

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish of Hedgeley held on Wednesday 2nd May 2018

commencing 730pm in the Breamish Hall Powburn

Those Present: R Burn, M Wilson, N Birnie, I Smith, M Clark, C Robinson, J Brown, C Miller, one member of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

P Barton, D Smailes

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

3 Matters Arising from Previous Meeting

There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.

4 Public Participation

There was no public participation.

5. Chairman's Report

The council continue to lobby the County Council on road safety issues (speeding, number of accidents, HGV traffic, street furniture and safety of pedestrians).

Upon being given notice that the A1 was to be closed for roadworks and all traffic was to be diverted along the A697 the Parish Council wrote to the Highways Agency complaining about the lack of consultation. Representations were also made at a public meeting at Belford voicing concerns about the impact of this action on the residents of Powburn. Due to a number of similar objections the roadworks on the A1 were cancelled.

The temporary 30 MPH limit that was introduced between the village hall and the River Breamish is now under the process of being fully adopted.

Donations have been made to local initiatives in the area.

The council remains a forum to discuss local issues.

War Memorial

36 men from the local area are now known to have died in the two world wars.

The first meeting of The War Memorial Steering Group has taken place.

The following was decided.

The war memorial will be made of a sandstone gatepost with a cast bronze plaque. It will be situated within the community garden at Powburn.

The project will be fully completed by September 2018 well in time for the centenary in November.

The cost of the project is £5,500. £5000 for the plaque and £500 for the services of a stonemason.

£4,630 has been promised to the project. Further applications to organisations and individuals for donations are ongoing.

Speeding

Regular deployments have been made in Powburn by 2 local volunteers. There were originally 4 volunteers but 2 resigned. The speed gun is currently undergoing calibration.

Additional signage has been put up within Powburn pointing out the use of speed cameras. The camera van has been deployed on a number of occasions with Powburn checking the speed of traffic travelling both North and South at two locations within the village.

On its first two deployments 95 speeders received Fixed Penalty Tickets and 5 received a summons to appear at Court (In excess of 50 mph).

Layby

Enquiries were made with Northumberland County Council about the status of an unsurfaced layby within the confines of Powburn at the South side of the village. The Council stated that it was their property and has subsequently been resurfaced.

Defibrillators

The Carr-Ellison Trust has very generously purchased three additional defibrillators for the Hedgeley Parish area. These defibrillators have now been installed at Beanley, Hedgeley Hall and Bolton village hall. Hedgeley Parish Council have agreed to undertake their upkeep. Pads and batteries need to be replaced on a regular basis.

Precept

It was agreed to raise the Hedgeley Parish Council precept by £500 to £3000. This would enable the parish to cover the cost of the upkeep of the 4 defibrillators that they are now responsible for.

Robbie Burn BEM, BA (Hons)

Chairman Hedgeley Parish Council.

6. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 735pm