**DRAFT** Minutes of meeting of Bavington Parish Council held on Friday 19th May 2017, commencing 615pm in the URC meeting room, Great Bavington

**Those Present:** Peter Action (Vice Chairman) **,** Nicola Bell, Richard Taylor, John Spearman, Catherine Hogg

**In Attendance:** Claire Miller (Clerk), County Councllor John Riddle, Peter Ramsden

County Cllr John Riddle thanked all for his support in his re-election. The arrogance of the previous administration had been evident with the general public, particularly concerning the proposed move to Ashington, with new administration to take control of the council next Wednesday, and who expect to deliver on all manifesto pledges, including 100million pothole budget; five area councils to be set up who would take local planning decisions that are not strategic; public notices had been reinstated in Hexham Courant; John Riddle to be a portfolio holder for planning and environmental – which includes areas of outstanding natural beauty, housing, public protection – including trading standards and licensing; planning applications had been officially withdrawn for housing, commercial development and new school site, with government office notified and public enquiry stopped. Costs will be incurred for new offices at Ashington, due to piling works having commenced, which will amount to several million, however another use will be found for the site; felling of trees at County Hall had caused public unrest, works had been carried out, in effect, against the law, with replanting costs now required. A number of staff have shown thanks for the new direction the council will now be taking. A lot of work regarding Arch will need to be carried out, with problems around Manor Walks shopping centre at Cramlington which they had purchased with large interest rates incurred; road at Great Bavington had been reported as in need of repair, and J Riddle to also report cattle grid in need of attention; several committees to be abolished which would result in savings on additional Councillor expenses; refurbishment of County Hall had been estimated at 8million, however report viewed last week had stated this could cost up to 19million; other sites being looked into for new Morpeth Comprehensive School; each area council to have a devolved budget; all County Cllrs undergoing extensive training; changes from two to three tier education discussed, and it was believed this would still go ahead, however some schools are to acadamise.

**2017/12 Apologies for Absence**

Regrettably, Carol Brodie could not attend due to illness.

**2017/13 Disclosure of interests by members regarding agenda items**

There were no Declaration of Interests.

**2017/14 Meeting with Cemex regarding Divet Hill Quarry extension and restoration works**

Personnel had cancelled meeting, and also site visit scheduled for next week, due to proposals requiring additional work.

**2017/15 Approval of minutes taken at the meeting held 9th February 2017**

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

**2017/16 Ray Wind Farm Update**

Funding pot of £250,000 per annum, index linked, for life of wind farm (25 years). Advisory Committee appointed since August 2016, one fund would be a small grants scheme of proposals up to £10K; second fund for infrastructure, eg. broadband, mobile phone; and third being legacy fund for the future using outstanding sums. Necessary documentation to be finalised within the next few weeks, however there are problems with turbines working correctly at present. B.T. and inorthumberland to spend monies on rolling out broadband and had identified areas for this, as far as Bavington parish is concerned, Little Bavington to gain superfast broadband. Government has an obligation to provide superfast, however nobody knows when this will be – and advisory group have agreed the funding should be used to provide superfast service. A proposal will need drawn up for approach to funders, B.T. had identified 380 properties within the vicinity of the turbines, being hard to reach properties, with detailed costings being carried out, at a rough estimate of £3K per house, B.T/Government policy was to provide up to £1700 per property.

**2017/17 Matters arising from meeting held 9th February 2017**

* **Request for Grit Bins:** Confirmation areas do not score high enough to qualify for additional grit bins, however PC could purchase and fund through County Council. Clerk to recontact NCC and confirm the procedure, with P Acton to provide cattle grid reference number.

**2017/18 Correspondence**

* Northumberland & Newcastle Society – newsletter
* Northumberland County Council – Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, Definitive Map Modification Order (No 19) 2014, Byways Open to all Traffic Nos 41 & 27 (Parishes of Chollerton and Bavington) – confirmation of order.
* NALC – notice of vacancies on County Committee for members of this parish.
* Tynedale Hospice – newsletter.

**2017/19 Finance**

**2017/19/01 Invoices payable**

* NALC – annual subscription - £46.36
* Zurich Municipal – annual insurance policy - £242.37

**2017/19/02 Audit of Accounts year ending 31/3/17: to discuss and approve Annual Governance Statement and Accounting Statements year ending 31/3/17**

**Section 1 Annual Governance Statement:** All points agreed with; **Section 2 Statement and Accounting Statements year ending 31/3/17:** Figures agreed as a true record, financial year end figures had been circulated to all, and it was proposed document be accepted as a true record, all in agreement.

**2017/19/03 Review of Clerk’s Pay Scale**

Clerk currently on payscale SCP17, and it was proposed and seconded to raise to pay scale SCP20.

**2017/20 Planning**

**2017/20/01 Planning Applications received:**

* 17/00784/FUL: Mr & Mrs Carr, Little Bavington Farm – construction 3 bedroom detached farm workers dwelling and detached garage and workshop building and general purpose steel portal frame agricultural building – **APPLICATION GRANTED.**

**2017/21 Localism Bill: Correspondence received from Department for Communities & Local Government**

Gavin Barwell MP, on behalf of Guy Opperman MP had replied to Parish Council letter regarding difficulties with the Localism Bill, encouraging the Parish Council to develop a Neighbourhood Plan, and stating they were unable to comment on the planning application, originally from Amec, however did set out general principles which should apply.

**2017/22 Parish Council Web-site**

Old web-site had been deleted, with Clerk setting up new Spanglefish site which enabled the upload of documents.

**2017/23 Any other Business**

There was no other business.

Clerk to report cattle grid on County Council web-site – when approaching Great Bavington village on the unnamed road from B6342, cattlegrid is full and stock walking freely across it.

**2017/24 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Bavington Parish Council will be held on Thursday 3rd August 2017 commencing at 7pm in the URC meeting room.



Claire Miller

Parish Clerk