

Minutes of Hedgley Parish Council quarterly meeting held on Tuesday 19th May 2015 in the Breamish Hall Powburn commencing after the Annual Meeting

Those Present: Cllr R Burn (Chairman), Cllr S English, Cllr N Birnie, Cllr M Clark, Cllr M Wilson, Cllr I Smith, Cllr R Burn, Cllr C Robinson, Cllr J Brown, K Cairns (Northumberland County Council)

Apologies for Absence

Cllr P Barton

Minutes of previous meeting held 16th February 2015

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

Election of Officers

Cllr English wished to stand down as Chairman, due to his house being for sale and possibility of moving out of the parish.

Cllr Clark proposed Cllr Burn as Chairman, Cllr Brown seconded, carried.

Cllr Burn proposed Cllr Wilson as Vice Chairman, Cllr Robinson seconded, carried

Cllr English thanked for his time as Chairman.

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

None.

Declarations of Interest

Cllr Clark declared an interest in wind farm application.

County Cllr update

- Planning review completed; schools partnership consultation ongoing, with completion June 2015.
- Full NCC AGM to be held 20/5/15, where planning committees would be finalised.
- NCC and PC Sykes from Northumbria Police had proposed Powburn for camera partnership. Kevin Bartlett from the County Council had stated NCC were putting pressure on this initiative, agreeing Powburn had been neglected.
- Issue for local quarry to double number of vehicles entering their site, and a further site increasing their number of wagons - K Cairns had major concern for rural roads and had asked NCC if they had a county strategy for wagons. Quarries do have to contribute to road repairs as a condition of their planning approval. It was agreed to ask if there was a restriction on vehicle numbers/movements at local quarry. North East Concrete had confirmed they clean Powburn road once a month, and action more often in Winter.
- When there is a condition on planning approval regarding number of wagons, monitoring does cause problems. There is a high level of non-compliance on haulage vehicles, a matter the police could help with, ie. pulling over vehicles for spot checks. However this area is the responsibility of Department of Transport, however they do carry out checks in Wooler and had also been spotted in Powburn checking vehicles.

Matters arising from previous meeting

- Donee of Bench at Bolton minuted at last meeting had been Lawrence Goodfellow,
- Cllr English had contacted the head of Branton First School regarding school two tier consultation and offering PC support, and head had stated there was pressure from Alnwick schools to move to two tier. Local views seemed to be to maintain three tier, and changing would alter the community status. It was agreed to also contact Ingram PC and ask/support their views, with Branton being in that parish, clerk to contact.
- Grant Davey NCC had contacted all PC's regarding planning review, Cllr English quoted from letter confirming PC's are losing the right to refer plans to committee. Cllr Burn had attended NCC meeting at Wooler where this was discussed, and problems had arisen with PC's making objections and then not turning up to planning committees. Karen Ledger NCC can be contacted by PC's regarding specific comments on planning applications, and NCC to carry out further training nights for Parish Councillor's.

- Clerk had contacted Nigel Brannen NCC regarding permission for installation of safety mirror with no reply received and would follow up.
- Public meetings were to be held regarding Ditchburn Wind Farm, Cllr Burn to speak to Cllr Barton regarding attending, this being closer to Hedgeley parish by half a mile compared to current development.
- It was agreed not to convene at Bolton Village Hall for PC meetings in the near future.
- Broadband being furthered within the parish.
- NCC had carried out road sweeping, however no action on request for sink cleansing.
- Cllr Burn had spoken to Graham Williamson with minutes and agendas to be displayed on community web-site.
- Tree planting had been carried out, with small celebration to be held in June, with proposal of wood carving plaque discussed.
- Nothing negative to report from Northumbria Police for this parish, however two quads stolen from Coquet Valley, with farm machinery theft advice given by police to farming communities. Police well aware the local issue for Hedgeley PC is speeding through Powburn. Police asked if they had any duristriction regarding road signage lying on ground and in need of repair, however is NCC's responsibility. Cllr R Burn commented the Community messaging tool is extremely useful.
- It was agreed to contact Jacquie Mcdougall stating the PC assumes she is no longer interested in being a Parish Cllr and thanking for her services for the parish.

Planning

Planning Applications had been received for the following:

- 15/00834/FUL: Mr R Sittambalam, Huntsman Cottage, Beanley, single storey extension
- 15/00620/FUL: Mr R Sittambalam, Wineburn Cottage, Bolton

Planning Application approval had been received for the following:

- 15/00620/FUL: Mr & Mrs M Oldfield, Wineburn Cottage, Bolton
- 15/00834/FUL: West Percy Hunt, Huntsman Cottage, Beanley, single storey extension

Finance

The following accounts were authorised:

- Clerks's quarterly salary & expenses – £270.09
- HMRC – PAYE on above – 20p
- Zurich – annual insurance premium - £366.63
- NALC – annual subscription - £88.21
- D Smailes – annual maintenance community garden - £100
- Great North Air Ambulance – request for donation - £100 agreed

Audit of Accounts y/e 31/3/15

Accounting and governance statement authorised year ending 31/3/15.

Correspondence

- Community Action Northumberland News
- NCC – Litter picking – encouraging parishes to carry out litter picks, it was agreed to reply and request A697 verges out of Powburn be actioned by NCC, as too dangerous for parishioners.
- P Sykes – Northumbria Police – discussed earlier.
- Peter Lake had reported power not being on defibrillator for a short while, and he had assumed with the pub not being open seven days a week electric was not available at these times. Cllr English to reply to letter and ask if fault had been on a single occasion. Parishioner to attend WI meeting 14/7/15 to carry out a training session on using the debifrillator.

Parish Plan

- Set out in 2005, review 2009, looking at it in total, nothing vastly changed within the area to justify a further review.

- NCC supporting growth in Core Strategy and encouraging PC's to be involved in Neighbourhood Plans. This had been discussed previously, and for the effort a plan takes, the outcome would be negligible. K Cairns reported the concern being with the removal of triggers for planning applications, and the Core Strategy about economic growth and development, a local plan is the last point for local control. Clerk to contact Eglington PC regarding the meeting they held on this subject.

Any Other Business

- Cllr J Brown reported road signs in disrepair in Powburn, one being on west side of road at bridge (direction sign), and one at garage lying flat. Clerk to contact NCC.
- Damage Northumberland County Council had caused to flood defence system on road to Glanton of major concern - the diagonal grids to alleviate flooding had been damaged by being filled with tar. Clerk to contact NCC and information to be copied to Environment Agency.
- J Brown reported uneven road within Powburn due to dip in road opposite his property on east side of road, clerk to contact NCC.
- Vacancy to be advertised through the correct procedures, D Smailes had given intent of interest in becoming a Parish Councillor.
- Further to NCC meeting held last week, the major issue arising was A697 road safety and proposed dualling of A1.
- Two additional signatories required for bank, clerk to arrange for Cllr Burn and Wilson to become signatories.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Hedgeley Parish Council will be held on Monday 7th September 2015 commencing 730pm in the Breamish Hall Powburn