

# TARSET AND GREYSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of an Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held at 730pm on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023 in Lanehead Village Hall

**Those Present** Parish Cllr's J Morrison-Bell (Chairman) G Liddle, S Coxon, D McCracken, W Morrison-Bell, C Miller (Clerk), R Stacey, S Irving (County Council Wildfire Team)

**2023/52 Apologies for Absence**  
D Capps, G Armstrong, A Robinson

**2023/53 Declaration of Members Interests**  
J Morrison-Bell declared an interest in Northumberland National Park Authority.

**2023/54 Minutes of the previous meeting held 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023**  
It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023 be accepted as a true record, further to spelling correction from Gledlee to Gleedlee, under Minute NO: 2023/41/01

**2023/55 Meeting with Robert Stacey County Council Wildfire Team Leader & Project Officer, to consider concerns with rewilding in the parish**

Robert Stacey present who works full-time on the Wildfire Team, based at West Hartford Headquarters, along with Simon Irving, based at Bellingham Fire Station and specialist wildfire personnel. Northumbria are the Lead Fire & Rescue Service for wild fires in the country, and constantly looking to improve, not only on fighting fires, but also preparation. The team work with landowners, both in training and real life scenarios, and create wildfire response plans. The team hold a database containing details of local farmers and landowners equipment that can be used in emergencies. There are 100 plans in place covering the whole county, but gaps to fill. Funding had been acquired to purchase a six wheeled off road vehicle, with tractors etc made available from farmers. The Parish Council are aware Emblehope and Burn Grange are to be rewilded, along with White Lea, and there were concerns there would be no way for the fire brigade to get around the back of White Lea. It was suggested the wildfire team advise Defra there should be stipulations, and if allowing farms on the forest edge to rewild, a major buffer should have to be put in. Any fire break would need to be a good 50m wide. The Fire Brigade do not want massive areas of re-wilding, it would be better to space it out. Defra had been slow to take on the problems with wildfire, the problems are slowly getting through to them, however countryside stewardship/government takes time. Localised risks need to be taken into account. If there was a major forest fire, it was envisaged there would be a fire plan for the edge of the forest, and the wildfire team would then inform landowners if danger were heading in their direction. There is probably more risk with fire spreading from moorland into the forest, Sitka regeneration on the edge creates a ladder that could take a fire from moorland into the tree canopy. It was agreed the Parish Council would write to M.P. Guy Oppenheimer and ask him to approach Defra with concerns, and landowners under high level stewardship conditions should not be penalised if they put fire breaks in. The Northumberland Wildfire Group would be the best group to approach to find a local solution. J Morrison-Bell to speak to NNPA who were part of the Wildfire Group. An article on Tarsset News providing the details of the wildfire team, and providing the wild fire team with a parish map would be beneficial.

RS and SI then left the meeting.

**2023/56 Public Participation**  
There was no public participation.

**2023/57 Financial Matters**  
**2023/57/01 To approve the most recent financial accounts**

It was resolved that the most recent financial accounts were a true record.

**2023/57/01**      **To approve the following payments: Green Monkey – dismantle ash tree - £500; C Mowatt – grasscutting - £81.60; 13 & 27<sup>th</sup> May; grasscutting - £40.80 16/6/23; C Miller – May, June Salary - £405.28; expenses - £86.08 HMRC – PAYE - £85.80**

It was resolved to approve the payments.

**2023/57/02**      **To consider quotations for replacement noticeboards at Greenhaugh and Greystead**  
Contractor had been asked to provide quotation, however it was resolved G Liddle would research companies who could provide ready made boards.

**2023/57/03**      **To consider request for grant from Citizens Advice Northumberland**

It was resolved to grant £100 to the organisation.

**2023/58**      **Planning**

**2023/58/01**      **Planning applications received**

- 23NP0034: 5m tower extension to existing installation. Relocation of 3 No antennas and 2 No dishes, installation of 3 No new antennas and 3 No new ground-based equipment cabinets. Installation of remote radio units, mast head amplifiers, GPS nodes and associated apparatus and ancillary works at Brownknowe Field, Greenhaugh – no objections.

**2023/58/02**      **Approval of Planning applications received**

- 22NP0089: Plot 5, Land North of Burnbank – Approval of details reserved by conditions No 7, 14 & 17 of 21NP0090
- 23NP0028: Plot 3, Burnbank – Approval of details reserved by conditions 6, 12, 13 & 16 of 20NP0075

**2023/58/03**      **Notice has been received of the following – discussed above**

- Home Office: Shared Rural Network (SRN) Installation Of Telecommunications Equipment at Land at Brownknowe Field, Greenhaugh, Northumberland, NE48 1PS

**2023/59**      **Orchard and Car Park**

**2023/59/01**      **To consider maintenance issues**

Orchard required full cutting, and it was envisaged contractor would be actioning this in the near future.

**2023/59/02**      **To confirm emergency work following tree report**

Emergency tree work had been carried out in the orchard.

**2023/59/03**      **To clarify information relating to boundary fence contained within orchard deeds**

No further information had been received regarding the fence repair.

**2023/60**      **Reports**

J Morrison-Bell had been re-elected Chairman of Northumberland National Park Authority DMC. The NNPA precept had been frozen for two years running, with redundancies subsequently having to be made.

**2023/61**      **Community Fibre Partnership**

Lines had run out at Charlton, Openreach had put in a request for fibre to Charlton which may happen.

**2023/62**      **Highway Matters**

Potholes had been filled between Greenhaugh and Trough End. Burdonside and Sneep require total resurfacing.

County Council had advised their gully cleansing policy is that all gullies will be cleansed on a 32-month cyclical route throughout the Tynedale area. At this time the wagon was busy working in the Humshaugh/Wark area, to

then move north into Bellingham etc before coming up to the Tarsset area. They had been unable to give any dates at that time as to when it would visit the parish.

**2023/62/01            Drainage issues between Lanehead and High Green**  
Drainage not yet actioned, Clerk to re-report via County Council web-site Fix My Street

**2023/62/02            Drainage issue at Lanehead Village Hall**  
Drainage not yet actioned, Clerk to re-report via County Council web-site Fix My Street.

**2023/62/03            To consider County Council parish verge cutting 2023**  
There were no particular problems with grass verges at the present times.

**2023/62/04            To receive update on removal of flytipping at Sunday site and Greystead**  
County Council had arranged the removal of flytipping.

**2023/62/05            To consider Local Transport Plan requests 2024-2025; 2023-2024 requests being resurfacing on road to Bower; resurfacing on road to High Green; reduction in speed limit at Lanehead**  
It was resolved to retain the requests of 1. Resurfacing road to Bower; 2. Resurfacing on road to High Green; 3. Reduction in speed limit at Lanehead.


**2023/63                To receive update regarding dangerous trees at Sid Wood**  
Dangerous trees had been actioned.

**2023/64                To receive County Council Community Governance Review – Official Order**  
County Council official order had been received. The parish would be de-warded at the Local elections May 2025.

**2023/65                Urgent Business/Items for next agenda**  
There was no urgent business/items for next agenda.

**2023/66                Date of Next Meeting**  
The next meeting of Tarsset & Greystead Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September commencing at 730pm in Lanehead Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 835pm



Claire Miller, Parish Clerk