**Upper Denton Parish Council (PC)**

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held by conference call**

**on Thursday 17th March 2022**

**Present:**

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

**City Councillors:** Keith Meller (KM) (City Councillor)

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

**Absent:** Tim Gordon (TG), Raymond Tinnion (RT) (City Councillor) and Mike Mitchelson (MM) (County Councillor)

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

1. **Opening Remarks** -DN welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Apologies for Absence:** Tim Gordon, Raymond Tinnion and Mike Mitchelson
3. **Notification by Members of Pecuniary and other Registrable Interest:** none received.
4. **Minutes of the meeting held on 4th November 2021.**

 Agreed as a true and correct record, signed as such by DN.

1. **Matters Arising:**
2. **Spadeadam:** DN explained that although they were allowed bangs up to 130 decibels, Spadeadam had decided to keep the noise level to 120 decibels. They were still adapting to the weather patterns that affect how the noise travels. A website is being planned to update local communities of possible loud noises.
3. **Highways:** DN reported that the fallen tree at the Poltross footbridge was being removed by Neil Sideaway but that another tree was leaning and in danger of falling. He would contact British Rail to get them to remove it.
4. **Jubilee celebrations:** Andi Keen is coordinating the planning of events for the village. SH will update at each Parish Council meeting.
5. **Communications:** none received
6. **Reports:**
7. **COGS:** The people counter the railway crossing has not been replaced, but new batteries have been fitted to the underpass ones and all three remaining sets of counters appear to be working. The counter at Willowford Bridge is the one that is used to calculate the average number of visitors walking Hadrian’s Wall. A Gilsland Station Feasibility Study has been mentioned but no information is yet available.

 **Action:** Cllr KM will enquire about this.

1. **County Council:** Cllr KM informed the councillors that the elections for the new Cumberland Council would take place on 5th May 2022, with nominations due in April. This is the first step in the Local Government Re-organisation (LGR) and that much work was going to take place before the process was complete.

There will be an upcoming consultation on the Hadrian’s Cycleway and councillors were encouraged to take part and respond.

 Cllr KM continues to send out regular updates to all the councillors.

1. **Finance:**

**Accounts for the period 1st April 2021** **to date** –Credit balance of £2596.65

1. **Receipts since the last meeting:** none

 **Payee Reason for Payment Amount**

 **Payments due:**

 **Payee Reason for Payment Amount**

Northern Tree Services Removal of fallen tree £675

The accounts were scrutinised and unanimously approved.

1. **Planning Matters:**

**22/0028** Rebuilding Garage With First Floor Balcony Above To West Elevation (Revised Application) Location: Low Town Farm, Gilsland, Brampton, CA8 7AG - **no objections to amendments**

1. **Any other business:**
2. **Merger with Waterhead PC:** It was agreed toenquire about this again as the low numbers of councillors was resulting in meetings being cancelled because they are not quorate. Cllr KM suggested he aske a legal representative at the City Council and SH will make contact with the Electoral Services again.

 **Action** SH and Cllr KM to find out about merger with Waterhead PC

1. **Play Area Grant:** Funding has been made available for Play Areas and it was agreed to send a bid for repairs and improvements to the Gilsland Playground**.** DN would contact Judith Armstrong from Thirlwall Parish Council to discuss requirements and quotes.

 **Action:** DN to contact Judith Armstrong

1. **Next Meeting** – The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Thursday 13th May 2022 at 6:30pm in the Methodist Chapel Room, followed by a Parish Council meeting
2. **Dates of future meetings:**  Thursday 8th September 2022

 Thursday 10th November 2022

 Thursday 16th March 2023

 Thursday 18th May 2023

Minutes prepared by Signed as a true and correct record

**Sue Hatt Dan Newrick**

**Clerk to the PC Chairman**