**Upper Denton Parish Council (PC)**

**Minutes of an extraordinary meeting held by conference call**

**on Thursday 25th June 2020**

**Present**

**Parish Councillors: -** D. Newrick (DN) (Chairman), W. Makepeace (Vice-Chairman) & T. Gordon (Councillor)

**Other: -** Sue Hatt (SH) (Clerk)

**Absent :** Keith Meller (KM) (City Councillor). Mike Mitchelson (MM) (City Councillor) and Raymond Tinnion (RT) (City Councillor)

**The meeting opened with DN in the Chair**

1. **Opening Remarks** -DN greeted those present to the meeting and welcomed everyone to the conference call. DN remembered Lawrence Fisher who died recently and recognised his many contributions to the Parish Council & to COGS. A condolence card has been sent to his family on behalf of Upper Denton Parish Council.
2. **Apologies for Absence:** The city councillors were not in attendance.
3. **Notification by Members of Pecuniary and other Registrable Interest:** none received
4. **Minutes of the meeting held on 6th February 2020**

Agreed as a true and correct record, to be signed as such by DN. Matters arising will be covered at the next meeting.

1. **Finance:**
2. **Final Account 2019-2020:** approved
3. **Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019-2020:**
4. **Section 1: Annual Governance Statement:** approved
5. **Section 2: Accounting Statement:** approved
6. **Clerk’s expenses:** approved
7. **Repairs to Gilsland playing Field:** Thirwall Parish Council have completed the repairs and repainting of the slide, the steps and handrail in the playing field, which is owned by a Trust. The overall cost came to £1000 and it was suggested that a contribution of £250 be made to help cover the costs. This was approved.
8. **Any other business:**
9. TG enquired about the new plot next to the playing field, which is in Thirwall Parish. Planning permission was submitted for 4 dwellings but was then withdrawn because there was no report from Natural England. The access road to the site is unadopted and also provides an emergency escape route from the Village Hall. Thirwall PC and the Village Hall Committee have submitted comments about the application and a site visit is being planned. It was agreed to wait the decision of the planning committee as we are not directly involved in this issue.
10. **Crammel Linn Waterfall**: TD has been approached by Gilsland residents about the invasion of Crammel Lin over the last few weeks due to the good weather. Incidents of drinking, use of drugs and use of portable BBQs have been reported and the huge amount of rubbish left behind has had to be cleared by local volunteers. There has been a lack of policing at the site despite evidence of dangerous practices taking place. It was reported that notices from the MOD have been posted but these are inadequate considering the numbers involved. The police have been giving parking tickets but inconsiderate parking has resulted in many residents being blocked in. Access to the site is by permissive path and the MOD have indicated that it will closed if it is abused. The Parish Council have real Health and Safety concerns and believe that the problems will probably continue throughout the summer if not addressed.

It was agreed to send a letter signed by the local Parish Councils about the situation to the County Council, the police, the MOD and Peter McCall, the Cumbria Police and Crime Commissioner.

**Action: TG to draft letter and send it out for approval**

1. **Dates of future meetings:** Thursday 4th February 2021

Thursday 14th May 2021

Thursday 29th July 2021

Thursday 4th November 2021

Thursday 3rd February 202

1. **Next Meeting** – The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 5th November 2020 -at 6:30pm in the Methodist Chapel Room.

Minutes prepared by Signed as a true and correct record

**Sue Hatt Dan Newrick**

**Clerk to the PC Chairman**

**5th November 2020 5th November 2020**