

BRANXTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council website: www.branxtonvillage.weebly.com

Minutes of the Virtual Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd June 2020 at 7.00p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman I MacGregor, Vice- Chairman S Rudge.
Parish Councillor Nigel Wood
County Councillor A Murray
Clerk I Hunter
1 member of the public

Apologies for Absence: Parish Councillors J Wilson, & A Waddell

Declaration of Interest: None

Request for Dispensation: None

Public Question Time- None

Min 467- Coronavirus- Parish Councillors ratified that at the present time all Parish Council decisions will be made via email and ratified at the next Parish Council meeting.

Community Police – Parish Councillors noted the following previously circulated update:
Since your last meeting on the 08/03/20 there have been seven incidents.
This includes three Covid-19 information logs. These were dealt with by call backs by the rural NPT and in one case an advisory letter was sent.
There were also some incidents relating to a neighbour dispute.
Unfortunately, I will not be able to go into detail regarding these incidents so as not to reveal the identities of the different parties involved.

There were also two crimes in Branxton since your last meeting.
These were both public order offences. In one case the victim would not support a prosecution or further enquiries.

I hope the meeting goes well. Please let me know if you have any concerns or if any questions are raised. Also, please remind everyone to stay safe whilst also staying alert and reporting suspicious incidents where possible.

Minutes of the Meeting: The Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 10th December 2019 previously circulated were agreed as a true record, the Chairman to sign a hard copy.

Min 468- Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2019/20

- Parish Councillors ratified the appointment of the Internal Auditor
- Parish Councillors agreed the Asset Register is up to date.
- Parish Councillors noted that no actions were raised from the report of the Internal Auditor
- Parish Councillors completed and approved the Annual Governance Statement
- Parish Councillors approved the draft Annual Accounts for 2019/20

Ch's Initials _____

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THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGES AT THE NEXT MEETING.

- Parish Councillors approved the Accounting Statement and Explanation of Variances
- Parish Councillors approved the completion and submission of the Certification of Exemption.
- Parish Councillors gave a vote of thanks to the Internal Auditor and agreed to make a payment £20 to Mr Rathbone for undertaking the Internal Audit.

Min 469- Financial Statement- Bank Balance as at 31st March 2020

- Bank of Scotland Account £725.98

Min 470- Accounts for Payment –

- E I Hunter £ 97.10 Clerk’s Salary 10 hours @ £12.15 per hr
- HMRC £ 24.40 PAYE
- NALC £ 54.44 Annual subscription
- ICO £ 35.00 Annual Data Protection fee D/D
- E I Hunter £ 48.75 Clerk’s Salary 5 hours @ £12.15 per hr
- HMRC £ 12.00 PAYE
- E Rathbone £ 20.00 Internal Audit

The following are for urgent items of business only

Min 471- Pension Review for Clerk- The Clerk informed the meeting that the 1st £120 per week gross salary is not included within the calculations for pension contributions. Therefore, as the Clerk’s salary does not meet the minimum requirement to provide a pension, her recommendation is the Parish Council does not provide a pension for the Clerk. Parish Councillors agreed the recommendation not to provide a pension for the Clerk.

Min 472- Annual Insurance Premium- Parish Councillors agreed to agree the 2020/21 Insurance premium via e-mail and ratify the decision at the September meeting.

Min 473- Highways- The Chairman informed the meeting that he and the Vice-Chairman had attended the Ford Parish Council where Paul Jones from Northumberland County Council answered Highway’s questions, and the main issue appeared to be the lack of budget. Parish Councillors noted the previously circulated extract from the Ford Parish Council minutes. The Chairman confirmed that from the results of the speed survey which was undertaken in Branxton village near the play park there appears to be no issue of speeding. The Chairman went on to say that Parish Councillor J Wilson had raised concerns that the wires were not placed in the correct position. Parish Councillors agreed the Clerk contact Northumberland County Council and ask what the criteria was for selecting that specific location and ask if the wires could be placed at a location from the south approach to the village.

Min 474- Parish Council Meeting dates for 2020/21 Parish Councillors agreed the following dates for Parish Council meetings in 2020/21
8th September 2020
8th December 2020

9th March 2021

18th May 2021

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Min 475- County Councillor Report- County Councillor A Murray updated the meeting that he has been in contact with over 100 residents and all responses are that the people are receiving good treatment.

Min 476- Food parcels- The Chairman informed the meeting that he had been in contact with Wooler Parish Council Clerk regarding the surplus food from the Wooler food bank and it is hoped that some Branxton Parish residents will receive a treat parcel c/w a note saying “thinking of you”

Date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 8th September 2020 at 7.00 p.m. in Branxton Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 7.24 p.m.

Chairman _____

Ch's Initials _____

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