Minutes of meeting of Bavington Parish Council held on Thursday 9th February 2017, commencing 630pm at Ladywell, Great Bavington

**Those Present:** Carol Brodie (Chairman) **,** Nicola Bell, Richard Taylor, John Spearman, Peter Acton

**In Attendance:** Claire Miller (Clerk), Peter Ramsden

Carol welcomed back and it was extremely pleasing for the Chairman to be holding the meeting.

**2017/01 Apologies for Absence**

Catherine Hogg

**2017/02 Disclosure of interests by members regarding agenda items**

There were no Declaration of Interests.

**2017/03 Approval of minutes taken at the meeting held 10th November 2016**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record

**2017/04 Matters arising from meeting held 10th November 2016**

* Peter Ramsden had met with County Council Officer who was then to meet with quarry manager regarding Divet Hill bridleway, however no further information had been received, Peter Ramsden to chase up.
* County Council had confirmed they would action tree works, if trees on their land, however Parish Council would need to contact landowners, if required, and it was agreed Clerk would write to Mr Sanders, tenant of Bavingron Hill Head Farm.
* County Council had stated the cattlegrid at Bavington suffers ongoing problems due to the heavy volumes of agricultural traffic, and had also investigated gulley works but this would not solve drainage problems. Clerk to request cleansing schedule and enquire of maintenance requirements regarding clearing of cattle grids.

**2017/05 Correspondence**

* Northumberland County Council – Archaeology in Northumberland
* Northumberland County Council – Winter Services
* CAN – Getabout Access Scheme – a scheme to aid persons with transport difficulties, such as enabling person’s to attend hospital appointments, and requesting the PC work with CAN as part of the project. It was agreed current transport services should be looked at, possibly rationed, and streamlined.
* Mr Prender re: Ray Fell Steering Group – it is important funding monies are spent appropriately, with a small grant scheme to be provided, and a strong feeling community initiatives would be required to improve infrastructure, and legacy fund be created. Precise details of fund structure to be finalised with charitable incorporated organisation to be set up, and decision makers awarding funds to be unconnected to applicants. As previously minuted, improved broadband/mobile provision greatly required. However there is bad feeling within the parish regarding Vatenfall’s association with windfarms, but the company had gone through due process to achieve planning permission, and fund should be used to benefit all in the parish, whether they agree or not with the windfarm scheme. B.T. as a utility provider are supposed to provide 97% superfast broadband coverage, and surely they should be providing this service, instead of community funding being accessed. Carol Brodie proposed telephone reception of the most importance, Richard Taylor seconded, and it was agreed this the imperative issue. B.T’s plans for this area involve current projection for phase two being 36% coverage by end of phase – Carol Brodie suggested this be put in writing personally to the Parish Council. Peter Acton proposed superfast broadband as a funding project, John Spearman seconded, carried. Cllr Brodie proposed and Cllr Taylor seconded, issues such as improvements to signage; road maintenance, although these should be provided through County Council and care needs to be taken for funding to be spent inappropriately, however agreement reached these also areas of possible funding.

**2017/06 Finance**

Grit bin adjacent to cattlegrid on top of bankside at North Heugh (west of new cattle grid recently installed) would be beneficial, and bin had disappeared on unnamed road between B6342 and Great Bavington. With grit being dumped on sides of road and being strewn by cattle, several bins within the parish would be beneficial – Clerk to contact County Council.

**2017/06/01 The following invoices were authorised for payment**

* C Miller – annual salary and expenses - £575.39 – including reimbursement of scanning equipment. It was agreed to raise clerk’salary pay scale, pay rates to be discussed fuller at next meeting .
* HMRC - PAYE on above - £109.20.

**2017/06/02 To discuss becoming members of Northumberland and Newcastle Society**

Carol Brodie requested this issue be re discussed with the fear that additional turbine applications may become apparent within the parish, and it would be to the parishes advantage to join the organisation, at an annual subscription of £30 - Peter Acton seconded, carried. Comment made there could be diverse views within the parish, however it was majority opinion more people than not are against turbines.

**2017/06/03 Request for donation – Northumberland CVA**

Organisation involved with advice/awarding grants to community groups within Northumberland – it was agreed not to donate to this organisation.

**2017/06/04 Transparency funding**

Discussed earlier.

**2017/06/05 Donation acknowledgements –** Tynedale Hospice at Home/Great North Air Ambulance/Northumberland CAN, and verbal thanks given from Thockrington Church.

**2017/07 Planning**

**2017/07/01 Planning Applications received:**

* 16/04140/VARYCO: Divet Hill Quarry, variation of condition 1 (time limit) in order to allow the extraction time to be 31/12/2018 and site restoration to be completed no later than 31/12/2020: **Planning Application approval granted.**

**2017/07/02 Refusal of Planning Application received:**

* 16/03666/FUL: Mrs C Hogg, Bavington Mount, Capheaton – change of use of existing buildings to residential use and construction of extension on part of footprint of existing shed.

**2017/08 Localism Bill**

Localism bill meant to offer protection, however in order to create a Neighbourhood Plan up to £15K required and there would still be no guarantee such a document would pass the final inspectors report, therefore the bill does not seem to work for small communities such as Bavington. Carol Brodie proposed this be highlighted to local MP and request he contacts the Secretary of State and asks for their guidance in this matter, and to refer to the planning application originally from Amec which was rejected, with Ed Milliband then overturning this decision and incoming Secretary of State at that time refusing to reopen the public enquiry - it is the PC’s duty to inform the Secretary of State the bill does not work within a tiny parish, Peter Acton seconded, all in agreement. Clerk to action.

**2017/09 Parish Council Web-site**

Two options available - delete current spanglefish site and upgrade to newer version which allows files to be uploaded, or have a page on NALC web-site, which would cost approximately £70 (free for the first year). After discussion it was agreed Clerk would set up new version of spanglefish.

**2017/10 Any other Business**

From 1/1/17 new arrangement for hiring church premises had come into force, with minor amendment to contract and hiring form to Parish Council created, which Clerk duly signed.

**2017/11 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Bavington Parish Council will be held on Thursday 4th May 2017 commencing 730pm at Great Bavington Church Hall.



The meeting closed at 820pm.

Claire Miller

Parish Clerk