

## ELWICK PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of meeting held at 7.20pm on Monday 27 June 2016 at Elwick School

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

**In Attendance:** M. West, Clerk, Matthew King, Fiona Riley & Mike Blair, Hartlepool BC  
15 members of the public

**1. Apologies:** Cllr. J. Hall, Ward Cllr B. Loynes- accepted.

**2. Public Forum:** The Chairman invited Matt King, Hartlepool's Planning Policy Team Leader, to make a presentation on the Draft Local Plan Preferred Options.

Matt outlined the key points covered in the document and the calendar of consultation to be undertaken, with the aim of having the Local Plan adopted by February 2018. Whilst outlining the reasoning behind the overall proposals, and key policy areas, he focussed on the issues most likely to impact Elwick residents, such as the proposed new village by-pass and fly-over/grade separated junction to the A19, with a parallel road running to the new junction from Coal Lane as well as some limited housing development at North Farm/Potters Farm. Two new primary schools are also proposed at Wynyard, one within Stockton Borough and one in Hartlepool. Matt encouraged everyone to send in their views/comments on the Draft Local Plan.

The Chairman thanked Matt for his informative presentation and invited questions from the floor. These were responded to by either Matt or Mike, with Fiona taking notes (*these were later forwarded to the Clerk*). The officers were thanked for their input and left the meeting, together with most members of the public at 8.05pm. **Action:** Parish Council and residents to respond to the consultation as soon as possible, either using the forms available or via the website.

The meeting formally reconvened at 8.12pm, with one member of the public, Mr. David Woodward, remaining as an observer.

**3. Declarations of Interest:** Cllr. Musgrave – Planning Application H/2016/0214

**4. Minutes of 2 May 2016:** Accepted as a true record and signed & dated by the Chairman.

**5. Matters Arising:**

**(a) Councillor vacancy** – the Clerk informed that one application for co-option to the Parish Council had been received, from Mrs. Jackie Sturrock. She read out Mrs. Sturrock's letter of application. It was unanimously agreed that Mrs. Sturrock be co-opted with immediate effect.

**Action:** Clerk to inform Mrs. Sturrock and ensure that her Declaration of Acceptance of Office was completed, along with a Register of Pecuniary Interests.

**(b) Hedge Cutting** – no information on this had been received from Cllr. Loynes, therefore the Clerk was asked to follow up directly with officers. **Action:** Clerk to contact HBC officers.

**(c) Clerk's Appraisal** – Cllr H. Thompson reported that the Appraisal would be finalised before the July meeting. The Clerk reported that she had not yet completed her CiLCA portfolio, due to lack of time, and was concerned that she would not complete before the deadline. This would be discussed in her session with Cllr. H. Thompson. **Action:** Cllr. H. Thompson to arrange meeting with the Clerk.

**(d) Rural Transport** – The Clerk reported that 4 tender responses had been received and that a meeting with Dalton Piercy Parish Councillors to go through the responses had been arranged for 30<sup>th</sup> June. It was suggested that the funds from the Red gap Turbine development could be most useful in paying for a rural transport service for the two communities. **Action:** Clerk to contact Bob Swainston to press for funds to be made available for this.

**(e) QE 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday event** – very positive oral feedback had been received. Cllr. H. Thompson noted how well things went when all village organisations worked together.

**6. Chairman's Report:** The Chairman had nothing specific to report.

**7. Ward Councillor's Report:** Cllr Loynes had sent a text message to the Clerk with her apologies and stating that she had again reported:

- (a) footpath on the corner of North Lane to be top priority and
- (b) speed signs worn on way to Hartlepool and also the sign on the bend. All these should now have been dealt with or new ones ordered.

It was noted that fly tipping was on the rise and that a fridge had been dumped on the village outskirts in North Lane. **Action:** Clerk to inform HBC officers that a fridge has been dumped at the A19 end of North Lane.

**8. Village Maintenance Group Report:** Before Cllr. Irving gave her report the Clerk informed that she had organised the Playing Field equipment repair, which was to be undertaken by HBC at a cost of £180 +VAT at the request of the Maintenance Group, and that she had been notified by Mrs Banks that the padlock was missing from the Playing Field access gate. As the lease on the field was subject to the gate being kept locked at all times, the Clerk had immediately purchased a new secure padlock at a cost of £58 and placed it on the gate. It was suggested that the grass cutters be asked if they had any knowledge of the missing padlock. **Action:** Clerk to contact grass cutters re missing padlock.

Cllr Irving reported that:

- (a) The Playing Field bin has still not had its lid replaced;
- (b) The flower tubs were still in urgent need of refurbishing, and she was not able to do this alone. There were currently 48 tubs around the village, some of which were not being looked after, others in need of replacement and/or repainting. She proposed that the number needed to be reduced and that alternative to wooden tubs might be considered. Cllr Irving showed colleagues one of 4 plastic half-barrel tubs, purchased by the Clerk at a cost of £12 each. It was **agreed** that these looked very effective and would be a practical and long-lasting alternative to the increasingly expensive wooden tubs. The Clerk was to be reimbursed for the four already purchased and authorised to seek further similar tubs if they could be obtained at such reasonable cost. **Action:** Clerk to contact HBC officers regarding the bin lid and to investigate replacement flower tubs.

Cllr. Hall had requested that the subject of the repainting of the lampposts around the village green be raised again.

Cllr. H. Thompson wished to put on record how lovely the new signs in the Wildlife garden looked.

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

<b>Income:</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>Expenditure:</b>	
Wayleave	8.05	Broadband Line	30.48
Interest	<u>10.54</u>	Wildlife Garden maintenance	100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>18.59</b>	Grass cutting & strimming	835.20
		QE 90 <sup>th</sup> event	205.60
		Insurance	322.44
		Clerk's salary & training	445.80
		Playing Field	<u>58.00</u>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,997.52</b>

The Clerk noted that she had yet to spend the Transparency Fund Grant, on the purchase of a laptop, scanner and web-training.

It was **agreed** that:

- (a) the PC would pay for the Clerk's Annual Subscription to the Society of Local Council Clerks, which she had formerly paid herself.
- (b) Grass cutting should go out to tender for the 2017 season.
- (c) Mr. Banks, Webmaster, be asked to investigate whether Mr. Dixon would be willing to formally transfer the domain name of Elwick Village to the Parish Council.

- 10. Correspondence:** (i) The Lottery had written to confirm that they were happy with the Final Report on the Awards for All Grant, and the grant was now closed; all records must be kept for 7 years. The Clerk was congratulated.
- (ii) The Police had submitted an e-mailed report, viz. 2 x Suspicious Circumstances, 1 x theft and handling, and 1 x 999 call.
- (iii) The Traffic Commissioner's Office had written to inform that the Parish Council's objection to the Martindale Farm HGV centre had been ruled inadmissible. However, the terms of the permission granted to Mr. Cracknell, meant that the residents of the village were protected from nuisance as the vehicles could now only access the Farm directly from the A19 and not via the village.

**11. Planning Applications:**

- HBC/2016/0214** - erection of agricultural building, Pawton Hill Farm – no objection  
**HBC/2016/0193** - single dwelling, Plot 4, Manorside, Wynyard – no objection  
**HBC/2016/0216** - detached dwelling, Plot 2, Manorside, Wynyard – no objection  
**HBC/2016/0155** - extension of temporary school at Wynyard – no objection  
**HBC/2016/0199** - reduction in size of extension, 3, Saville Close, Wynyard – no objection  
**HBC/2016/0257** - single dwelling, Plot 22, Manorside, Wynyard – no objection

**13. Matters of Concern to Councillors:**

- Cllr R. Thompson raised concerns about the ongoing problem of construction vehicles from the Quarry Farm site using the village to access the A19. **Action:** Clerk to contact Council officers
- Cllr H. Thompson noted that the 20mph sign in North Lane was not working properly; she also informed colleagues that Mrs. Philippa Dixon, The Walk, had contacted her to notify the Parish Council that repairs were being carried out and asked if it would be acceptable to the PC, as owners of the Greens, for a small amount of damage to the Green be incurred with the assurance that the Green would be reinstated to its previous condition. **Agreed.**

**14. Date of next meeting:** 7.00 pm, Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at Elwick WI hall.

Meeting closed at 9.20 pm.