

Minutes of the meeting of Hexhamshire Parish Council held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2014 at 7.30 in the Whitley Chapel Parish Hall Malcolm Caisley Meeting Rooms

6.1 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

Amy and Lee Riley, members of the public, were also present.

The Parish Councillors held a minute's silence in remembrance of Ridley Roddam who had died recently and in particular remembered his considerable contribution and commitment to the community both during his time on the Parish Council and also after his retirement.

6.2 Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2014

It was agreed that these were a true record of the meeting with the amendment as detailed at 5.13 below.

6.3 Declaration of Interests

There was no declaration of interests made.

6.4 Matters Arising

5.13 The appointment of a Parish Council representative to the School Board of Governors had been incorrectly recorded and should have read Marge Rastall. Concern had been expressed by the Governors about a conflict of interest with Slaley school and Marge Rastall had decided not to take up the position. The Parish Council were not able to think of a better candidate.

5.25 There was discussion regarding the noticeboard and it was decided to contact the company who had provided the recycled benches to see if they produce noticeboards.

11.16 Two Castles had de-sludged the septic tank but the problem persists. The Chairman advised she would keep them updated.

3.5 Ted Liddle had expressed an interest about taking over the Dilston section of the wetlands.

John Price had advised that the preference was to transfer it over to the Parish Council who would in turn lease it to Ted Liddle for a peppercorn rent. The lease would be for 10 or 20 years.

6.5 Public Participation

Following a discussion regarding the planning application at Rushwood it was agreed that a site visit should be requested by the Clerk. The Chairman was to contact the NFU.

## 6.6 Correspondence

- 6.6.1 Correspondence had been received regarding the play area annual inspection at a cost of £59.95. It was agreed that this should go ahead.
- 6.6.2 Nominations had been requested in connection with Love Northumberland Awards.
- 6.6.3 The Chairman was to pass the documents given to her by Brian Massey to Woodhorn Colliery for safe keeping.
- 6.6.4 Geoff Sloan had asked if there was further work to be undertaken such as paths etc. It was agreed that, as the 3 year agreed period was up, he should be asked to tender for the business and it was agreed that an advertisement be placed in the Hexham Courant for next year. Andrew Nixon was to contact Peter Rutherford about the mole hills.

## 6.7 Financial Report

- 6.7.1 The annual accounts were circulated to the Parish Councillors and approved and were to be audited by John Henderson.

Treasurer's Account - £3386.20

Savings Account - £13795.60

Wetlands Account - £262.48

Invoices had been received from Mr Sloan in connection with grasscutting for £210, 3 cuts in May and £350, 3 in April and 2 in May and a cheque was raised for the £560.

## 6.8 Planning Applications

Steel House Steel Northumberland NE47 OLG Removal of condition 5 (holiday occupancy Condition) from planning approval T/20071374 (Change of use and conversion of Outbuilding to 1no. holiday let.

There was no objection to this planning application.

Storage preises andland at Rush Wood Slaley Northumberland NE47 OHL.  
Application for Erection of new feed and machinery store, new poultry shed and retrospective consent for Extension to existing building.

As previously minuted a site visit was to be requested.

## 6.9 Proposed caravan site at Ordley

A certificated site for the Caravan Club had been proposed at Ordley. The Caravan Club is exempt from planning permission as long as certain conditions are met. Any objections had to be with the Caravan Club by 22/6/14. It was agreed to object on the grounds of visual impact, access issues, drainage issues etc.

#### 6.10 Matters for discussion with the Unitary Councillor

There were no issues brought forward.

#### 6.11 Smelting Arches

A dig had taken place in May producing exciting results with the discovery of the settings for the bellows. The Conservation Architect had advised that the outline of the wheel pit could be left visible following filling in work. Drawings were to be done to decide if this would be feasible. There had been positive feedback regarding this idea. To the east of the Mill is a quite substantial building and there are one or two specific areas which have been identified for digging. The millrace is being conserved at present. Low profile steps have been suggested up to the arches and a tender is to be put out regarding this.

#### 6.12 Broadband

6.12.1 The map had been marked up and sent to Wildcard but to date no response had been received. Ann Moyle from Newton had agreed to mention Hexhamshire to Wildcard.

6.12.2 It was suggested that a joint meeting could be set up between John Price and Guy Opperman in connection with the broadband issues.

6.12.3 A presentation to the public would be beneficial to advise what would be on offer.

6.12..4 It was agreed that this it is vital to keep the pressure on regarding broadband.

#### 6.13 Highways sub-committee report

6.13.1 It was reported that some potholes have been filled in.

6.13.2 Austin Iliffe requested that Councillors consider the priorities and email Austin.

6.13.3 Austin advised that the BBC and Courant have approached him to discuss the issues with the roads.

6.13.4 Some work has been done on ditching and on the grips but there is still a lot of water on the roads which is causing erosion.

#### 6.14 Highways and Footpaths

There were no further issues.

#### 6.15 BOATs

It was reported that the only positive issue to come out of the recent joint meeting with the Police and the Forestry Commission was that further signs were to be put up. Due to limited resources there was little that the Police could do.

#### 6.16 Wetlands

There was nothing further to report.

## Hall

Two grant applications were outstanding in connection with the flat roof. The 100 Club were to donate £2,000 towards the cost.

The Table Top sale had been postponed until October. Various fund raising events were scheduled to take place including talks and the Christmas Fayre.

### 6.17 Any Other Business

6.17.1 The Chalet at Hollybush had not been removed.

6.17.2 The Ammunition Hut door had been pushed in. Land Factor were to be contacted to ascertain whether it was owned by Lord Allendale .

As there were no further issues the meeting was declared closed.