

ELWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at 7.20pm on Monday 23 May 2016 at Elwick School

Present: Cllrs. J. Hall, P. Hutchinson (Chair), B. Irving, R. Musgrave, H. Thompson, R. Thompson

In Attendance: Ward Cllr. B. Loynes, M. West, Clerk

Mrs S. Little (Pauls Travel), 4 residents

1. Apologies: None

- 2. Public Forum:** (a) Mr. Ron Coleman raised concerns about the state of the pavements around the village as a result of cars parking on them, and the Cinder path at the bottom of Church Bank, which is full of potholes.
- (b) Mr. Coleman also noted that the road sign for Greenlea needs re-siting as it is now on the ground; the 'Bend' sign on the road into Hartlepool, approximately 10 metres from the houses and the 'end of the speed limit' sign, going out of the village is worn. Water is pouring down the main road from somewhere near Holmlea (the Clerk informed that Northumbrian Water had already been informed of this – it is due to a break in the mains supply which is to be dealt with ASAP).
- (c) Mr. Coleman went on to report that CE & CM Walkers Ltd., who cut the grass in the village, had still not ensured payment of £90 for his broken window, although the matter had been referred to their insurance company. **Action:** Clerk to write to Walkers to express concern about non-payment and request they expedite payment. Mr. Coleman then left the meeting.
- (d) The residents present (all bus service users) queried what was happening about the rural transport service. They were informed that an invitation to tender was about to be issued, which would be sent to Pauls Travel as one of the companies being invited to tender and that, as a result, the matter could not be discussed in detail whilst Mrs. Little was present, as she had a personal interest. Mrs. Little wished to have it put on record that she did not intend to withdraw her service, and asked several questions. One resident became upset and the Chairman insisted that, as the issue was already an agenda item, the matter be closed until then.

The meeting was **suspended** for 5 minutes to allow Mrs. Little to leave. One resident also left.

The meeting reconvened at 7.50 pm.

Cllr. H. Thompson informed that Mrs. Oliver had concerns about the gully in North Close which had become blocked. Cllr Loynes informed that as soon as she heard of this concern, she ensured that the gully was cleaned out, and that an engineer was going to inspect the gully as soon as possible. Cllr. H. Thompson also raised concern about the disposal of hedge cuttings on behalf of the Olivers, who kindly cut the hedge, which is the property of the Borough Council; the cuttings are too much for their personal brown bin and they wished the Council to collect and dispose of them. Cllr Loynes agreed to look into the matter. **Action:** Cllr Loynes to contact the Waste Management Officer.

3. Declarations of Interest: None.

4. Minutes of 25 April 2016: Accepted as a true record and signed & dated by the Chairman.

5. Matters Arising:

(a) Councillor resignation – the Clerk informed that notice of a vacancy was now public, and on the Parish Notice Board. Residents had until 5 June to declare an interest in an election, after which it would be up to the Parish Council to co-opt a replacement.

(b) Clerk's Appraisal – Cllr H. Thompson reported that the first stage had now been completed. The next stage would be a one-to-one with the Clerk to discuss the feedback and identify development needs and opportunities as a result.

(c) Dog Stencil – now in situ.

(d) Parish Meeting – the Clerk reported very positive feedback from those who had attended. She informed that the Village Design Statement, approved at the Parish Meeting, was now formally incorporated into the Rural Neighbourhood Plan, and that she had contacted Borough Council officers about the possibility of a pedestrian crossing, as requested at the meeting. Mike Blair had responded that: *"the introduction of a controlled crossing point would only be justified if the formula $PV^2 = 4,000,000$ or more, where P is the number of pedestrians crossing the road and V is the number of vehicles passing within a certain period of time."* He went on to say that the proposed new village By-pass may alleviate the situation in future years, but recognised that this is not of much help to elderly residents now.

(e) Rural Transport – the Clerk read out the draft tender letter she had produced following the meeting with Dalton Piercy Parish Councillors, and noted that she had forwarded a copy of the draft to the Dalton Parish Clerk seeking for consideration by relevant DPPC members. A resident questioned the route outlined within the tender document, and was informed that this was based on the feedback received from bus users who had attended the March PC meeting. Councillors then **agreed** the tender document as presented, and further **agreed** that it should be issued as soon as DPPC had approved it. **Action:** Clerk to issue tender.

(f) Telephone line /trees – the Clerk informed that she had met with Derek Wardle, the Borough Council's Arboriculturist, as well as Mrs. Claugan, Potters Farm, who had raised the initial concern about the telephone wire. Mr. Wardle felt that no works were needed on the trees beside the telephone wire at this time, and neither did the tree near Holmlea.

(g) SLCC Regional Roadshow – The Clerk informed that she had not yet reserved the three places previously agreed, as names were required for the bookings. After a brief discussion it was **agreed** that, as no Councillors were available, only the Clerk should attend. **Action:** Clerk to book place.

6. Chairman's Report: The Chairman reported that: (i) the Parish Councils Liaison Meeting had again been cancelled; (ii) he had attended the Steering Group meetings for the Queen's 90th Birthday event, and had agreed to bring a 'cherry picker' to put up bunting around the village green. The Tug-of-war rope has 'gone missing' – he is hopeful that Young Farmers may have one.

7. Ward Councillor's Report: Cllr Loynes stated that:

(a) the salt bin is to be re-sited near to Norse Cottage;

(b) road gutter cleaning is now on a monthly basis;

(c) regular refuse collection at Amerston Hill will now be undertaken;

(d) the pavements around Elwick (Martindale Close and North Lane) are now on the Council's 'to do' list. Cllr Loynes was asked to ensure that the 'to do' covered the pavements in North

- Lane from the corner of the Green to the A19;
- (e) the main road from Hartlepool through the village is to be resurfaced this year;
 - (f) she had no further news on the Martindale Farm HGV licence issue;
 - (g) the lid on the bin in the playing field had been removed, at the request of a villager who had complained about it banging in the wind – Councillors asked that it be replaced ASAP;
 - (h) officers were pricing up the replacement piece of wood for the play equipment;
 - (i) the Borough Council accepts responsibility for managing the trees in the closed graveyard
 - (j) residents no longer need to put glass into a blue box, it may now be placed in the grey bin.

8. Village Maintenance Group Report:

- (a) A working party is need urgently to inspect and repaint the flower tubs around the village - **agreed** all to meet outside Cllr. Irving's house at 7.00pm on Tuesday 1st June. **Action:** ALL to join flower tub working party.
- (b) It had been noted that neither pub had moved their tables in time for the grass cutters. **Action:** Clerk to remind the publicans of the agreement.
- (c) Cllr Hall reported that a visit had been made to 2 quarries at Stainton to look at potential stone for the commemorative millstone and also for paving around the notice board. Various samples were tabled. After some discussion it was **agreed** that the limestone from Stainton Quarry was the preferred option for the millstone, and the Clerk was authorised to order this immediately. Cllrs Thompson both recommended that Indian stone was far more reasonably priced than English quarried limestone, was hard wearing and looked very good. It was suggested that Jeff Thompson be asked to attend at the start of the W/P meeting on 1st June, to discuss the paving around the notice board. The Clerk informed that planning permission might be need for the millstone. **Action:** Clerk to order millstone and to apply for planning permission, Cllrs Thompson to ask Jeff to join the flower tub group to discuss the paving.

Cllr Loynes left after giving her apologies for the next meeting.

- 9. **QE 90 – 12th June:** A flyer has been produced by Cllr R Thompson and an article written for Village Life by the Clerk, giving information about the event. The Clerk was asked to contact the school to request that children produce pictures of the Queen to display at the event – any size, any medium. **Action:** Clerk to contact school.

- 10. **Financial Report:** The Clerk presented the financial reports, which were accepted.

Income:	£	Expenditure:	
0.00		Broadband Line	23.94
		Wildlife Garden maintenance	100.00
		Internal Audit	55.00
		Grass cutting	631.20
		Parish Meeting	50.45
		Room Hire	<u>10.00</u>
		Total	870.59

11. Correspondence:

- (i) HBC Planning officer: request to attend a PC meeting before 22 July, to make a presentation on the Preferred Options Local Plan – agreed to invite to June meeting. **Action:** Clerk to extend invitation.
- (ii) HBC re: Parish Council representation on the Audit & Governance Committee from May 2016

- **agreed** Cllr R. Thompson to take on role. **Action:** Clerk to inform HBC
- (iii) Nouveau Well Being re: potential partnership in delivering the Hartlepool & Co Durham Community Wellness project – **agreed** to invite to July meeting. Action: Clerk to extend invitation
- (iv) Wildlife Gardening Services re: dead Cherry tree from wildlife garden, should they remove it? – **agreed**. **Action:** Clerk to respond in the affirmative.
- (v) HBC – invitation to launch of the Preferred Options Local Plan at the Hartlepool Maritime Experience at 10.00am on Monday 6th June – no Councillors available (see 11(i)).

12. Planning Applications:

- HBC/2015/0373** – 30 dwellings on land at Site B, Wynyard Park – no objection
- HBC/2015/0374** – 12 dwellings on land at Site C, Wynyard Park – no objection
- HBC/2016/0123** – Plot 7, Manorside, Wynyard – no objection
- HBC/2016/0141** – Plot 20, Manorside, Wynyard – no objection
- HBC/2016/0155** – Extension of temporary school at Wynyard – no objection
- HBC/2016/0170** – Replacement for mobile communications, Wynyard – no objection
- HBC/2016/0182** – Plot 27, Manorside, Wynyard – no objection
- HBC/2016/0184** – 6, Gledstone, Wynyard – no objection
- HBC/2016/0185** – 109 dwellings on land at North Pentagon, Wynyard – no objection
- HBC/2016/0199** – 3, Saville Close, Wynyard – no objection
- HBC/2016/0212** – Plot 17, Manorside, Wynyard – no objection

13. Matters of Concern to Councillors:

- Cllr Hall raised again the issue of speeding through the village and the need for stronger traffic calming measures to be introduced immediately.
- Cllr. R Thompson was concerned that the proposed By-pass may join the current road just below the brow of the hill – he was assured that the plans would be closely monitored.
- Cllr H. Thompson wondered if the Parish Council would be willing to work with the EMA and Friends of the School on social events – perhaps by forming a Social sub-committee, co-opting other people or by setting up a separate organisation such as a Village Association? Before making a decision, the Clerk was asked to investigate whether the PC could run fund-raising events with the proceeds being given to other bodies. **Action:** Clerk to investigate.

Finally, the Clerk presented a draft Parish Newsletter for Councillors' approval. This was warmly welcomed and approved; Councillors **agreed** that, once sufficient copies had been made, they would circulate them to all households, with some left in the PO for collection by outlying residents. **Action:** Clerk to reproduce 270 copies of newsletter, ALL to circulate.

14. Date of next meeting: 7.00 pm, Monday 27th June 2016 at Elwick School

Meeting closed at 10.00 pm.