

Elwick Parish Council
Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 29 July 2013 held at Elwick WI Hall

Present: Cllrs. C. Banks (in the Chair), P. Hutchinson, J. Londesbrough, R. Musgrave, H. Thompson and R. Thompson

Also present: Mrs. West (Parish Clerk), Ward Cllr. B. Loynes

1. **Apologies for absence:** None
2. **Public Forum:** No members of the public present.
3. **Declarations of Interest:** None
4. **Minutes of 25 June 2013:** Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.
5. **Matters Arising:**
 - (5b) **Mobile Home:** Cllr. Loynes reported that the situation is being monitored.
 - (5c) **No Parking sign:** Cllr. R. Thompson has now replaced the sign.
 - (5e) **Footpath at No 4 The Green:** The Chairman reported that BSG has agreed to do this.
 - (6a) **Stones on The Green:** It was agreed that the three stones, which had been moved, would remain to protect the front edge of the grass and that Cllr. R. Thompson agreed to place additional stones on The Green near the Terrace, to prevent cars parking on the green.
 - (6b) **Flower bed, North Lane:** The Chairman is still awaiting a quote for the job.
 - (7) The Chairman noted that it is the Char Beck itself that is causing the undercutting of the road, rather than run off from Church Bank. He will follow this matter up with Mike Blair (HBC).
 - (8) **Treatment of Benches:** Cllr. R. Thompson is awaiting a response regarding this matter. Cllr. Hutchinson was thanked for placing chippings to support the edge of the side road and for treating the path between Holmlea and Potter's Farm with Round Up; it was noted that the chippings were already rutted, due to traffic on the side road. Cllr. R. Thompson suggested that replacing the turning curve at this point with cobbles would provide a more hard-wearing surface. **Action:** Cllr. Loynes to investigate the possibility of obtaining these from the Borough Council.
 - (12) **Hedge, North Lane:** Cllr. Loynes had raised this matter with the officer responsible for the Refuse Teams.
6. **Playing Field – Dog Fouling:** The Clerk reported having received several complaints about dog walkers allowing their animals to foul the playing field, and not cleaning up after them. Councillors expressed concern as to the well-being of small children using the playing field and noted that the walking of dogs here was expressly forbidden, and that there were signs to this effect. It was **agreed** to initiate a publicity campaign about this matter. Cllr. Loynes informed that the police would take action if requested. **Action:** Chairman and Clerk to liaise on publicity materials, including posters and article for the Hartlepool Mail.
7. **Chairman's Report:**
 - a) Wildlife Garden: George Howe has donated materials for a new permanent sign and is to investigate the cost of having this engraved, and then inform Cllr. R. Thompson. In the light of information received from the Wildlife Group that they hope to revamp the wildlife garden in the autumn, removing the unwanted top soil, it was **agreed** to postpone any decision about cutting of walks through the garden until later.
 - b) The High-Speed Broadband link has now been activated.
 - c) The Chairman offered his personal thanks to Jon Wright and his team for the excellent job done in cleaning up the village earlier this month – killing off moss on many pavements, tidying the edges of the village green etc.
8. **Ward Councillor's Report:**
 - Cllr. Loynes reported:

- (a) Potholes on the Elwick-Hartlepool road had been filled, including those at North Urn Farm, where the drains have also been cleaned out.
 - (b) All pavements in the north side of the village have been cleaned of moss etc.
 - (c) She has spoken to Mike Blair about the problem pavements in Martindale Close, Greenlea, Manor Close and on both sides of North Lane out of the village towards the A19. He is awaiting an engineer's report.
 - (d) Bob Golightly has ordered three new lamps for the village to replace broken ones; these are expected shortly.
 - (e) The branch hanging over the road on Church Bank has been removed.
 - (f) 20MPH zone for the village - consultation ends on 19 August. 20MPH roundels will be painted on the roads as well as signs erected at the entrances to the village.
 - (g) A meeting held with Bob Swainston re: Red Gap turbines, elicited that due to Aviation Authority consultations, the likely construction commencement date has been postponed to 2014.
 - (h) The Refuse Collection teams are being monitored to ensure no further damage to hedges.
 - (i) The request for a mirror on Church Bank bend has been discussed with Mike Blair and Peter Frost of HBC. They inform that a request has to be made to the Department of Transport accompanied by evidence of the number of accidents etc.; they noted that mirrors are not encouraged due to problems with vandalism. Cllr Loynes remains concerned and will keep pressing the issue.
 - (j) The proposed car layby at High Tunstall has met with objections from 8 of the 10 residents consulted, however the bus layby will go ahead.
- The Chairman thanked Cllr. Loynes for her efforts on behalf of the village.

9. **Maintenance Sub-Committee report:** Cllr. H. Thompson stated that all urgent matters had already been covered under Matters Arising.

10. **Financial Report:**

The Clerk presented the financial transactions report as follows:

Receipts:		Payments:	
DPPC Contribution to the Bus Service	£250.00	Bus Service	£430.00
Refund from AON Insurance	£ 22.20	Grass Cutting	£600.00
	<u>£272.20</u>	Skip Hire	£312.00
		Playing Field	£ 96.00
			<u>£1,438.00</u>

The report was accepted.

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council now had an account with Unity Trust Bank, who are now awaiting the transfer of the Parish Council's monies from NatWest Bank.

11. **Correspondence:**

- (i) Letter from Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council concerning the statutory consultation for the proposed Wynyard Neighbourhood Plan which the Parish Council was supporting.

12. **Any Other Business:**

- (a) Cllr. Hutchinson reported that the hedge on the Hartlepool road, on the opposite side to Tunstall school had still not been cut and was causing problems for buses and other large vehicles.

Action: Cllr. Loynes to report this to officers responsible.

- (b) Cllr. H. Thompson informed that the EMA had agreed to develop materials about their activities for the Parish Council website.
- (c) Cllr. H. Thompson requested permission for the EMA to hold their annual village fete on the green on Sunday 8 September. **Unanimously Agreed.**

13. **Planning Applications:** None

14. **Date of next meeting:** 7.00 pm, Monday 30th September 2013 at Elwick School.

The meeting closed at 8.00 pm.