

## HEDGELEY PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of Hedgeley Parish Council meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2013 in the Breamish Hall Powburn commencing 730pm

**Those Present:** Cllr S English (Chairman), Cllr M Wilson, Cllr N Birnie, Cllr J Macdougall, Cllr C Robinson, Cllr I Smith, Cllr J Brown, Cllr J Carr-Ellison

**Apologies for Absence** Cllr A Smith, Cllr M Clark

#### **Minutes of previous meeting held 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2012**

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

Cllr Macdougall & Wilson thanked PC for their flowers after recent accidents.

#### **Matters Arising from previous meeting**

- **Flooding Powburn:** Paul Wood had carried out cleansing works to Branton Burn, awaiting confirmation for Powburn, however Environment Agency changing rules for cleaning out watercourses and farmers will now be permitted to clean themselves, clerk to re-contact NCC for permission. Concern over state of several tributaries of river Tweed, guidance to be emailed. Sink tops causing problems, works to be actioned after 1<sup>st</sup> April.
- **Glanton Cluster Meetings:** Nothing to report.
- **Speeding:** Speedwatch results received from police, suggesting speeding is not a serious problem, but this not the perception of locals, and serious dangers do exist for schoolchildren crossing roads in Powburn. Robbie Burn had organised further speeding meeting and it would be beneficial if PC could link up with Robbie. Steering Group had produced a newsletter for circulation before next meeting. It was agreed to contact Vera Baird, Police Commissioner suggesting she could work with the PC to alleviate speeding problems.
- Cllr J Taylor outlined NCC budgets, who had to find cuts of 23.6million, and had already made savings of 100million over the last four years. Staff numbers had been reduced by 2,000, mostly by voluntary redundancies, and senior positions reduced from 55 to 30. Council tax to be frozen for the third year running. Highways maintenance budget had been increased from reserves, and they are seeking an extra 8million from central government towards landslips. Agreed five year plan to repair winter damage, and regular future maintenance plan. Richard Poppleton had written to Highways regarding areas of concern with copy sent to PC. Rural Crime being carried out concerning metal gullies, leading to large replacement costs, with oil/diesel thefts an ongoing problem.

#### **Planning**

##### **Planning Approval had been received for the following:**

- 12/02031/OHL: Northern Powergrid (Northeast) Ltd – diversion of high voltage overhead line, Hedgeley Quarry U3063 road to Low Hedgeley
- 12/03234/FUL: Mr J Beresford, 25 Crawley Dene – proposed change of use from vacant, unmaintained open space to residential garden grounds

##### **Refusal of Planning Permission had been received for the following:**

- 12/02033/OUT: Mrs J Armstrong, Land South east of Kennels Cottage, Bolton - bungalow

**Finance: Current Bank Balance: £4671.16**

##### **The following invoices were authorised:**

- Clerks' quarterly salary & expenses – £264.17

- Inland Revenue – PAYE on above – £31.80
- Request for donation – Great North Air Ambulance - £50 donated 6/2/12 - £100 agreed.
- P Wood – clearing out branton ditch - £480.00 (authorised prior to meeting)

### **Correspondence**

- NCC – Highway Services in Winter – for information
- NCC – Neighbourhood Area Application – Alnwick, Denwick and Denwick Detached
- NCC – Review of financial support for Bus Service 710 Kelso to Saturday - open meeting to be held 6/3/13, Glendale Middle School
- Community Action Northumberland News – copies available
- NCC – Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 Definitive Map Modification Order (No 4) 2012
- NCC – Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 Definitive Map Modification Order (No 5) 2012
- NCC – Local Transport Plan news - newsletter
- Robbie Burn – Speeding through Powburn – discussed earlier
- NCC – Dispensations – Cllrs will have to declare interest when precept set
- NCC – Core Strategy – consultation – running until 20<sup>th</sup> March 2013
- CPRE – newsletter
- NCC – Register of Electors – for information

### **Any Other Business**

- Village had not been swept since North East Concrete had taken over quarry, J Taylor to contact NCC Enforcement Office.
- It was agreed to write letter of support on behalf of Glendale Middle School, who are under threat of budget reductions, Cllr J Taylor to provide contact details.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Hedgeley Parish Council will be held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2013 commencing 730pm in the Breamish Hall, Powburn.