

## Minutes of a Meeting of Carham Parish Council held in Carham Church on

Tuesday 9 September 2014

**718 Present:** Councillors Mrs A Lauder (Chair), Mr W Potts, Mr S Thorkildsen, Mr R Brydon, Mr B Woodcock and Mrs A Changleng (Clerk). Also in attendance was Alan Cater.

**719 Apologies:** Mrs J Thomas.

**720 Declarations of Interest:** None.

**721 Minutes** of the meeting on 8 July 2014 were approved and signed.

**722 Matters Arising:**

Post-16 Education: A letter was sent by the Chair to Grant Davey NCC.

The WW1 Commemoration at Hexham Abbey was attended by the Chair and Clerk.

The telephone kiosk at Carham has been adopted by the Parish Council for £1 and the agreement signed and received from BT.

The roadside mirror purchased for Wark Village has not been erected yet. The Parish Council will seek a site meeting with the Rev. Hughes to discuss his concerns regarding site, size and height.

**723 Correspondence:**

First Annual Town and Parish Councils Conference on Thursday 25 September 2014: the evening session has been cancelled due to lack of interest.

East Moneylaws Farm: An appeal has been rejected for 2 wind turbines.

Local Flood Risk Strategy: circulated to all Councillors

Village SOS Newsletter: circulated to all Councillors

New Chair/Clerk Training on Monday 22 September 2014: the Chair and Clerk will attend.

Neighbourhood Planning Meeting on Monday 13 October 2014: the Chair and Clerk will attend.

Provision of Burial Facilities: NALC is working with colleagues in the Church of England Diocese and the County Council to undertake an audit of current and prospective cemetery provision. The C of E and NCC already have information about their own sites, which they administer. However, currently, the state-of-play of parish and town council provision is less clear. Carham Churchyard is governed by the Parochial Church Council which in turn is governed by the Church of England.

Council Audit: The BDO has not qualified the audit simply because “they are unable to accept this minute as a formal resolution to create an unpaid officer for a Councillor”. When Mr Potts announced his intention to stand down as Clerk to become a Councillor, but to continue as unpaid Clerk until another was appointed, resolutions such as this should be on the agenda and not under AOB. This year’s minute for the new Clerk’s appointment will be amended in case it is queried at the next audit.

**724 Wark Play Park:** Alan Cater is now qualified as a Play Inspector and will carry out monthly inspections to Wark Play Park. Any recommendations or maintenance that is required will be highlighted in a report to the Parish Council. The first year’s monthly inspections will be undertaken free of charge, covered by the Parish Council’s payment of the training course. An annual inspection is legally required and costs in the region of £250 maximum, £80 minimum, which has to be carried out by a qualified inspector, but Alan will apply to do this after a year as a Play Inspector. This will reduce the cost and he will work out annual fees after sorting out his insurance details. Prospective monthly fees would be in the region of £40 minimum per inspection. A sign will be required to inform the

public that Wark play park is owned by Carham Parish Council (Operator) and a contact number. Alan will be freelance to enable him to gain work in other areas. Suggested signs for the play park would be "No Dogs", "No Alcohol". This was agreed by Councillors who thanked Alan for all his input.

- 725 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981:** Councillors considered maps received regarding applications or evidence submitted/discovered to modify the Definitive Map and Statement. The process is to determine whether or not public rights of way have been reasonably alleged to exist. At this stage it was agreed the Parish Council has no information it wishes to be considered.
- 726 Planning Application for Mindrum Station House -** Reinstatement of 5 chimney stacks to match originals. No objections raised.
- 727 A.O.C.B:**  
Armistice Day – The poppy wreaths are provided by the Church.  
Residents of the Mindrum Station community are concerned that BT has given notice that the working telephone kiosk will be removed. Sometimes there is no signal for mobile phones. A letter of support will be given by the Parish Council, if requested, to be sent to BT. Councillor Woodcock will liaise with the Mindrum Station community.
- 728 Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 11 November in Carham Church at 6.30pm.**