

**Minutes of Hedgeley Parish Council quarterly meeting held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2015 in the Breamish Hall  
Powburn commencing 730pm**

**Those Present:** Cllr R Burn (Chairman), Cllr N Birnie, Cllr M Wilson, Cllr M Clark, Cllr J Brown, Cllr C Robinson,  
Cllr P Barton, Cllr D Smailes

**Apologies for Absence** Cllr S English, Cllr I Smith

**Vacancy**

One interested applicant, D Smailes had applied for the position. It was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously D Smailes be co-opted onto the Parish Council.

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

None.

**Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

**Police update**

No police presence.

**County Cllr update**

- Kate Cairns reported on charges implemented for disposal of rubble etc at waste disposal sites.
- Rough plan on A1 dualling works available, with construction anticipated 2018.
- Cycle event to include Alnwick and Eglington which would result in road closures.

**Minutes of previous meeting held 19<sup>th</sup> May 2015**

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

**Matters Arising from previous meeting**

- Clerk to speak to Kevin Bartlett regarding proposed camera partnership discussed at last meeting.
- Restriction of 50 loaded wagons able to leave quarry site on any working day. Discussion of vehicle movements at wood yard, and it was agreed monitoring could only take place by physically counting number of vehicles.
- No road cleansing had been witnessed being carried out on behalf of North East Concrete through Powburn village. It was agreed to contact the quarry with concerns about the state of the road with the forthcoming winter weather and requesting a schedule of cleansing.
- Possible change from three tier to two tier education system - email received from member of the public who was dismayed Ingram Parish Council had not made comment on the possible changes. It was believed Branton headteacher did wish to stay with the three tier system, however no response had been received further to the PC writing formally to give their support to the schools wishes.
- NCC had written to state safety mirrors on highways not permissible, however landowner had installed their own structure. Problem with installing mirror on pub land and back alley behind pub would require structure on footpath or wall of house, which is still on a highway.
- Breamish Hall and property in Beanley identified as location for Wifi arial, with survey and agreement awaited.
- Jacque Macdougall had been thanked for her services to the Parish Council.

**Neighbourhood Management**

- Hedge at Plough restricting vehicular view on A697, Cllr P Barton to speak to pub tenants.
- Verge cutting on A697 of concern, this had been raised with NCC who had attempted to consolidate and cut less but who had admitted it had been too much of a reduction and were to put additional resources into the budget. Kate Cairns to take the matter up, particular area being south from Powburn at Playwell junction. NCC had brought grasscutting in house to make savings, and it was discussed if farmers were insured to cut grass and hedges.
- Cllr P Barton had noticed a village with a narrowed entrance by installing five bar gates on either side of the road with plant pots in front, which would not be too expensive. Cllr R Burn had looked into the matter, and brick

structures cannot be nearer than a metre and a half to the roadway which would defeat the object, however it was agreed to research the viability of wooden structures.

## **Planning**

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

- 15/01452/FUL: Mr J C Ellison, erection of general purpose farm building
- 15/01971/LBC, Mr T Astles, listed building consent to repair windows, 8 West Hedgeley

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

- 15/01971/LBC: Mr T Astles, 8 West Hedgeley – listed building consent to windows

## **Finance**

### **The following accounts were authorised:**

- Clerks's quarterly salary & expenses – £268.56
- HMRC – PAYE on above – 20p
- Playsafety Ltd – play area inspection - £78.00
- BDO Audit fee - £36.00, further to additional information requested as minute reference date entered incorrectly as stated in Audit Report received.
- J Givens – flower tubs £36.00
- Request for donation – Community Action Northumberland – organisation having difficulties in securing funding, idea of a rolling programme to donate to different causes each year discussed. It was agreed not to donate at the present time to this organisation.

## **Correspondence**

- RoSPA – play area inspection report: one medium risk level point being geo-textile exposed on bark/wood chip, however repair had been organised by Cllr N Birnie
- Northumberland County Council – LTP requests 2016- 2017 – it was agreed to request safe crossing areas for pedestrians and double white lines through the 30 and 40mph limit at Powburn. Kate Cairns advised to only state the problem, not give a possible solution, and for suggestions to be linked into the criteria for LTP requests. Cllr J Brown had counted vehicles travelling North between Powburn and Morpeth, and it was agreed vehicle numbers appeared to be increasing. Kate Cairns in receipt of consultation document, and it was agreed to quote A697 road safety review. Possibility of counting wagons discussed electronically, however this would not differentiate between where vehicles are travelling to and from, and it had taken two years for a speed survey to be actioned, and if information received, what could be done with it? Clerk to enquire whether such a survey could be implemented.
- Anne Bell – Branton First School – copy of email sent to Ingram PC regarding the fact they did not make comment on the possible closure of Branton First School
- Jude Olds – speeding North of Powburn – stating current speed limit of 40mph should be extended.
- Neilsen Webster – road safety campaign – various comments regarding speeding including concerns over 40mph area, believing limit should be extended and speed cameras installed. Clerk had secured accident figures sought from NCC, with two slight and one serious incident reported, however it was also thought an articulated wagon had tipped over which was not recorded in these figures. It was agreed to include extending 40mph on LTP, and to state Hedgeley PC had received complaints from parishioners. Beware signage for hidden dips/wagons travelling through the area suggested, (which should be financed through the quarry), and to also be added to LTP.
- Kate Cairns – wagon weight restrictions – Tough new powers are being called for by councils to tackle lorry drivers who ignore weight restrictions, with possibility of Local Authorities to issue fines.
- Northumberland County Council – restriction of HGV's, Powburn Quarry – confirmation 50 loaded vehicles restricted to leaving the site on any one day.
- Northumberland County Council – gullies/road signs/road grids/road dip – confirmation gullies in Powburn to be cleaned/road grids presently filled with tar to be repaired/severe dip opposite Breamish Cottages to be attended to and requesting photographs of problem road signs which Cllr R Burn was to forward to NCC. Outstanding works being to gullies, clerk to chase up.
- Northumberland County Council – safety mirrors – discussed earlier.

- Eglingham Parish Council – Neighbourhood Plan – Eglingham PC confirming they are not pursuing the idea of a NP at the present time due to the time and money involved with little benefit to the parish.

### **Parish Plan**

Activities for young persons in the parish had been brought up in parish plan reviews 2005/2009. The idea of running a table tennis club in the Breamish Hall discussed, and as Cllr P Barton is a trained coach he would be prepared to host weekly events. DBS checks/storage of equipment and use of hall discussed. £400 would be required as start up costs, however funding could be sought, which Cllr Barton would research, and it was agreed the scheme should be run through the Village Hall which would apply for funding, with HPC prepared to offer financial support. The level of interest would need confirmed initially.

### **Play area repair**

Photograph of repair required circulated which Cllr R Burn would action when repair kit received.

### **Publication Scheme/Data Protection Policy**

Reminder had been received from NALC stating all Parish Council's should have a publication scheme. Clerk to draft document and also Data Protection Policy which would be circulated for discussion at December meeting.

### **Urgent Business**

- A delivery of grit into pub car park had been made two years ago, with supplies now run down, and it was agreed to see if a further delivery could be made to the hall land.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

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