

ELWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at 7.00pm on Monday 25 July 2016 at Elwick WI Hall

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

In Attendance: M. West, Clerk

1. Apologies: Ward Cllr B. Loynes- accepted.

2. Public Forum: No members of the public present. The expected representatives of the Hartlepool & County Durham Community Health Partnership did not attend. It was agreed to look at the HBC consultation after the business of the meeting.

3. Declarations of Interest: None

4. Minutes of 27 June 2016: Accepted as a true record and signed & dated by the Chairman.

5. Matters Arising:

(a) Clerk's Appraisal – Cllr H. Thompson reported that the Appraisal had now been finalised and signed by herself and the Clerk. A copy would be kept on file. The next step is to undertake a salary review.

(b) Rural Transport – The Clerk reported on the meeting held on 30th June with a representative of Dalton Piercy Parish Council, and explained the process that had been undertaken before Councillors present had arrived at a unanimous decision. (The minute of the meeting had been previously circulated). DPPC had since endorsed the decision at full Council, and offered £1,500 towards the new service. Cllr. R. Thompson proposed ratification of the decision, seconded by Cllr H. Thompson, this was unanimously **agreed**. The Clerk was asked to contact Arriva with a request for sponsorship for a Community Bus pass. Letters should now be issued to all the companies who had submitted tenders. Councillors also wished to reiterate their sincere appreciation to Paul's Travel for providing a service over the past few years. It was further **agreed** that a meeting for residents of Dalton Piercy and Elwick parishes be held in early September at the WI hall to promote the new service. Ward Councillors to be asked to alert West Park residents. A flier to be circulated in advance. **Action:** Clerk to write to the four companies concerned, enquire about sponsorship, produce a flier and book the WI hall.

(c) Playing Field – the Chairman reported that Mr Grieves had not known that the lock was broken on the Playing Field. Concern was raised about the small gate at the other end of the Playing Field being left open; a spring was needed to ensure that it always closed to prevent farm stock getting into the field again. **Action:** Chairman and Clerk to investigate cost of a spring and fitting.

Cllr Hall noted that the equipment had still not been mended, even though the Borough Council had agreed the price for undertaking this. **Action:** Clerk to contact HBC.

(d) Flower tubs – The Clerk reported that she had been unable to obtain any further replacement plastic tubs from Costco. The Chairman reported seeing a good offer on Amazon for 50cm wide tubs, though these were somewhat smaller than the current wooden tubs. Cllr Irving reported that 4 tubs around the village appeared to be uncared for, and some clearly were in need of replacing. Cllr Hall agreed that the Maintenance Group would undertake a full review of all the tubs over the summer. **Action:** Maintenance Group to review all tubs, Clerk to investigate Amazon offer.

6. Chairman's Report: (a) The Chairman reported that he had attended the Parish Liaison meeting last week and had, along with the Chairmen of Greatham and Hart Parish Councils, complained about the state of the pavements in the villages. He was informed that the Council is busy scoping the proposed By-Pass for Elwick – how it is to be financed and finalising the

route.

(b) He then reported that he now had the Ram Pump in his possession on behalf of the Parish Council. The Ram Pump had been found on Fred Grieves' farm and restored by Jack Smurthwaite and Eric Porritt. Ideally, Mr. Porritt would like it displayed and/or brought out for display at village events. Councillors were unsure as to where the Ram Pump could be permanently displayed and requested the Chairman to continue to store it for the time being. The record of the restoration was currently with the Clerk, who hoped that it might be placed on the village website.

7. Ward Councillor's Report: Cllr Loynes had sent a text message to the Clerk with her apologies and stating that she hoped all actions from the previous meeting had been completed. Councillors noted that this was not the case and that, although the lidless waste bin in the playing Field had been replaced, the original lidless bin was still in situ; the numbers were not showing on the speed limit sign in North Lane, the lamp outside Manor Cottage had still not been repaired and that there were some very large potholes on Church Bank, on both sides of the dip. **Action:** Clerk to contact HBC officers about these issues.

8. Village Maintenance Group Report: Cllr Hall stated that most items had already been covered. He raised concern about the Wildlife Garden which he felt was overgrown and unkempt. Other Councillors strongly disagreed with him on this issue. He asked that the potholes on the cinder path be filled in, with tarmac if possible, and the re-growth on the banks be cut back. **Action:** Clerk to contact Affordable Landscapes.

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

Income:	£	Expenditure:	
		Broadband Line	30.48
		Wildlife Garden maintenance	100.00
		Grass cutting & strimming	946.80
		Skips (3)	504.00
		Playing Field bin contract	101.38
Total	0.00	Total	1,682.66

The Clerk informed that the External Auditors had requested further detail of receipts and payments and that this had been supplied.

10. Correspondence: (i) Tees Valley Combined Authority consultation on the proposed powers of a Mayoral Combined Authority – online questionnaire to be completed by 22 August:

https://surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TV_Mayoral-Combined-Authority-2016

(ii) Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council Local Plan - consultation on Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report and Statement of Community Involvement: www.stockton.gov.uk/consultations

(iii) Tees Valley Public Health Shared Services – information leaflets and posters for display.

11. Planning Applications:

H/2016/0216 - single dwelling, Plot 2, Manorside, Wynyard - no comment

H/2016/0297 - single dwelling, Plot 6, Manorside, Wynyard – no comment

H/2016/0123 - single dwelling, Plot 7, Manorside, Wynyard – no comment

H/2016/0271 - single dwelling, Plot 8, Manorside, Wynyard – no comment

H/2016/0212 - single dwelling, Plot 17, Manorside, Wynyard – no comment

H/2016/0182 - single dwelling, Plot 27, Manorside, Wynyard – no comment

H/2016/0272 - security gatehouse at The Meadows, Wynyard – no comment

H/2016/0283 - Elwick Mill, Benknowle Lane - unhappy with the size and height of the proposed development in proportion to the listed Mill building and the existing house; Councillors also feel that the building is overly large for its purported use.

12. Matters of Concern to Councillors:

Cllr Irving reported:

- residents demanding a quiet road surface on A19
- further requests for a pedestrian crossing and dropped kerbs on road through the village
- issue of parking on the pavements along the entrance to Greenlea which is obstructing traffic entering the road and causing problems, likewise for pedestrians. The problem has been caused by two separate residents in North Lane who have a number of vehicles.

Action: Clerk to inform HBC, Ward Councillor and police.

Cllr R. Thompson raised issue of the number of tables on the green, which have started to proliferate again; the Clerk noted that she had received another complaint on this issue.

Action: Clerk to write to both Landlords reminding them of agreement to keep to three tables only.

- 14. HBC- 'Your Say, Our Future' – consultation.** The Clerk presented the slides forwarded by officers and requested Councillors to respond to the consultation individually. **Action:** Clerk to forward the presentation to Councillors, Councillors to respond individually.

Date of next meeting: 7.00 pm, Monday 26th September 2016 at Elwick school.

Meeting closed at 9.12 pm.