

**Minutes of the proceedings of The AGM of Pittington Parish Council held in the Village Hall,  
High Pittington on Tuesday 21 May 2013 at 7.00pm**

Present: Councillors, Mr A Sowerby (Chairman) Mr GB Fenwick, Mr S Metcalf,  
Mr R Newlove, Mrs G Patton, Mr J Steer and Mr A White

Also in attendance: Miss A Sutherland (Parish Clerk)  
PC I Madsen (Durham Constabulary)  
21 members of the public

- 17/13 **Welcome**  
Cllr Sowerby welcomed everyone to the meeting in the absence of previous Chairman.
- 18/13 **Election of Chairman 2013/2014**  
Resolved - Cllr Sowerby elected as Chairman for 2013/2014
- 19/13 **Election of Vice Chair**  
Resolved - Cllr Metcalf elected as Vice Chair for 2013/2014
- 20/13 **Declaration of Office to be signed by Chairman**  
Declaration signed by Cllr Sowerby
- 21/13 **Apologies for Absence**  
No apologies received
- 22/13 **Election of New Councillor by Co-option**  
No applications received. Resolved to re-advertise vacancy
- 23/13 **Appointment of Lead Members**
  - Planning – Cllr R Newlove
  - Police Authority – Cllr S Metcalf
  - Rights of Way – Cllr R Newlove
  - Allotments – Cllr A Sowerby
  - Policies – Cllr A White and Cllr J Steer
  - Cemetery – Cllr G Patton
- 24/13 **Appointment of Complaints/Appeals Committee**  
All Councillors to be on Committee
- 25/13 **Adoption of Governing Documents**  
All policies adopted except Cemetery Policy – Deferred to next meeting
- 26/13 **The Budget 2012/2013**  
Report not available for meeting – Deferred to next meeting
- 27/13 **Public Participation**  
Mr May raised concern over the drainage at Coalford Lane Allotments. Mr May's allotment is prone to flooding. Council previously given Mr May the choice to move allotments but declined. **Cllr Newlove proposed to arrange meeting with sub committee re: allotment problems**

Mr Hope raised concern over the bus service in the 3 villages. There are no buses on a weekend and bank holidays. The service starts at 8.12 and the last bus to the village is 1950hrs. Residents are restricted and cannot attend shows at the local Gala Theatre, Durham due to bus service. **Resolved – Clerk to send letter to Go Northeast and request a representative attend the next meeting.**

A member of the public informed Council that the GP practice in Sherburn is closed for refurbishment. The resident then informed the Council that Path 1 has been Vandalised. **Resolved – Clerk to contact Kevin Telford, Rights of Way officer to inform of vandalism.**

Resident asked about No Ball Game signs to be put up on Priors Grange to stop youths playing ball games on the street. **Resolved – Clerk to contact DCC**

Resident informed Council the litter pick from last month went well. The litterpick will take place first Thursday of every month. **Resolved – Clerk to look into costing for equipment (pickers, high visibility jackets, refuse bags etc) and insurance cover**

Resident mentioned an ongoing problem with dog fouling. PC Madsen mentioned about Dog Watch and that it was being piloted in Pitlington. The scheme is for people to inform on irresponsible dog owners who do not pick up after their dog(s) There will be signs in area along with a contact number for reporting incidents.

Resident commented on public footpaths in the area, especially Low Pitlington to Belmont. **Resolved – Clerk to write to DCC. Cllr Hall as County Councillor to look into 106 section agreement due to Ramside Development.**

Resident raised concern about the play area in Littletown. Resident also not happy that this issue has been on agenda's time and time again and still no progress has been made. **Resolved – Council to close play area with immediate effect for health and safety reasons while issue/costings is looked into.**

Meeting closed at 8.20pm

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Councillor A Sowerby  
Chairman