

SIMONBURN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on 18th March 2015 in Simonburn Village Hall

04-03-01 **Present**

Mrs V Allgood (Chairman), AW Langford, NA Ridley and RA Hadley
Also Clerk R Macfarlane

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

Cllrs D Bulman and P Rowcroft also County Councillor RM Gibson

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 Wednesday 3rd December 2014, having been circulated and approved by the Council were signed by the Chairman.

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

Wark Bridge

The newsletter has been circulated keeping everyone up-to-date

Blocked drains

Surface water at Nunwick entrance is indicative of blocked drain/gully - clerk to advise NCC Highways.

04-03-07 **Reports**

Village Hall

The floor has been treated for woodworm and the new windows should be in by Easter.

04-03-08 **Communications**

NCC Area Committee Meeting 10th March, CPRE newsletter., Age UK, Northumberland Local Plan Core Strategy consultation and Northumberland Residents' Festival, NNPA Development management Committee Meeting 18th March and BDO Audit instructions.

- **Insurance Quotes** Quote for the parish insurance from Zurich Municipal - (cheapest and also giving better cover) renewal date - 1st June.
- **Grass Mowers** Border Counties have been taken over by Towergate from Manchester. Clerk to seek quotes from other companies - renewal date 1st June.
- **Car Park RDI Rates** This is again £0 because of small business discount.
- **Letters of Thanks** For grant aid from Great North Air Ambulance and Tynedale Hospice at Home.
- **S106 Grants** Cllr Langford will liaise with the Village Hall Committee.

04-03-09 **Roads**

Ward Lane There are a number of lines drawn on the road which would suggest that repairs are imminent. Also a number of white and red spots suggest that broken drains may be attended to.

Safety Mirror Wark Parish Council is concerned about the damaged traffic mirror at the end of Ward Lane at junction of C2205 and B6320. This issue was identified in one of the top three priorities included in the NCC draft Local Transport Plan Programme 2015-2016 :-

Traffic Regulation Orders *Replace the mirror sign at the B6320 junction and Ward Lane. Reposition the road signs at this junction to improve the obscured vision.*

Clerk advised Wark PC to contact NCC Highways

04-03-10 **Footpaths**

The Sandstone Way is a new 120 mile/193 km (approx) mountain biking route between Berwick upon Tweed and Hexham. It links, and is named after, the numerous sandstone features, crags and outcrops which are characteristic of the region. The route traverses through the parish using byways and existing rights of way; and will officially open in April.

04-03-11 **Planning** No issues

04-03-12 **Annual External and Internal Audit**

The annual audit information has been sent by BDO. The Audit Commission has been abolished and BDO contract will end 2017. Colin Earnshaw will complete the internal audit.

04-03-13 **Finances**

Bank Statements The latest statements were approved and signed. Balances at 1st December Deposit Account £1,715.24 and Current Account £1793.33

Approved Payments Clerk's salary £250 (£50 tax) and Clerk's expenses £16.15 (£0.75 vat) and R Hadley for Fuel £100.

04-03-14 **Date of next meeting**

Annual Council Meeting and Annual Parish Assembly - Wednesday 13th May 2015, 6.30 in Simonburn Village Hall.

Signed Chairman.....

Date13th May 2015.....