Draft minutes of Westlinton Parish Council meeting held in Blackford Church on Tuesday 14th December 2021 at 7pm.

Apologies: Fiona kay and Stephen Nicholson

Present: David Coulthard, Ale3x Forbes, Ian Hewson, John Wharton and the clerk

Minutes of last meeting.: Read and Approved

Matters arising; As Alex and Ian have only recently agreed to join the council, they signed the acceptance forms and filled in the Declaration of Interests forms. DC will take Stephen his forms to be filled and the clerk will send them in to Rachel Plant when all are completed. As we are still short of a councillor DC will approach Alan Harty to see if he would join the PC.

Accounts: There is £18,146-47 in the account but most of this is grant money. The PC need to set the precept for 2022/2023. The financial needs were discussed and it was agreed to leave the Precept the same as the last few years at £2,000. The relevant forms were filled in and the clerk will forward them to the relevant official.
 Since Hudson Gray left the council we are short of a signatory for the account and it was agreed by the PC that DC should become the 3rd signatory and the clerk will contact the Cumberland Building Society to facilitate this.

Highway Issues: The road through Newtown is to be shut for a day on the 23rd of December but the clerk has not received any information about this.

Planning Applications: Green Meadows received permission for their removal of previous conditions, much to the disgust of the parish council. The PC had contacted a planning consultant about Green Meadows to see if there was a way we could be more effective in objecting to applications and he did offer some help but this was not successful. There are no planning applications to consider. DC had been talking to the head of planning, Chris Hardman, who said the planning dept. were willing to come and talk about planning procedures to parish councils and all agreed that he should be asked if he would be willing to come and do this early in the new year. The clerk to contact him.

Wind farm Update: DC and the clerk had attended the Beck Burn meeting, where some educational bursaries were discussed and also 3 applications to the main fund. The PC needs to try and encourage local organisations to apply for grants. The fund managers have agreed to allow money to roll over as with covid 19 restrictions much of the money has not been able to be spent.

A.O.B.: The state of the old railway line was mentioned as it seems there are scrapped caravans on that bit owned by Mr. Jolly. Concern was also raised about the number of fires and smoke next to Jerriestown Farm. Need to monitor this as they could be detrimental to the environment.
JW said we must try and organize something to celebrate 75 years of the Queen’s reign. He mentioned using grant money and made some suggestions about a team event with a marquee and BBQ. He said he would go away and consult with the community and perhaps a committee could be formed to organize something.DC thanked him and he will get back to the PC on this.

Meeting closed at 8pm.