

**Minutes of ordinary meeting of Hedgeley Parish Council held on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2020 in the Breamish Hall Powburn commencing at 730pm**

**Those Present** Cllr M Wilson (Chairman), Cllr C Robinson, Cllr N Birnie, Cllr P Scott, Cllr J Brown, Cllr M Clark, Cllr J Frater, Cllr I Smith, Cllr D Carr-Ellison, C Miller (Clerk)

**2020/01 Apologies for Absence**

County Cllr W Pattison

**2020/02 Declarations of Members Interest**

There were no Declaration of Members Interests

**2020/03 Opportunity for members of the public to raise any matter on the agenda**

There were no members of the public present.

**2020/04 Minutes of previous meeting held Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019 were accepted as a true record.

**2020/06 Matters Arising from previous meeting held Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

**2020/05/01 Works to well**

Material had still not been delivered, however Cllr D-Carr Ellison maybe able to source alternative stone, with approximately 20 tonne required.

**2020/05/02 Play area**

Play area repairs had been completed; replacement dog fouling signs to be erected; mole catching carried out.

**2020/05/03 Parish drains**

Environment Agency had stated the burn running through Powburn is not a main river therefore they have no powers to carry out any work and the responsibility would be with the riparian owners. If the bridge is affected then Highways England would look into the matter. EA advise informing NCC and the land owners, and depending on the exact location, also informing Highways England. It was agreed to wait until warmer weather before works are actioned, with Cllr Brown to speak to contractor who could carry works out. Inspection had been carried out to drains at bottom of Playwell Road with gullies cleaned, however further inspection to be arranged due to broken pipes discovered at the location and also at the garage. Concern was raised with drainage problems on A697 within Edlingham parish. Drain behind railway line running parallel is the land owners responsibility and no action had yet been carried out – further to this County Council would then clean the road. County Council had previously confirmed the Sump in play area is cleaned out on an annual basis to alleviate problems and had provided photographic evidence of this. Cllr J Brown of the opinion the County Council gully sucker had swept debris into drains.

**2020/05/04 Traffic safety scheme – to receive update**

Gateway signage had been erected; proposed start date for Bolton and Beanley gateways 10/2/20; flashing speed limit signage ordered. Clerk to contact R Mckenzie regarding “thankyou for driving carefully signage,” with comment received this should be moved to signage at North end. At the original discussion between PC/NCC an additional street lamp past the garage had been requested - Clerk to enquire if this would be possible.

**2020/05/05 Transportation of nuclear waste – this refers to radioactive waste**

Clerk had spoken to company who had explained only the miniscule lower level radioactive waste is transported under certain regulations on A697, with granite worktops containing similar levels of radioactive material to that transported. Specially trained drivers transport waste on the A1 which contains material from oil rigs, and agreement is required from the Environment Agency with waste carried in drums and workers wearing doseometers.

**2020/06 County Cllr update**

County Cllr had given apologies.

**2020/07 Planning**

**2020/07/01 Planning Applications received**

- 19/04990/LBC: Shawdon East Lodge, rear extension and internal layout changes to allow addition of third bedroom along with other sympathetic work inc. areas of downtakings and rebuilding – no objections.

**2020/07/02 Refusal of Planning Applications received**

- 19/02380/FUL: Hedgeley Moor Electrical Sub Station, erection of radio mast

**2020/08 Finance**

**2020/08/01 The following accounts are to be authorised:**

- Clerks’s quarterly salary & expenses – £227.95
- HMRC – PAYE on above - £54.00
- The Breamish Hall – annual rental charge - £52.50
- Christmas Lights Direct – new transformer - £115.00
- G Birnie – mole catching in play area - £50.00

It was resolved to authorise payments.

**2020/09 Correspondence**

- CPRE newsletter;
- Northumberland Association of Local Councils – Member Council Survey Anti-Social Behaviour and Petty Crime – Clerk to complete on-line survey.

**2020/10 Smart Meter Network**

Notice of Arquiva’s Smart Meter Network, proposed installation at Northbound Grass Verge A697, opposite Hedgeley, being a government programme to rollout smart electricity and gas meters to homes and small businesses across Great Britain, with planning application to be submitted.

**2020/11 Review of Internal Auditor and Internal Controls**

It was agreed to re-engage the current internal auditor, and Internal controls were deemed sufficient for the present needs of the Parish Council. Clerk reminded Cllr’s all payments should be listed on the agenda prior to the meeting.

**2020/12 Review of Risk Assessment**

It was agreed the Risk Assessment was sufficient for the present needs of the Parish Council.

**2020/13 Review of Asset Register**

Replacement noticeboards had been added to Asset Register. Cllr Wilson to check with First Responders as to who is carrying out the weekly checks on the defib machinery located in the parish.

**2020/14 Review of insurance policy**

Employers liability and public/products liability currently £10,000.00; professional risks, asset and income protection, benefits and other insurance included; defibs covered at £5,000 and property covered on an all-risks basis, and the policy was agreed sufficient for the present needs of the Parish Council.

**2020/15 Northumberland County Council – Consultation on library services**

Northumberland County Council were carrying out a consultation on library services with survey available on-line <https://surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NCCLibraryConsultation>. The mobile library service visits the parish, and information session is to be held in the Breamish Hall as regards users completing the survey, which is also available as a paper copy. It was resolved Clerk would submit written response stating the mobile service is vital to a rural community such as Hedgeley.

**2020/16 To report any areas/matters of concern within the parish**

- Northumbria Police had reported theft of fuel from petrol station, with offender traced and charged.
- Potholes on Beanley road were becoming more problematic, with County Council Officer attending site and stating they were not deep enough to fill.
- At junction to Beanley there is a telecoms manhole sticking out causing danger to drivers.
- Cllr Wilson to speak to relevant personnel regarding unsightly advertising signage near to garage.

**2020/17 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Hedgeley Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2020 commencing after the Annual Parish Meeting commencing 730pm.

Claire Miller, Parish Clerk

The meeting closed at 9pm.