

MINUTES OF HEDGELEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 16TH FEBRUARY 2015 COMMENCING 730PM IN THE BREAMISH HALL POWBURN

Those Present: Cllr S English (Chairman), Cllr N Birnie, Cllr M Clark, Cllr I Smith, Cllr R Burn, Cllr P Barton, Cllr C Robinson, Cllr J Brown, J Porksen, K Cairns (NCC), H Cairns, PC P Sykes

Apologies for Absence Cllr M Wilson

Minutes of previous meeting held 1st December 2014

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

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

None.

Declarations of Interest

M Clark declared an interest in wind farms.

Matters Arising from previous meeting

- No objections to NCC for siting of safety mirrors. Supplier contacted, mirror for exit from pub £247.20 including VAT, bracket support for two mirrors £118.80. For alleyway on corner, circular mirror, £169.20, with scaffolding bar recommended for support. NCC Highways may input money due to A1 upgrade, either way may be worthwhile discovering whether they are legal, as NCC regulations may prohibit this, as reported by K Cairns. It was agreed to request permission in writing from Nigel Brannen, NCC.
- Ditchburn wind farm – next meeting 19/2/15, however Cllr Barton cannot attend.
- Bench had been built for community garden at a cost of £380, some discussion about spend in Powburn and rest of parish, need to be mindful of this. However, Sid had paid for the bench himself but requested a donation from the PC. Cllr I Smith had objected to financing this work, Cllr M Clark questioned how much money had been spent at Bolton and Beanley in recent years. It was agreed to contribution of £200 towards costs, with coffee morning to be organised in an attempt to raise shortfall.
- Perspex sheets in place in two noticeboards, it was agreed P Barton would place agenda and minutes in noticeboards, and Cllr details to be redisplayed.
- Person had offered to donate bench at Bolton, free of cost.
- Option of meeting in Bolton Village Hall discussed, clerk had details of hall caretaker.
- NCC had carried out tar works at Shawdon.

Planning

Planning Application approval had been received for the following:

14/02634/FUL: Mr P Hornsby, Ayton Law House, Powburn – garden room extension

14/01694/FUL: Mr M Oldfield, Wineburn Cottage, Bolton – sunroom extension

Ditchburn Wind Farm

Discussed earlier.

Finance

The following accounts were authorised:

- Clerks's quarterly salary & expenses - £293.72
- P Barton – noticeboard materials - £55.96
- J Frater – hedgecutting - £100
- D Smailes - £200 – bench at community garden
- M Wilson - £56.00 – two crabapple trees

Correspondence

- NCC – Local Development Framework – timescale for commenting had passed

- NCC – Alnwick area schools – option to go to two-tier, with review of system requested by 16 of 17 schools in partnership and 3 options available, details on NCC web-site, if two tier, some primary schools will close. K Cairns urged the PC to make comment. Cllr S English to contact head of Branton First School and offer support.
- S Smith – broadband connectivity at East Bolton – clerk had contacted Arch at NCC who deal with broadband, and had emailed detailed response to parishioner. NCC Cllr K Cairns had researched superfast broadband, and there is an option to sign up to satellite broadband. It was agreed to display details of Arch on noticeboards.
- K Cairns – Speed surveys – police do have speed camera for Powburn, to be collected from Rothbury police station. Parishioners can carry out training with Northumbria Police to undertake speed camera duties.
- NCC – Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 – C85 The Causeway to Shipley Moor Farm Junction, Glanton – for information.
- Community Foundation – Windfarm funding – does not currently administrate any community benefit funds that cover Hedgeley PC, and regarding future development it is down to each developer as to how they manage the community benefit funds, and it would be at that stage when this would be confirmed. Cllr M Clark did have information if Ditchburn went ahead that Hedgeley parish should be able to access funds.
- NCC – changes to planning procedures – NCC had commissioned Deloitte to audit the planning process, in the hope to streamline procedures, having found a lot of PC's were objecting to plans then not turning up to object, with proposal PC's lose the power to trigger a planning application to go to committee, and there to be a central planning committee. Several PC's had commented strongly on this issue. In principal, should object on anything that reduces the power of the PC. It was agreed Cllr S English would read consultation and devise reply to object to right being taken from PC's for plans to go to committee.
- NCC – flooding – consultation – available for comment until 24/4/15
- Eglington PC – Neighbourhood Plan – this would fit into Core Strategy and have some weight on future planning applications, eg, wind farms, meeting scheduled for 13/3/15 730pm at Eglington, Cllr Barton to attend.

Parish Plan

All issues actioned in plan. Costings to be sought for surveying the parish, however response rate had only been 8-9% after last questionnaire. Cllr K Cairns had information from another parish who had offered financial incentive in completing forms and had also gained the views of young persons.

Annual Review of Risk Assessment

Annual review carried out, and it was agreed document was sufficient for the current requirements of Hedgeley Parish Council.

Any Other Business

- Cllr J Brown reported on unacceptable state of road from quarry to Powburn due to North East Concrete, and as part of planning permission, road sweeping required. PC Sykes commented businesses are liable for cleansing works and would visit quarry.
- Road sinks in Powburn require cleansing, clerk to contact N Brannen NCC.
- Clerk had been emailing minutes to Gazette, but nothing published, it was agreed to email précis of minutes stating full minutes available on noticeboard.
- Cllr R Burn had attended NALC meeting concerning parish matters. Parishioners are now entitled to record and film meetings. Publication scheme discussed and amount of how much to charge parishioners for information requested, which was agreed at 50p per sheet of A4 and £10/hour. From April 2015 all PC's need a web-site or access to a community web-site for publication of audit information, and it was thought the PC could use the community web-site powburn.com - Cllr R Burn to contact Graham Williamson regarding this. Permission does not have to be sought for filming of meetings.
- Cllr P Barton reported dog fouling prevalent in Powburn, persons can be reported to NCC for allowing this.
- Cllr M Wilson's intention to plant crabapple trees in community garden, has funding for two, wishes to gain funding for three additional, at £28 each. It was agreed to fund two trees.
- With several discussions regarding windfarms, Julie Porksen commented sources of renewable energy important, but should be proportional.

- NCC running subsidised bus service consultation, it was agreed objection should be made to any cuts. Clerk to look at paper and make comment.
- It was agreed to contact J Macougall and ask her intentions, as she had not attended recently at the Parish Council.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Hedgeley Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 19th May 2015 commencing 730pm.