

Minutes of electronic meeting of Hedgeley Parish Council held at 730pm on Wednesday 3rd February 2021

Those Present Cllr M Wilson (Chairman), Cllr N Birnie, Cllr I Smith, Cllr C Robinson, Cllr P Scott, Cllr D Carr-Ellison, County Cllr W Pattison, C Miller (Clerk)

2021/01 Apologies for Absence

Cllr M Clark

2021/02 Declaration of Members Interests

There were no Declaration of Members Interests.

2021/03 Opportunity for members of the public to raise any matter on the agenda

There were no members of the public present.

2021/04 Minutes of previous meeting held Wednesday 4th November 2020

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 4th November 2020 be accepted as a true record.

2021/05 Matters Arising from previous meeting held Wednesday 4th November 2020

2021/05/01 Works to well

Works ongoing.

2021/05/02 To receive update on play area repairs

Repairs had come to a halt due to the Covid-19 pandemic and weather conditions, with contractor to resume work as soon as possible. Play area is permitted to stay open during the current pandemic restrictions.

2021/05/03 Parish drains

Several drains have problems due to the recent adverse weather conditions. County Council were to action blocked drains along the Dene; flooding at Denehouse had been reported – Cllr I Smith declared an interest – and reported water coming down Playwell road from Glanton. Grates were blocked on new drain installed on the west side, with grates also blocked on the opposite side. Field owned by Shawdon Estates may benefit from drains/pipes, however this was already insitu and it could be a field drain was blocked, however this would be the responsibility of the riparian landowner, and Clerk would make contact. NO 5 and 6 drains in Powburn had a build up of water which had been reported by County Cllr. Flooding had occurred on road towards Bolton this morning with Cllr D Carr-Ellison to speak to landowner.

2021/05/04 Interactive speed sign

Supplier had visited site and confirmed the signage was in correct working order – item to be taken off agenda.

2021/06 County Cllr update

Any serious concerns regarding current adverse weather conditions should be reported to County Council, the Fire Service will pump water away from private properties, and if there are concerns with flooding County Council can provide emergency sandbags. County Cllr keeps pushing for resurfacing of the Powburn to Beanley road. Potholes should be reported to Nigel Brannen, and County Cllr to visit roads within the parish to ascertain where there were outstanding problems.

2021/07 Planning

2021/07/01 Planning Applications received:

- 20/02668/LBC: Bolton Mill, Listed building consent for replacement of plastic double glazed windows with wooden quartered windows – no objections.

2020/07/02 The Northumberland Sandstone Ridges & Vales – a Valued Landscape – Alison Farmer Associates January 2021 (the Study) – Request from Northumberland and Newcastle for HPC to give its support to the conclusions of the report

Cllr D Carr-Ellison had been approached by the Northumberland & Newcastle Society to raise support for the landscape reference document for contentious planning applications that have an effect on the landscape, to which County Council had not included in their Local Plan which was currently at the independent inspection stage. The Study identifies the various areas and marks particular landscape features outwith the National Park area, Hedgeley parish coming under Whittingham Vale and Chillingham areas. The document would apply to major planning developments only. It was resolved the Parish Council would support the findings of The Northumberland Sandstone Ridges & Vales – a Valued Landscape – Alison Farmer Associates January 2021 (the Study) and adopt its suggested designation of that part of the Parish Area (and the landscapes surrounding it) as advised by the Study, as an Area of High Landscape Value.

2021/08 Finance

2021/08/01 The following accounts are to be authorised:

- C Armit – play area repairs - £450
- C Miller – salary/expenses - £221.50
- HMRC – PAYE on above - £55.40

It was resolved to authorise the payments.

2021/09 Correspondence

- RuralUs – Wellbeing Project – organisation trying to reach anyone who may find themselves isolated or lonely, depressed or anxious and connect them to groups and services that might help them to feel better about themselves. Also like to encourage the start up of groups where there is a need or interest. Any comments, questions or suggestions would be welcomed.

2021/10 To report issues within the parish

Poaching prevalent in the parish. A van had been sighted in a neighbouring parish causing alarm to a dog walker. Dog thefts had been reported countywide, and vigilance is required. D Carr-Ellison had reported potholes at Bolton to Shawdon crossroads and reports should also be forwarded to northernareahighways@northumberland.gov.uk and copied into Nigel Brannen of the County Council. Fibre optic had been installed to Beanley by Alncom and who were prepared to install into smaller areas. Holiday homes were being used in the parish, however police had been made aware of instances and further concerns should be reported via ringing 101.

2021/11 To consider request to place commemorative seating near to well/war memorial

A request to place commemorative seating near to the well/war memorial had been received, and it was resolved permission would be given for this - site visit to be arranged with the family to discuss positioning/maintenance.

2021/12 Review of Internal Auditor and Internal Controls

It was resolved to retain the services of the present internal auditor, A Winter. It was resolved the current internal controls were sufficient for the present needs of the Parish Council.

2021/13 Review of Risk Assessment

It was resolved the document was sufficient for the present needs of the Parish Council.

2021/14 Review of Asset Register

It was resolved the Register was an accurate record of the Parish Council assets. Noticeboard at Bolton could not be opened and Cllr D Carr-Ellison would varnish in due course; one seat required varnishing in Powburn; defibrillating machinery was being checked regularly.

2021/15 Review of insurance policy

It was resolved the current insurance policy was sufficient for the present needs of the Parish Council. Public liability currently £10million and insurance values included in Risk Assessment.

2021/16 Review of Standing Orders

It was resolved the document was sufficient for the present needs of the Parish Council.

2021/17 Review of Bank Signatories

There were currently three bank signatories, and it was resolved M Wilson be included on the bank mandate.

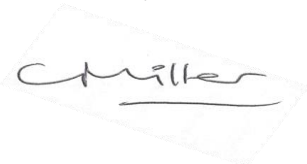
**2021/18 Northumberland County Council – Private Sector Housing Strategy for Northumberland 2021-2023
Consultation**

Consultation currently available regarding private sector housing strategy.

2021/19 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Hedgeley Parish Council will be held on Thursday 13th May 2021 commencing 730pm, further to the local elections scheduled 6th May 2021, which at the present time were still going ahead.

Claire Miller, Parish Clerk

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C. Miller". The signature is written on a white rectangular background that has a faint, light blue grid pattern.

The meeting closed at 830pm.

DRAFT