

**Minutes of the meeting of Heddon-on-the-Wall Parish Council held on
Wednesday 10th May 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in Heddon Community Library**

PRESENT: Cllrs. P. Edwards [PE] (in the Chair); K Dryden [KD]; R. Adams [RA]; Lesley Irving-Munro [LIM]; D. Keller [DK]; M. Wilson [MW]; R. Oatway [RO]; K. Ince [KI].

IN ATTENDANCE: L Twizzell, Assets Officer; L. Barton (Clerk); **Members of the public: Peter Chapman; Alisoun Medwin-Gardner**

- | Minute No. | Agenda item |
|-------------------|--|
| 1. | APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: RESOLVED: That an apology and reason for non-attendance shall be accepted from Cllr. A. Turnbull [AT]. |
| 2. | DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Cllr. Edwards declared an interest in matters affecting Knott Hall; Cllr. Keller declared an interest in matters affecting Karbon Homes and Batson's Groundcare; Cllr Wilson declared an interest in any matters affecting St Andrew's Church. |
| 3. | Two members of the public addressed the Parish Council under Item 8 on the agenda Improving Our Village for All ; a group of residents would like to renew the village pledge on 2nd September, when the village show takes place. Cllr. Edwards resolved to put this on the Parish Council agenda for June. Cllr. Edwards will liaise with David Blackett (Knott Hall) to discuss Parish Council involvement in this. |
| 4. | ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN (CHAIR) AND DEPUTY CHAIR: On the motion of Cllr. Edwards, Cllr. Keller was elected to the Chair with Cllr. Dryden as Deputy Chair. Cllr. Edwards thanked Cllr. Adams for his service to the Parish Council as Deputy Chair. Cllr. Wilson thanked Cllr. Edwards for his service as Chair. Cllr. Keller (as Chair) thanked Cllrs. Edwards and Adams for their tenure. |
| 5. | NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL: Cllr. Keller reported on works carried out by Northumberland County Council including the installation of school signs, bumpy red road-marking stripes on entrance to and exit from the village (speed reduction) and the replacement of two bus stop road-markings.
Future works to be undertaken were discussed, including: options to ease the congestion on Trajan Walk; a school safety zone at the brow of the hill on Hexham Rd; introduction of 20mph limit throughout the village (consultation needed).
The installation of barriers on the pavement outside the Three Tuns and Memorial Park was discussed in the interests of pedestrian safety.
In addition, parking near the WI Hall and the possibility of placing planters there to prevent dangerous or obstructive parking. |
| 6. | MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: RESOLVED: To approve as a correct record and authorise the signing of the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 12 th April 2023. |
| 7. | MATTERS ARISING & REVIEW OF ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:
Update: seats around Lil Cruickshank's memorial tree to be followed up. |
| 8. | MAINTAINING OUR VILLAGE FOR ALL:
One more request has been received for a memorial tree. 3 plaques have been ordered for memorial trees.
Cllr. Adams passed on an invoice relating to the humane removal of rabbits from the welfare field and playpark. It was RESOLVED to carry out rectification works if needed to refill any areas dug out.
It was RESOLVED to repair the bench on Heddon Banks past the grit bin. |
| 9.
9.1 | IMPROVING OUR VILLAGE FOR ALL:
Cllr. Adams raised the issue of mud obscuring the kerbs and narrowing the road out of the village towards the A69. It was RESOLVED to address this with the Highways Agency and businesses regularly using this area. |

- 9.2 It was **RESOLVED** to replenish planters in the village, with volunteers managing this alongside Cllr. Keller.
- 9.3 Cllr. Keller raised the issue of grass cutting at Centurion Way which is now the responsibility of Northumberland County Council. It was **RESOLVED** to contact NCC to determine grass cutting schedule.
- 9.4 Cllr. Keller mentioned litter picks. Heddon Brownie and Rainbow group have requested use of litter pick equipment for a proposed litter pick on 6th June for Environment Day.
- 9.5 Cllr Keller raised a request from the local guide group as to where they might obtain funding for a forthcoming camping trip. Details of the Community chest fund and the HETT fund were given. Cllr Edwards suggested that the Parish Council support their initial fundraising efforts with a small donation. It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council will make a donation of £100 to the Heddon Guides group to support them to purchase equipment for camping trips.

10. REPORTS:

- 10.1 Cllr. Wilson reported with respect to Heddon School and the Butterfly Garden. The school have undertaken research work and provided a list of herbs for the herb garden. It was **RESOLVED** that Cllrs. Wilson and Irving-Munro will discuss this further and feedback to the Parish Council.
- 10.2 Cllrs Wilson and Adams reported on **Selman Park** following a meeting with the landowner. It was **RESOLVED** that the cost of repairs to the gates on Selman Park should be split between the landowner and the Parish Council.

- 11. PLANNING:** Planning Consultation 23/00665/FUL Tilecroft 15 Heddon Banks Heddon-on-the-Wall has been approved.

- 12. CORRESPONDENCE:** nothing of note.

- 13. FINANCIAL MATTERS: RESOLVED:** To update the monthly expenditure spreadsheet and present for approval at the next meeting along with all invoices.

- 14. SELMAN PARK:** covered in Reports.

- 15. WELFARE FIELD ENHANCEMENT PROJECT:** Plans and discussions are ongoing. An article will be published in the Heddon Gossip seeking feedback from the teenage population of Heddon on what facilities / equipment they would like to see in the Welfare Field.
- 16.**

- 17. APPOINTMENT OF PARISH CLERK AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER (RFO):** The new Parish Clerk was welcomed to the Council.

17.1

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- 17.2 Cllr. Wilson mentioned the minutes of the East Tynedale Forum meeting which had been circulated to councillors. It was **RESOLVED** that Heddon Parish Council is not participating in this.

- 17.3 The Electoral Equality Commission report was discussed. It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council does not need to offer comments on this.

- 17.5 Cllr. Dryden mentioned that the lead Library volunteer had requested a councillor who acts as liaison with the library. It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr. Edwards will assume this role to begin with.

- 18.** Cllr. Keller discussed items to be added in the next Heddon Gossip, including introducing the new Grounds Maintenance contract; updating details of the new Chair / Vice - Chair / Clerk; details of future litter picks.

NEXT MEETING: RESOLVED: That the date of the next meeting: Wednesday 14th June 2023 at 6.45pm. To include the Annual General Meeting.

CONCLUSION OF MEETING: The meeting closed at 8:33 p.m.

APPENDIX

MAINTAINING OUR VILLAGE FOR ALL:

ACTIONS:

- PE** to check payments have been received for memorial trees.
- LT** to ask Jonathan to refill holes in playpark again for safety, possibly using wire mesh.
- LT** to ask Jonathan to repair the bench on Heddon Banks past grit bin.
- KD** to supply PE contact details to John Gillott re Heddon Library.

IMPROVING OUR VILLAGE FOR ALL:

ACTIONS:

- DK / Clerk** to contact Bays Leap Farm regarding mud on the roads.
- DK** to check with Bell e Buon whether they are maintaining planters outside restaurant.
- PE** to liaise with David Blackett (Knott Hall) regarding renewal of the village pledge.
- PE** to contact NCC re grass cutting schedule for Centurion Way.
- KI** to arrange a litter pick in the summer.
- All** to feedback to MW and RA regarding uses for Selman Park within the next week.

FINANCE AND ASSETS:

- PE** to follow up contact with Barclays Bank for a change of mandate form.
- PE / Clerk** to ensure all invoices paid and ready to be presented at the next meeting.

Other: