

Minutes of the meeting of Hexhamshire Parish Council held on Thursday 18th September 2014 at 7.30pm in the Malcolm Caisley Meeting Rooms at Whitley Chapel Parish Hall.

9.1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Andrew Nixon and Edward Parker.

Councillors present: Gill Whatmough, Alastair Stevens, Greg Finch, Hilary Kristensen, Austin Illiffe, Allison Tweddle, Davy Short and Marge Rastall.

9.2 Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 14th August 2014.

It was agreed that the minutes were a true record of the meeting.

9.3 Declaration of Interests

There were no declaration of interests.

9.4 Matters Arising

7.14.2 The Clerk had contacted the Clerk of Corbridge Parish Council who reported that they had put in place 3 cameras which had been used by the Police on more than one occasion. It was agreed to contact the Police to invite them to the next meeting of the Parish Council to discuss this issue.

6.17.2 The Ministry of Defence had been written to regarding the ammunitions hut.

8.12.6 The beech tree hanging over the road from the churchyard is going to be cut back.

8.14 It was reported that the original lease for the wetlands confirms that the fence belongs to Mr Stephenson. Davy Short was to let him know.

9.5 Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

9.6 Correspondence

9.6.1 Notification had been received from NCC regarding the planning application to construct new garage with workshop/garden store and log store to ground floor and storage room above that permission had been granted.

9.6.2 Notification had also be received that the application to replace the flat felt covered roof of 1970s extension with pitched, slated roof and removal of north facing bedroom window and installation of Velux roof light to existing north facing roof had been granted permission.

9.6.3 Copies of Northumbria Healthcare had been received.

9.6.4 An email had been received from Ray Wealleans advising that he had been appointed as Area Manager for the Neighbourhood Services responsible for Refuse and recycling, litter Bin emptying, street cleansing, gulley emptying, grounds maintenance and street sweeping. His email is raymond. wealleans@northumberland.gov.uk.

9.7 Financial Report

Treasurer's Account - £2,134.48

Wetlands Account - £267.51

Savings Account - £13797.38

It was agreed that the following invoices be paid and cheques were raised:

GR Sloan - £350 for 1 cut in July and 4 in August.

The Play Inspection Company for £71.94 for the annual inspection.

It was agreed that the Clerk should negotiate with TDP for 4 benches to a maximum price of £1250.00.

9.8 St Helen's Gate

It was reported that there had been some issues at St Helen's Gate in the last few weeks and that concerns had been expressed by residents.

9.9 Matters for Discussion with the Unitary Councillor

9.9.1 Colin Horncastle advised that Amanda Cryer had now moved to the South East area.

9.9.2 There had been no sign of any of the services being sent out to the market towns as previously advised.

9.9.3 No figures had been forthcoming regarding the post 16 transport issue. It was reported that all sorts of problems had been caused by the post 16 policy. The County Council seem to concentrate on the south east of the County.

9.9.4 It was agreed that Austin Iliffe should contact John Cooper regarding the rural broadband services and copy Colin Horncastle in to the communication.

9.9.5 There had been extra money from central government for the roads. The potholes had been completed as promised. They are now concentrating on the gullies and ditches.

9.9.6 It was agreed that an application be submitted to the Housing Developer Fund for funds in connection with the sportsfield and could include football goals, footballs, benches, line marker and possibly mobile floodlights.

9.10 Smelting Arches

9.10.1 Greg Finch reported that the consolidation of the wheelpit is almost complete.

9.10.2 There was to be a meeting on 10th October in the Parish Hall to give an update on the finds to date. This meeting was to be free to the public and there was to be a bar with the new beer on sale. The launch of the beer was to take place on 2nd October with Paul Mooney announcing the name of the new beer. 93 suggestions were made in connection with the naming of the beer. Greg thanked Gill Whatmough for her work relating to the beer project. Various pubs down the lead route have taken the beer.

9.11 Broadband Sub-Committee Report

Thanks were given to Hilary Kristensen, Gill Whatmough, Marge Rastall and Greg Finch for their assistance in providing an electronic version of the properties, names, boundaries and for producing a cable duct route to meet the deadline. The outcome of the submission was still awaited.

9.12 Highways and Footpaths

9.12.1 A priority list had been compiled by Austin Iliffe and sent to Amanda Cryer. An email had

been received advising that Chris Westerburg (mobile 07917594004 or direct line 012670 625579) had now taken over from Amanda Cryer.

- 9.12.2 It was reported that the road at Dukesfield Mill is very dangerous.
- 9.12.3 It was agreed that the importance of ditches should be emphasised.
- 9.12.4 Davy Short reported that he had been to see Mr Stephenson regarding the ditch and had also spoken to Neil Dawson who was to organise payment for the ditch. It was reported that an area of Anne Porter's field was also very wet as well as on the bridleway near Salmonfield.
- 9.12.5 It was advised that the stile on the footpath from the weir to High Staples is broken and needs reporting. Gill was to contact Neil Dawson.

9.13 BOATS

- 9.13.1 Davy Short reported that there was still activity on the BOATs. The TROs start at the beginning of October.

9.14 REPORTS

- 9.14.1 Wetlands:
It was reported that there is to be a meeting with John Price following Dilston relinquishing the lease and in connection with the Implications relating to the lease. Gill Whatmough, Davy Short, Alastair Stevens and Marge Rastall were to attend.
- 9.14.2 Hall:
It was reported that the Red Squirrel Talk had been excellent with 70 people attending and the night made a total of £450.
The Christmas Fayre is to be held on November 22nd.
- 9.14.3 School:
The Vicar had suggested that Marie Flatman would be prepared to stand as governor and report back to the Parish Council.
- 9.14.4 Sportsfield/Play Area
There were no further issues.

9.15 Any Other Business

- 9.15.1 It was reported that a meeting was being organised by Lorna Common in connection with the Hexhamshire Magazine.
- 9.15.2 Hilary Kristensen is organising an event in connection with the 250th anniversary of the Church which would include a display of photographs of local weddings and Christenings.

As there was no further business the meeting was declared closed.