**Heddon on the Wall Parish Council**

Minutes of the meeting of the Heddon on the Wall Parish Council

On **Wednesday 12th June 2019 @ 7.00pm** in Heddon Library

*.*Louise Pringle

Jood Deakes – NCC Community liaison – Did not attend

John Lockhart/Sue Malkin – Branches – Branches have a list of enhancements that they would like permission to look at around the Victrix statue and Taberna Close

1. Hardstanding around the statue for ease of photos etc. as it is visited by lots of people.
2. Attention to the walls on either side of the short ramp for the safety of children lowering them and maybe putting a railing on top.
3. Create a bin area for the bins and remove the dog waste bin as the other bins can now be used for that.
4. Put in a new secure notice board
5. Provide a planting proposal for the soft landscaping
6. Look at providing a viewing platform on Heddon Banks and steps down to Taberna Close.
7. Silhouette story board on nursery fence

The Parish Council will provide their views on these points after the next meeting

Ian Scott/Gillian Brown– Horses slip road – views on the issues facing horse riders using the bridle paths and slip road going from East Heddon/Birks Road into Heddon.

1. State of bridle path from East Heddon past Bays Leap Farm, gates are often locked not allowing the horses to pass, several stakes have been erected which make the path too narrow, The path is very muddy due to a bad surface and the cows passing and in one area with steep gradient and mud can be impassable.
2. When the bridle path is impassable horses have to use the slip road. They cannot get off the road onto the verge as the trees have not been cleared and don’t allow this.
3. Crossing the slip road to access Mill Lane and so to travel on to livery on Birks Road is very dangerous due to the speed of the traffic on a blind corner. Riders would like to see signs on the slip road to warn people of the horses crossing.

See section 8

1. **PRESENT & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE -** Mr Pyle (chair), Mr Adams, Mrs Thompson, Mrs Cruickshank, Mr. Stewart, Councillor Jackson. Clerk (Mrs Pringle). Apologies Mr Young, Mr Keller, Mr Avery.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –** Mrs Thompson, Knot Memorial Hall
3. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON Wed May 15th 2019 –** Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting and the Annual Residents Meeting were agreed and signed off.
4. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

LP to get remaining bank signatures and send in. Extra internet users signed off and sent to the bank, when this access arrives the change of signatories will be sent in.

LP to sort out right to cultivate agreement for Taberna Close - Completed

KP to get prices for painting the goal posts and sweeping the playing surface and also so prices for resurfacing the playing area as a long term development. Ongoing

MK to get a price from his contacts for the MUGA. Completed

LP to arrange sweeping of the MUGA - Completed

KP to produce new lease for sign off by PC. – **KP to arrange a meeting between GP/RA and one of the tenants of the library re new lease and regular payments.**

RY to seek a price for teak planks to improve the library bench - Ongoing

LP to pass on to NCC Heddon Banks and Military Rd which have not yet been weed killed. LP to send NCC letter to MK. Completed

LP to report weeds to Karbon Homes. Completed LP to report weeds again as nothing has been done.

KP to source anti perching strip and get a price for the Parish council. Completed

1. **COUNTY COUNCIL UPDATE**

Councillor Jackson gave a County Council Update of items which affect Heddon.

The local plan has been submitted in its final format. This will mean that green belt in the Tyne Valley will be protected from development. The council housing strategy is out for consultation and should this be taken up it will mean that 1000 new council houses will be built in areas where young locals cannot afford to live. There will also be Extra care homes built for elderly people they are now looking at two bedrooms for these homes to accommodate a carer. This consultation is available for comment on the County Council website.

The new school at Ponteland is on schedule. Money is still being spent on road works and improvements.

It has been agreed to hold the masters golf Tournament at Close House for the next five years due to the huge success of last year. The County Council is fully supporting this initiative.

The county has a new climate change plan to reduce Carbon Emissions by 20% and plans to be carbon neutral. Electric car points will be doubled, a solar park will be built, recycling will be increased and individual household glass collection will start. Councillor Jackson confirms that all of the Counties plastic waste remains in the UK.

Residents survey Hexham Road – the chair complained to Councillor Jackson regarding a survey which had been sent out by Guy Opperman to residents of Hexham Road only regarding anti-social behaviour and traffic on Hexham Road. He felt that the Mr Opperman should have checked with the PC first as they are currently arranging their own survey. He also felt that it was unfair to only contact those people on Hexham Road, he added that it was appalling the way it had been handled. This view was not held by all the councillors Mr Stewart stated that he was aware of the surveys led by Guy Opperman and that they have been distributed throughout various areas in Tynedale. He has no issue with an MP delivering there leaflets and the joint results could help Heddon. Councillor Jackson apologised for any offence caused and stated it was a normal procedure for MP’s to send out surveys.

1. **FINANCE**

Sign off May/June – Finances were agreed and signed off.

Library call out – It was discussed if there was any need to attend call outs to the library from the alarm company overnight as all call outs for the last three years have been false alarms. **KP to provide alarm company call out procedure for discussion at the next meeting.**

Allotment payments – It was agreed that the two persons yet to pay will be asked to leave their allotments. **LP to send final letters to allotment holders to vacate.**

Data protection changes to the law. For info all new procedures checked and PC does not need to change anything.

Minimum wage increase from 7.83 to 8.21 – This affects Mr. Hadden from 1st April.

1. **PLANNING**

**Applications**

**Applications Granted/Refused**

1. **NEIGHBOURHOOD ISSUES**

Bays Leap Footpath – see public section at the front of the minutes. It was decided to contact Mr Fish at the County Council and also the neighbourhood and highways section with a view to improvement.

Gardening report – A report had been provided on the village gardening and with a view to this it was agreed the position of the tub in front of the library door could be moved to the best position determined by the volunteers. The council was happy to carry on with Mrs Gardner-Medwin being the contact for the gardening volunteers and Mr Keller has agreed to become more involved with some of the gardening issues **LP to introduce gardeners by email.**

New champions are required for the Gorse hill and some of the tubs. It was agreed to put and ad in the next copy of the gossip.

1. **SELMAN PARK**

Update on meetings – The chair reported on his finding after meeting with the users of Selman Park and other residents.

The current way of working is not tenable for either the teams, land owner or residents of the village.

All users should have an agreement no matter how much they pay.

Agreements should be changed to reflect what the Council have learnt.

Hire charges need to be reviewed.

Times of playing need to be reviewed as clearly both users cannot use the site at the same time.

Notice boards with rules on need to be prominently displayed.

If it is decided that all teams pay the same charge a part time groundsman will have to be employed.

A sub- committee of the PC should be formed to make decisions regarding Selman Park and organise the changes.

A change of use for the field in front of Selman Park to change it from farming facility to leisure use to extend Selman Park for HJFC arrived the morning of the meeting and was mentioned. This had not been discussed with the Parish Council before the application was made. It was decided in principle to object to this application on the grounds that it was over development of the site. Further discussion would have to take place at another meeting. With this application it was felt that Heddon Juniors had out grown Selman Park and a decision was made to ask them to leave and find somewhere more suitable for their needs.

This report provoked a very spirited discussion where several of the councillors felt that the field should go back to a free facility for the use of residents of Heddon. It was decided to shelve this discussion for now and return to it at a time when more of the councillors were present or at a meeting just to cover this subject.

Hut break in – It was decided to look at CCTV cameras and new locks to improve site security. **RA to get price for CCTV, KP to arrange locksmith**

Bin, Grass cutting, these items were held back until the next meeting.

1. **MEMORIAL HALL**

Grant application received. For decision - It was agreed to give the Knott Memorial Hall a grant for £1000. The Parish Council used to receive an annual update on the finances of the Knott Hall from the user group it was agreed to ask for this to happen again in the future. **LP to confirm with Mr Laker**

1. **COUNCILLOR CO\_OPTION – T**here had been no applicants for co-option to councillor after the last advertisement. It was decided to leave this for six months before inviting applications again.
2. **ANNUAL RESIDENTS MEETING**

Bus stop Hexham Road – resident had asked for the bus stop to be marked on the road to stop people parking on it which meant that the bus cannot not lower properly to let people on and off. Councillor Jackson took this away to ensure that it gets done.

1. **CELEBRATIONS**  JS

Northumberland day – Thanks were given to the Women’s institute, the Three Tuns and The Swan for their contributions and thanks to Mr Stewart for his participation and help.

VE day 2020 – The councillors were asked to bring all ideas for both of next year’s celebrations to the next meeting. **ALL ideas for VE day and Northumberland day**

1. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Resident – request for Dog bin at the end of the boat. For decision. It was agreed to put a bin outside the allotments at the end of the BOAT. **KP to organise bin at the end of the BOAT**

Resident – request for BOAT status to be changed to a restricted BOAT excluding motor vehicles to stop illegal activities and fly tipping. This was discussed with Councillor Jackson who said as it was a right of people to use this it would be very difficult to change its classification. If residents noticed any anti-social behaviour to report it to the Police and/or the County Council as evidence would be required to change the classification and to enable the County Council to prosecute. The Parish Council would like to ask people not to confront anyone, take photos or put themselves in any danger but just to report the incident.

The meeting closed at 21.00



12/06/2019 Library fibre internet £408