

Minutes of Hedgeley Parish Council quarterly meeting held on Monday 7th December 2015 in the Breamish Hall Powburn commencing 730pm

Apologies for Absence: Cllr S English

Those Present: Cllr R Burn (Chairman), Cllr P Barton, Cllr D Smailes, Cllr M Wilson, Cllr J Brown, Cllr N Birnie, Cllr M Clark, Cllr C Robinson, Cllr I Smith, County Cllr K Cairns (part of meeting), two members of the public

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

Resident present with concerns over buildup of water residing at Old Post Office Cottage, to be discussed under Parish Plan.

Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

Police update

One crime of note for Powburn in November, being theft of vehicle towbar, and vehicle theft from Glanton in December. One member of staff for the area had retired and would not be replaced. Speed camera duties being carried out. NCC have set widths for double white lining, Cllr R Burn to check figures in relation to A697.

Minutes of previous meeting held 7th September 2015

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

Matters Arising from previous meeting

- Wi-fi aerial had been installed.
- Hedge cutting around Plough had been carried out.
- Road sweeping had not been carried out, Clerk to recontact Nigel Brannen, NCC.
- NCC had replaced two road signs, however Edlingham, Titlington and Bolton sign now lying down, and photographs of other signs in need of attention to be forwarded to NCC.
- £2300 funding from Sport England acquired for table tennis project, with Village Hall needing to change their constitution due to this.
- Further material required to make play area surfacing safe. It was agreed to write and give thanks to Andy Scott, Wooperton Sawmills, for donation of wood shavings for the play area.

Neighbourhood Management

- **Seat in memory of J Taylor:** Formal request for PC to donate £200 to seat in memory of County Cllr J Taylor to be situated at Bolton crossroads. It was agreed J Taylor had carried out much work for the benefit of the community and PC would support this proposal.
- **Seat repair:** Seat opposite Breamish Hall had been damaged, possibly by a hedgecutter.

Planning

Planning Applications had been received for the following:

None.

Planning Application approval had been received for the following:

- 15/01452/FUL: Mr J C Ellison, South Side Farm, Beanley – farm building

Finance

The following accounts were authorised:

- Clerks's quarterly salary & expenses – £261.86
- HMRC – PAYE on above – 20p
- John Frater – hedgecutting - £100

Set Precept 2016/2017

Budget figures had been circulated to all, and it was agreed to retain precept at current level of £2500.

Correspondence

None.

Parish Plan

One item in parish plan being flooding, with Environment Agency spending money on flood defences, however concern after last week's events that a major incident could occur in the parish. 20 villagers had turned out to pack and deliver sand bags and dig ditches, with fire service also attending. Had these volunteers not attended, flooding would most probably have occurred to dwellings. NCC did attend site the next day with gulley cleaning carried out. Sand had been delivered from North East Concrete, clerk to write and give thanks to NEC and also J Carr-Ellison who had arranged transport. Sand bags to be collected from properties. It was agreed new drainage system is required to prevent future flooding incidents, and Cllr Burn to arrange a meeting with Northumbrian Water. Resident stated his property is suffering from rising damp, which started 2 years ago, and thought it could be related to drainage problems. A resident had stood on bridge to warn vehicles to slow down, and it was agreed to ask NCC for the possibility of flood warning signs. List to be held by PC of person's willing to assist in similar events, and also consideration to hold a vulnerable person's register. Regarding Health & Safety high visibility waistcoats would be beneficial, clerk to ask NCC if these could be supplied, however if somebody was killed/injured carrying out community work, NCC would most probably state they had not asked the PC to carry out work. Cllr I Smith to place stone bund in gateway, as he had previously done. Sand bags to be recollected, emptied and dried, and check on numbers held in stock to action. Breamish Hall on police and NCC list to be used as a place of shelter in emergencies, and it was agreed to ask if Bolton Village Hall is also on emergency list, and should any emergency equipment be stored at Bolton? however it was thought this part of the parish quite safe. If drains do get upgraded, would there be a system for channeling water into drains, however this would be a massive job. NCC to be contacted regarding regular cleaning of gullies; site visit to be requested with Northumbrian Water and plan of drainage system would be useful.

Play area repair

Discussed earlier.

Publication Scheme/Data Protection Policy

It was agreed to adopt these documents and display on web-site.

Defibrillator

Information received from the Stephen Carey fund who maintain defibrillators and provide free annual awareness sessions, and it was agreed this offer would be accepted. However, at present there is no power to the box as the Plough inn is not open, and it should be positioned outside of Breamish Hall. Clerk to also ask if box could be supplied in Bolton.

Urgent Business

General appearance of village causing concern, with current tenant in pub losing money and kitchen not fit for purpose, with tenant to vacate after 1/1/16 which could result in building being boarded up, and it was agreed to ask Cllr R Burn to speak J Carr Ellison and request this be done aesthetically. Cllr R Burn to speak to J Carr Ellison. Second area of concern being Eddies tip, who no longer lives in the village, and whether pressure can be put on him to move this rubbish. There is a scrap yard, mounds of rotten earth, and back garden completely overgrown, outhouses full of junk, and with vermin evident, although it appears house has been abandoned. Clerk to contact Environmental Health, NCC. Flooding on Claywell road of concern. Lights off on Glanton Road, Cllr M Wilson to attain light numbers and email clerk. Lack of grit on C84 road which Cllr M Clark had already reported, clerk to contact NCC.

NCC Update

Two 1st schools due for closure to now remain open; Leader funding open for applications; community foundation funding available; funding for PC web-sites available and funding allocated to introduce 20mph outside schools; new pre-application process due to planning protocols; PC's can contribute fully to major developers with training sessions available; changes to fire and rescue service with consultation at present, however no changes to this area; upgrading of

street lighting in 2017; Neighbourhood Services to deliver enhanced winter services; blood and transport services to be changed; additional funding for potholes, further funding for severe weather and electric car charging points installed; K Cairns had been approached regarding contributing funding for repairs and renovations to Breamish Hall; road safety issue raised at Lmaps meeting, police had said there had been fewer complaints about Powburn and hoped situation was improving; K Cairns can apply pressure on NCC if non response is experienced. It was reported when children boarding taxis they can stand and wait for several minutes waiting for their taxi to arrive after their bus drops them off.

Regarding funding from Charlton windfarm it was thought after so many years, funding would be available to a wider radius through the Community Foundation.

CLlr R Burn had attended meetings at NCC regarding Highways; Core Strategy consultation and NCC annual conference.

Date of Next Meeting

2016 meeting dates arranged as 1st February, 4th May, 5th September, 5th December.