

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish of Hedgeley held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2014 commencing 730pm in the Breamish Hall Powburn**

**Apologies for Absence** None

**Those Present:** S English (Chairman), R Burn, P Barton, I Smith, J Brown, M Clark, C Robinson, N Birnie

**Minutes of Previous Meeting/Matters Arising**

There were no previous minutes.

**Chairman's Report**

All present aware of PC responsibilities including lobbying the County Council, maintaining play area and being aware of flooding issues.

**Any Other Business**

There being no other business the annual meeting of the parish finished at 735pm.

**Minutes of the quarterly meeting of Hedgeley Parish Council held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2014 in the Breamish Hall Powburn commencing at 735pm**

**Apologies for Absence**

**Those Present:** Cllr S English (Chairman), Cllr R Burn, Cllr P Barton, Cllr N Birnie, Cllr M Clark, Cllr I Robinson, Cllr J Brown, Cllr I Smith

**Minutes of previous meeting held 21<sup>st</sup> May 2014**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record.

**Election of Officers**

Cllr English nominated as Chairman by Cllr Birnie, Cllr Clark seconded, agreed.

Cllr Burn nominated as Vice Chairman by Cllr English, Cllr Brown seconded, agreed.

**Welcome to Co-Opted member Paul Barton**

Cllr Barton welcomed as a member of Hedgeley Parish Council.

**Opportunity for members of the public to raise any matter on the agenda**

No members present.

**Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest

**Matters Arising from previous meeting**

- Sand bags had been purchased and stored behind sand container.
- Still no word from John Taylor as regards speed signage funding, and no results available from NCC speed survey carried out. It was hoped results would be more effective than community Speedwatch, and Northumbria Roads Safety Initiative could then be contacted. 10% of drivers on the road outside Breamish Hall had been caught speeding.
- There are problems with houses along Crawley Dene where plaster work is starting to crack as wagons drive along, residents had contacted NCC who indicated no funds to carry out alterations. It was agreed the PC would contact NCC as inappropriate methods had been carried out to lay the ridges, causing vibrations to housing. NCC had wished to place speed rumble strips but were refused due to the same problem. When slowing down over the bridge to 40mph cars are witnessed overtaking vehicles. Cllr R Burn to contact J Taylor regarding speeding survey results.

- Grass had been cut in the community garden and clearance works carried out, with rotovating work to be carried out to bushes in the stream. There is an issue with steps leading down to garden - Sid had carried out a temporary repair, and will carry out further repairs to concrete steps and forward bill for this work to PC, it was agreed this work would be carried out. The fence around the well also requires fencing off as a matter of urgency and Sid also prepared to carry out this work, agreed. Hedgeley Estate should be made aware of the danger of allowing general public to use the land, Cllr English to inform J Carr-Ellison. There had also been a proposal to make a feature of the well, and there were problems with the tree used for the Christmas lights with a suggestion to cut the tree down, place a mounting hole, and use a donated tree on a yearly basis. Further suggestion to fence off the community garden and hold barbecues.
- It was agreed the village would be aesthetically better if grass verges were cut in all areas, J Brown to ask J Frater for a quotation for this work, and then go ahead if cost reasonable.
- North East Concrete had not yet sent road sweeper out to attend to site, it was agreed to contact NCC Enforcement Officer as a condition of their contract, which had previously been done and J Taylor County Cllr had looked into.
- No action on signposts, R Burn to contact J Taylor NCC.

## Planning

### Planning Applications had been received for the following:

- 14/01007/FUL: Mr J Carr-Ellison, construction to house installation of biomass system Hedgeley Hall
- 14/00807/VARYCO: Mrs J Armstrong – land south east of Kennels Cottage, Titlington Lane, Bolton – bungalow
- 14/01125/FUL: Mr C Ross, Station Sawmills, proposed sawmill building, all Cllrs to also be informed of planning applications, with sub-committee to look at hard copies.

### Planning Application approval had been received for the following:

- 14/00266/LBC: J Carr-Ellison, listed building consent, biomass boiler
- 14/00807/VARYCO: J Armstrong, land south east of Kennels Cottage, Bolton – variation

## Finance

### The following accounts were authorised:

- Clerks's quarterly salary & expenses – £280.53
- HMRC – PAYE on above - NIL
- Request for Donation – Great North Air Ambulance - £100 donated March 2013 – it was agreed £100 would be donated, all in favour
- AON – annual insurance premium - £736.10

### Audit of Accounts y/e 31/3/14

The Annual Governance Statement was authorised for auditing purposes. Internal auditor had suddenly fallen ill with cancer, therefore clerk had arranged the Clerk of Thropton Parish Council, Ann Winter, to carry out the internal audit.

## Correspondence

- PNE Wind – Ditchburn Wind Farm proposal – to carry out consultation with neighbouring parishes, with two rounds of public exhibitions for the project, and a dedicated project website set up. Cllr Barton against onshore wind farms, believing they are not green and create more greenhouse gases. It was agreed to identify issues, as it is an area of outstanding beauty, however renewable energy is important but needs balanced against the disadvantages. Cllr Barton to look at website and create proposals.
- Community Action Northumberland News – copies available

## Parish Plan

Suggestions had been put forward: to fence off community garden and secure the well; action to subsidence in front of the Plough; continuing to plant daffodils on verges on an annual basis, and should this be extended to Beanley and Bolton? However with the number of residents in those areas they could make their own decisions. With the interest shown in the community garden, it was agreed to invite Sid to the next PC meeting and also involve J Carr-Ellison as landowner after proposals had been discussed

**Defibrillator**

The clerk had become aware regular checks should be carried out to the defibrillator, P Barton happy to carry out these checks, and would speak to person who installed structure and North East Ambulance Service.

**Any Other Business**

- M Clark reported the footpath in Bolton requires remedial action and is crumbling near to the churchyard. Clerk to contact NCC.
- No reply had been received from NCC further to concern regarding the wagon overturning with radioactive load it was agreed clerk would recontact NCC.
- Further to NCC speeding report, and subsequent request for three mirrors, which are the PC's responsibility to purchase and erect such structures, Cllr Burn to look at costings.
- South side of Powburn requiring road maintenance. It was agreed a list of items requested to NCC to be kept on record.
- It was thought a report should be submitted to the Northumberland Gazette after PC meetings, as with the local newsletter.

**Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Hedgeley Parish Council will be held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014 commencing 730pm in Breamish Hall, Powburn.