

Minutes of the meeting of Hexhamshire Parish Council held on Thursday 9th July 2020 at 7.30 pm
Meeting held via Zoom (due to COVID-19 pandemic and the UK lockdown)

- 7.1 Apologies for Absence Alison Tweddle, Davy Short, Hilary Kristensen, Roger Rutherford, Colin Horncastle (County Councillor)
- Councillors present via a Zoom Conference Call: Alastair Stevens (Chair), Gillian Whatmough, Greg Finch, Marge Rastall, Nicola Matthews, Edward Parker, Gaynor Scandle (Clerk)
- 7.2 Minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 11th June 2020
It was agreed the minutes were a true record of the meeting.
- 7.3 Declarations of interest - none
- 7.4 Matters Arising
- 2.8.2 Rushwood – CH going to speak to Joe Turner - still ongoing.
- 5.10.1 Lilswood site – Chairman to contact Neil Armstrong for an update.
- 5.11.5 Resurfacing of the parking area near the Hearse House. Ongoing
- 7.5 Neighbourhood Plan
Planning Consultant Jenny Ludman has clarified the funding available. We must apply for funding before commencing the plan, everyone was in agreement to engage Jenny and commence.
- 7.6 Public Participation
No members of the public were present
- 7.7 Correspondence –
David Pitt emailed asking for support for their campaign to have the status of ‘A Pennine Journey’ long distance footpath changed to that of a National Trail, if we do agree to support them could we please inform our county councillor and MP. GS to send a message of support
- 7.8 Finance
- 7.8.1 The AGAR has been completed and approved by Marion Henderson. It cannot be approved by the Councillors until we can have a formal (physical) meeting.
- 7.8.2 The Summary accounts were sent out and the following balances as at 6th July 2020.
- | | |
|---------------------|------------|
| Treasurer’s Account | £14,249.70 |
| Sportsfield Account | £7,797.70 |
| Dukesfield Account | £12,944.96 |
| Wetlands Account | £348.57 |
- 7.8.3 Invoice from N Robson for Tennis Court repairs was approved.
- 7.9 Matters for discussion with the Unitary Councillor
Colin Horncastle was not present at the meeting.
- 7.10 Planning
- 7.10.1 Planning Application - Phone Box at Proposal to remove phone box 01434602323. PCO PCO1 Dipton Mill Road Hexham NE46 1YA - Ref. No: 20/02039/BT The Councillors were concerned about the lack of mobile phone reception in this area
- 7.10.2 Planning Application - Proposal to remove phone box 01434673211 Nr Whitley Chapel PCO1 Steel Hexham NE47 OHB - Ref. No: 20/02040/BT.

7.10.3 Planning Application - Listed Building Consent: To install a small secondary kitchen, and ensuite and two woodburning stoves. Clickem House Steel Hexham Northumberland NE47 0HA. Ref. No: 20/01671/LB. No objections from Parish Council
GS to respond to NCC for all three applications

7.11 Highways, footpaths and BOATS

7.11.1 Concern shown that for the third year running Hill Road (Newbiggin Farm Road with entrance to Dotland Farm) has not had its grass verges cut and this could be dangerous. GW to notify Glen Harrison at Highways Dept.

7.11.2 GW to notify Glen at Northumberland County Council about the priority sign on Dalton Bridge. Also the 'no long vehicle' sign at the triangle at Mill Bank Top is lying at the side of the road.

7.11.3 The loop at Lilswood was supposed to be resurfaced but the repairs only consisted of the stretch from the Folly to Long Lee? GW to ask why not the entire loop?

7.11.4 The signs for protecting the grass verges were put out in time to preserve the verges from Lilswood Grange to the Cattle Grid at High Lilswood on both sides of the road

7.12 Reports

Wetlands - Duncan Lovett has been to inspect some issues near the Wetlands Footpath.

Dukesfield Arches

Greg has received an estimate for the 5 year inspection from Doonans for £300-450. All in agreement to proceed.

Hall

The Hall committee are looking at the options for cleaning the hall once the new COVID-19 rules apply.

School

Nothing to report

Sportsfield

Tennis courts are now complete. Some tree roots have been removed by Alistair Stevens as they were damaging the court surface. Some new signage is also required.

Nigel Robson is willing to replace some of the rotting/damaged panels on the Picnic tables.

As we know, most of the issues on the Play Inspection report were caused by strimmer damage Nigel Robson has suggested ways that we can protect them from further impairment – ongoing.

7.12 Any Other Business

Due to COVID-19 we cannot hold physical meetings, and until then we cannot hold the Parish AGM.

Marge Rastall requested that if we continue to hold zoom meetings could we pay the subscription so that the meeting does not stop and have to re-commence after 40 minutes.

The meeting closed at 8.35