

SIMONBURN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on 16th March 2015 in Simonburn Village Hall

04-03-01 **Present**

Mrs VS Allgood (Chairman), Cllrs NA Ridley and RM Gibson
Clerk R Macfarlane

04-03-02 **Apologies for absence**

Cllrs AW Langford, RA Hadley, P Rowcroft and D Bulman

04-03-03 **Declaration of Interest**

None

04-03-04 **Public First Focus**

No members of the public present

04-03-05 **Minutes**

The minutes taken at the council meeting held on 2nd December 2015, having been circulated and approved by the Council were signed by the Chairman.

04-03-06 **Matters arising from last meeting**

Grass Cutting

The Chairman commented how good the village looked and gave thanks to those who gave up their spare time to keep it tidy and cut the grass. Hexham Garden Machinery have serviced the Councils gardening machinery and petrol will need to be purchased.

Broadband

With the exception of the centre of Simonburn all other areas are extremely disappointed with broadband delivery.

04-03-07 **Reports**

Northumberland County Council

Cllr Gibson gave a brief verbal report on the Area Committee Meeting held the previous night.

04-03-08 **Communications**

All councillors were circulated with a full list of correspondence.

NALC News, CANNY News, Active Northumberland Residents' Festival, Donation request from The Children's Foundation, Queen's Birthday commemorative medal,

- NDR Details for Car Park. The Rateable Value is 400 and is subject to National Non-Domestic Rate Multiplier but with Small Business Relief there is no charge.
- Letters of thanks were received from GNAA and Tynedale Hospice at Home.

04-03-09 **Transparency Code and Council Website**

The Clerk was asked to apply to the NALC Transparency Fund for grant aid. This would include staff training and website set-up and maintenance. It was decided to appoint TWDA to design the new site.

04-03-10 **Roads**

Simonburn Bridge

The bridge is still closed and has been since Storm Desmond. Clerk to contact NCC Highways for latest information.

Blocked Gullies and Drains

There seems to be a blocked where the drainage system down Castle Lane goes under the road causing flooding to the houses on the Green. Cllr Gibson will make enquiries with Neighbourhood services.

Church Lane

The Clerk has reported the pot holes down Church Lane (Case references NCC 101003510307 and 101003510290)

04-03-11 **Footpaths**

No issues

04-03-12 **Planning**

No issues

04-03-13 **Finances**

Bank Statements

The latest statements were approved and signed. Balances at 3rd March Deposit Account £1,716.76 and Current Account £830.83

Approved Payments Clerk's salary £200, HMRC £50 tax, Clerk's expenses £25.90 (£1.50 vat), Petrol £100

Section 137 Expenditure: Limit for 2016/17

The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) has confirmed that the appropriate sum for the purpose of section 137(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 (the 1972 Act) for parish and town councils in England for 2016/17 is £7.42.

04-03-14 **Parking on the Green**

A car parked on the pavement - which happens to be right on the corner when you go up the hill into the village, means people using the pavement have to walk in the road to avoid it. Also the dustbin men had great difficulty turning their Lorry round because of the car blocking the road. The Clerk was asked to write to indiscriminate parkers.

04-03-15 **Date of next meeting**

Regular Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 10th May 2016, 6.30 in Simonburn Village Hall.