance.

Min 634- Financial Statement-

- Bank Balance £1004.08 Includes £231.88 for defibrillator

Min 635- Receipts

- Northumberland CC £ 500.00 ½ Annual precept
- Anonymous £ 200.00 Donation x 2 – defibrillator
- Cash £ 60.00 Fist Aid event collection- defibrillator.

Min 636- Accounts for Payment –

- E I Hunter £ 123.33 Clerk’s Salary 11.25 hours @ £13.70 per hour
- HMRC £ 30.80 PAYE
- E I Hunter £ 28.95 Expenses
- Branxton V Hall £ 55.00 Room hire

Min 637- Correspondence

- **Ord PC-** Email invite to send joint letter from north Northumberland PCs to Transport North East in relation to dualling the A1.
- **CAB-** Request for a donation. Parish Councillors agreed not to make a donation.
- **County Councillor G Castle-** Email update on future North Northumberland Local Area Committee meetings and involvement of Parish Councils
- **Age Uk-** Request for a donation. Parish Councillors agreed not to make a donation.
- **NCC-** North Northumberland Local Area Committee – presentations
- **NCC-** Invite to Annual Town & Parish Council Conference 5/10. Parish Councillors agreed they were unable to attend.

Min 638- Planning Approval

23/00753/FUL-Proposed Construction of Detached 1 1/2 Storey Dwelling House (Self/Custom Build) and detached garage-Tyane Cottage Branxton Cornhill-On-Tweed Northumberland TD12 4SW

Min 639- Annual Insurance Premium- Parish Councillors agreed to agree the 2023/24 Insurance premium via e-mail and ratify the decision at the December meeting.

Min 640- Defibrillator- Parish Councillors noted that the first aid training event was a good event, however, there were only 9 attendees.
Parish Councillors thanked County Councillor M Mather for taking the lead for the event.

A member of the public stated she had asked County Councillor M Mather for a handout as she was unable to attend the event. The Clerk agreed to follow this up with County Councillor M Mather.

Parish Councillors gave a vote of thanks for the 2 x £100 donations.

Parish Councillor A Darbyshire tabled £60 which was the proceeds from the event.

Parish Councillors agreed the payment of £5 for the room hire for the event.

Parish Councillors questioned the maintenance costs for the defibrillators and pads not being universal. The Clerk reported that Northumberland County Council Health & Wellbeing Committee had agreed to set up a Task & Finish Group to look into defibrillators to include, locations & costs.

Min 641- Conclusion of Annual Audit 2022/23- The Clerk reported that there had been no update from the External Auditor, therefore this item will need to be deferred until the December meeting. This was agreed.

Min 642- Local Transport Plan Programme 2024/25- Parish Councillors ratified the submission of the following 3 priorities as the Parish Council's top 3 priorities for 2024/25 Local Transport Programme.

- a) Resurfacing of the road from Branxton Church to Branxton Building cottages.
- b) Resurfacing of the road south towards Branxton Hill
- c) Resurfacing of the road west to Dickies Den

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Min 643- Pot holes- Parish Councillors raised concerns about the way potholes are being filled in the Parish and the repairs not lasting. Parish Councillors agreed that the Clerk raise the issue with County Councillor M Mather.

The next Parish Council will be held on 5th December 2023 at 7.00 p.m. in Branxton Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 19.27 p.m.

Chairman_____