

Minutes of the meeting of Hexhamshire Parish Council held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 7.30 pm  
in the Malcolm Caisley Meeting Rooms, Whitley Chapel Parish Hall.

- 7.1 Apologies for Absence: Colin Horncastle (County Councillor), Edward Parker,  
Councillors present: Alastair Stevens (Chair), Marge Rastall, Alison Tweddle, Nicola Matthews, Hilary Kristensen, Gill Whatmough, Greg Finch. Austin Iliffe, Davy Short.
- 7.2 Minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019:  
It was agreed the minutes were a true record of the meeting.
- 7.3 Declarations of interest:  
None
- 7.4 Matters Arising:
- 11.1 Allendale Neighbourhood Plan – still on going
- CH to look into grants available for Neighbourhood Plans
  - AS to speak to Slaley and Blanchland Parish's
- 3.13.6 Tennis Court – GW has detailed list of requirements for work. GW or AS to meet Sovereign equipment on site so they can quote. Waiting for quote from Matt Hope - AS to contact Dodwells
- 14.4.2 Lilswood Caravan site – no further developments from the Planning Dept.
- 4.9.1 Rushwood – nothing to report
- 4.9.1 Windy Hill – Planning has not yet been approved.  
Reminder AS to write to Rob Murfin, Director of Planning and copy in John Riddle and inform them of all the enforcement issues on going in the Parish.
- 2.6.1 Passing place to Shield Green has been requested.
- 7.5 Public Participation  
None
- 7.6 Correspondence
- 7.6.1 Anyone aware of any rough sleepers in the area, in woods etc, please let Clerk know as survey taking place.
- 7.7 Finance
- 7.7.1 Invoices have been received from :  
D short for Poo Bin and gate in Wetlands etc £356.40  
Robson Print £8.25
- 7.7.2 The Community Bank is functioning and would welcome our funds, they are fully protected by the FSA but only pay a dividend not interest. The group would prefer interest payments, and will continue to look at other options i.e. Cambridge and Counties bank.

7.7.3 Balances as at 11 July 2019

Treasurer's Account - £10888.47

Sportsfield Account - £9764.88

Dukesfield Account - £12628.67

Wetlands Account - £381.06

7.8 Matters for Discussion with the Unitary Councillor

7.9 Planning Application

7.9.1 Blackhall Mill – the appeal has been turned down

7.9.2 Mire House have created a new access on to the main shire road, this should have been via a planning application as onto a highway.

7.10 Broadband – nothing to report

7.11 Highways and Footpaths

7.11.1 AI has had no response from Highways regarding the information sent to NCC re state of roads. AI is to identify 3 or 4 areas and invite Highways Dept to come and look at those particular areas – possibly Juniper to Dye House, Kingslaw and loop at Hesleywell.

7.11.2 At Dalton Bridge the priority to oncoming traffic sign has fallen off.

7.11.3 The access from the Lea Road was discussed as this is a particularly poor exit and alternatives like replacing fences etc were discussed.

7.11.4 Verges - DS stated that all verges should be cut on safety grounds, it has taken the Parish Council many years to arrange for all of the verges in the shire to be adequately maintained. Safety of drivers, walkers and horse riders etc all verges should be cut. Many roads in the Shire (example Lea Road) must be cut as so narrow. GW/HK to ask Monica Haigh to look to see if there are any flowers of interest or a particular verge in the area that could be preserved similar to the verge near Slaley Hall. HK spoke to Rebecca Barratt from AONB who support 'Plant Life' and reserve verges who could provide signage.

7.11.5 A new sign has been erected on the stile next to the Click'em stating NCC are going to remove the style and repair or amend access.

7.11 BOATs – lots of activity at present and seen going over the fells at Kingslaw which is prohibited. Everyone encouraged to keep informing the Police and details now in the Parish Magazine.

7.12 Reports:

Wetlands – gate is now installed and fence repaired. Willow is looking very good.

School – Nothing to report.

Sportsfield – AS has spoken to Jane Wrightson re childs slide, could cost between £2000 and £3000.

Fence around Mollersteads and the Sportsfield needs some attention. Need to check who the fence belongs to – inspection to take place after meeting.

Smelting Arches – Poo Bin now in situ, thanks To Davey Short, GS to inform Council so they know to empty bin.

Hall – Still waiting for prices. There will be some old chairs and benches and Slaley Show would gladly take them as they will soon have somewhere to store them.

7.13 Any Other Business

Garden Trail was a great success and raised £3400

Parish Hall Christmas Fair will be 1 December 2019

It was agreed that we will decide if we are to hold an August meeting nearer to the date, in case there is something of importance that needs to be discussed. Otherwise the August meeting will not be held and the next meeting will be September.

Ragwort signs have been made by GW and taken by everyone to distribute throughout the Shire.

Suggested that the new regulations regarding Septic Tanks, which comes into account in January 2020, could be put into the Parish Magazine.

Meeting closed at 9.00pm