

## Minutes of Hedgeley Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2013 commencing 730pm in the Breamish Hall, Powburn

**Apologies for Absence** Cllr I Smith

**Those Present:** Cllr S English (Chairman), Cllr M Wilson, Cllr N Birnie, Cllr C Robinson, Cllr M Clark, Cllr J Brown, Cllr R Burn, Cllr G Williamson, J Taylor (NCC), two members of the public

Graham Williamson welcomed to the meeting

### Minutes of previous meeting held 10<sup>th</sup> May 2013

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

### Matters arising from previous meeting

- **Flooding Powburn:** J Carr Ellison had kindly carried out clearance works to Pow Burn. Sand bags purchased, with sand to be delivered. Once in place, bags to be publicised for use via newsletter, web-site and noticeboard, with access to bags available 24 hours, and Cllr contact details provided.
- **Glanton Cluster Meetings:** Glanton PC producing document of A697 junctions.
- **Speeding:** Meeting held with NCC who had raised objections and reasons for non-action, however had agreed on certain action including refreshing paint on road, additional road markings, new road signage, and will undertake two speed surveys – north of village and south side, if 85% of vehicles exceed limit survey will be passed to Northumberland Road Safety Initiative. Will also carry out a further survey regarding possibility of pedestrian crossing, however thought insufficient persons cross the road. Mini-roundabout discussed but NCC not hopeful. They will not provide stone plinths, roadside mirrors, solid white lines or pedestrian refuges, and interactive speed signs responsibility of PCs. Possibility of changing bus route for schoolchildren for safety reasons. J Taylor had allocated 10K for Powburn village from his members scheme, signs will cost £7K, with two possibly placed in village, and will be free for three years, then responsibility of PC. Bus stops a problem due to companies unlikely to use alternative route in Winter. Possibility of bus stops being moved discussed, agreed persons living near bus stop should be consulted. Flashing warning lights could be positioned for schoolchildren crossing. NCC are to carry out full survey of A697, number of HGV's overturning would be beneficial. Safety stone structures only permitted if 1.5m from road surface, therefore not viable, however hedging could be a possibility. Mirrors could be purchased from small members scheme. Costing's to be researched. Red and white hatching had only achieved vehicles parking on the area, to be discussed at NCC, had been discussed numerous times previously, person parking had received correspondence, with no legislation in place to prevent this it is a police matter, is causing obstruction and sightline danger. If raised kerb took route of red hatching problem could be alleviated, J Taylor to look into, and to request sink cleaning works.
- **Overgrown Hedge:** Road had been adopted by NCC, however hedge not overhanging a footpath, but causing restrictions for vehicle users, clerk to contact NCC. Letter received from R Poppleton informing PC he is no longer able to maintain community garden. If cut twice yearly would suffice, suggestion picnic tables be transferred to play area, agreed Cllr English would contact Hugh Tindle for his views, and write to Richard Poppleton thanking him for his work. Entrance to Crawley Dene requiring verge cutting, J Frater could action.
- **Flowers & Flowerpots:** Two flowerbeds refurbished free of charge by Ivor Scot, letter of thanks to be sent. Potential daffodil planting at Powburn and Bolton discussed, fairly goodwill among residents to carry this out, agreed. Cllr Wilson & Williamson to action, £200 allocated.
- **Possible rat problems:** NCC actioning, however costs to play area will be attributable to PC, who had not formally asked NCC for aid in rat problem, NCC had inspected play area, however rats had dispersed at that point, and a large number had been shot. As a PC need to contact NCC and see what action had and will be taken. Cllr English to action.

### Planning

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

- 13/02362/RENE: Mr J Stanners, Land North West of Breamish Park, wind turbine installation – supported, for personal use.

## **Finance**

### **The following accounts are to be authorised:**

- Clerks's quarterly salary & expenses – £254.69
- Inland Revenue – PAYE on above - £38.20
- Playsafety Ltd – play area inspection - £78.00
- Breamish Hall - £30.00
- M Wilson – plants and pots - £115.90
- NALC – Annual membership - £67.38

## **BDO Audit Report**

No matters arising from annual audit.

## **Correspondence**

- Libby Ferns – River Till restoration – dissertation survey
- Rospa – Play area inspection report – one point regarding projecting bolt thread to kissing gate requiring reducing – Cllr Clark to action
- NCC – Percy's Leap/Battle of Hedgeley Moor site – no objections to this, agreed improved signage would be beneficial
- NCC – Powburn village road safety – discussed earlier
- NCC – Don't stand for it campaign – agreed to ask for posters on litter bin in community garden, football field fence, fence on entrance to play area and old railway line
- NCC – LTP Programme 2014-15 – agreed to request pedestrian crossing
- Magistrates in the Community – inviting to meet with PC - agreed do not wish to arrange this

## **Frequency of Meetings**

Cllr Burn does not think four meetings a year sufficient for PC business, alternatively there could be a formalised structure to deal with items between meetings, and additional meetings could be held if required and all Cllrs would be informed of these. It was agreed clerk would email all Cllrs on a monthly basis with progress update, to be trialed for three months.

## **Parish Plan**

A Parish Plan had been created in 2009, agreed to obtain a copy, review and revise if necessary.

## **Any Other Business**

- No decisions legally allowed to be made under Any Other Business, agreed to rename this item Urgent Matters
- Cllr Burn had varnished noticeboards, Bolton more damaged than Powburn, backing will be ok for a couple of years, however may then need refurbished.
- Cllr Burn to ring NCC regarding culvert on A697
- It was clarified training was available for defibrillator use.
- Potholes and signpost problems ongoing, Cllr Burn happy to carry out survey on all signage within parish. English Heritage had previously provided grants for signage refurbishment.
- A vehicle had run into bridge at Branton which Cllr English reported and had found a positive and swift outcome to rectification by NCC.

## **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Hedgeley Parish Council will be held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013 commencing 730pm in the Breamish Hall Powburn