

Minutes of the meeting of Hexhamshire Parish Council held on Thursday 13th August 2020 at 7.30 pm
Meeting held via Zoom (due to COVID-19 pandemic and the UK lockdown)

8.1 Apologies for Absence Alison Tweddle, Davy Short, Hilary Kristensen, Edward Parker, Colin Horncastle (County Councillor)

Councillors present via a Zoom Conference Call: Alastair Stevens (Chair), Gillian Whatmough, Greg Finch, Marge Rastall, Nicola Matthews, Roger Rutherford, Gaynor Scandle (Clerk)

8.2 Minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 9th July 2020
It was agreed the minutes were a true record of the meeting.

8.3 Declarations of interest - none

8.4 Matters Arising

2.8.2 Rushwood – CH going to speak to Joe Turner - still ongoing.

5.10.1 Lilswood site – Please can you try and speak to Neil Armstrong again before the next meeting about Lilswood as there are now quite a few caravans being occupied

5.11.5 Resurfacing of the parking area near the Hearse House. Ongoing

8.5 Neighbourhood Plan

Thanks to Roger Rutherford for agreeing to join the steering committee for the neighbourhood plan. The grant application process has been started but need some input from Jenny Ludman before it can go any further, but The Chairman has not been able to contact her. The next step is a steering group meeting which Jenny Ludman would need to attend as well.

8.6 Public Participation

No members of the public were present

8.7 Correspondence –

8.8 Finance

The AGAR has been completed and approved by Marion Henderson. All in agreement that the accounts are correct and can be sent to PKF-Littlejohn The Accountants.

8.8.1 The Summary accounts were sent out and the following balances as at 6th Aug 2020.

Treasurer's Account	£14,249.70
Sportsfield Account	£858.02
Dukesfield Account	£12,992.64
Wetlands Account	£348.58

8.8.2 Invoice for NALC subscriptions was approved.

8.9 Matters for discussion with the Unitary Councillor

Colin Horncastle was not present at the meeting.

8.10 Planning

8.10.1 Planning Application - 20/02180/FUL | Proposed Wedding Venue | Linnels Coach House Fellside Hexham Northumberland NE46 1TS – Councillors were happy with the building but concerned about the number of parking spaces available and the dangerous road outside where cars cannot be left. GS to respond.

8.11 Highways, footpaths and BOATS

8.12 Reports

Wetlands -

Dukesfield Arches Doonans plan to do the Dukesfield arches inspection later this month

Broadband - Airnexus now have 47 broadband installations in the Shire, and are working on extending coverage in the Newbiggin Hill area

Hall

School

Sportsfield

8.12 Any Other Business

- There is an outbreak of Himalayan Balsam in Dye House Wood which has been reported to Allendale Estates. There is about an acre of these 6 ft tall plants which suppress the underlying vegetation and spread like wildfire. It is a very invasive and unwelcome plant but has shallow roots and is easily pulled up if anyone feels like a bit of fresh air and exercise.
- Motorbikes have started using the public footpath in Shieldhall Wood. I'm arranging a site meeting with Duncan Lovett to discuss preventative measures.
- Meanwhile we should aim to hold the September meeting in the village hall subject to the appropriate social distancing. If anyone has any problems with this please let me know. This would also be the long postponed annual meeting.

Unfortunately, the internet was playing up so we had to abandon the meeting.