**Minutes of meeting of Kirkwhelpington Parish Council held at the Memorial Hall, Kirkwhelpington on the 5th day of July 2016 at 7.30pm**

**Those Present:** Cllr R Thornton (Chairman), Cllr E Rogerson, Cllr A Purves, Cllr J Brown, Cllr P Senior, Cllr K Fortune, J Riddle (NCC, part of meeting)

**2016/39 Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2016/40 Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest at the present time.

**2016/41 Minutes of meeting held 3rd May 2016**

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

**2016/42 Matters arising from meeting held 3rd May 2016**

* Matting outside of hall not now required, however a further person wished to collect some, and this was agreed.
* An offer had been received to repair seat at the church gate, Cllr Senior had agreed to action when time allowed, therefore it was agreed the offer above would be gratefully accepted.
* A disabled parking bay outside of village hall could not be enforced, however if an electric car parking point was installed it would prevent brief parking of cars, and donations could be sought from Ray Wind Farm fund.
* Planning permission for tree behind Eastlands had still not been received, Clerk to enquire of progress.
* Wind Farm Steering Group had initially met 15/6/16, comprising Cllr Thornton and representatives from Otterburn, Birtley, Bavington, Elsdon and Corsenside PC’s, with four other non PC members elected. A manager to oversee the funds and terms of reference being arranged.
* Further email received regarding Wallington Bridge refurbishment, with National Trust preferred timescale being September, outside of school summer holidays, however it was agreed to reply stating diversions could be made from Belsay to Bolam, there are also several other routes that could be used, and the importance for local farmers to be accommodated was imperative, and with problems envisaged transporting schoolchildren during term time. It was agreed the figures from the National Trust stating they would lose 40,000 visitors seemed excessive and would be queried.
* Little Harle tower planning application for glazed archways had been withdrawn.

**2016/43 Youth Club**

Nothing to report.

**2016/44 Correspondence**

* Northumberland County Council – 2016 Surface Dressing – to be carried out between Kirk Harle and Ladywell by August 2016
* Northumberland County Council – Core Strategy, final consultation – document received and noted
* Northumberland County Council – Local Transport Plan Requests 2017-2018 – it was agreed to retain current requests of no overtaking signage at Knowesgate junction; Signage at Kirkwhelpington bridge stating “closed to heavy vehicles;” and safety measures at Little Harle corner.
* C Dilger – trees – correspondence relating to overhanging trees in a property rented from the Diocese, requesting support from the Parish Council – Cllr A Purves to speak to PCC, and Clerk to reply to C Dilger and inform them of this action.
* Big Lottery Fund – notice of unsuccessful funding bid - £3K secured, with £5750 required. Present mower could be traded in, NCC Community Chest could be approached, or J Riddle could possibly finance from his budget a minimum of £2500, however a further quote would be required. It was agreed an additional quote would be secured and Clerk would then forward details to Rebeun Morgan at the County Council, copying in J Riddle.

**2016/45 Finance**

**2016/45/01 Bank Balance:** £13091.46 as at 23/6/16

**2016/45/02 The following invoices were authorised:**

* Kirkwhelpington Memorial Hall – W/C maintenance - £255.50
* Proludic -- swing installation - £4798.80
* NALC – annual subscription - £87.05
* C Miller – 6 monthly salary & expenses - £741.19
* HMRC – Paye on above - £160.00
* Robson & Cowan – Parts and fuel - £47.90

**2016/45/03 Grasscutting machinery**

Discussed earlier.

**2016/46 Planning Matters**

**2016/46/01 Planning Applications:** No applications received.

**2016/46/02 Approval of Planning Application:** No applications received.

**2016/46/03 Northumberland County Council: Core Strategy/Renewable Energy Consultation**

Discussed earlier.

**2016/47 Play Ground**

Swing had been installed. Regarding the slide, the options were creating a mound, erecting a hut or to abandon the idea altogether, which seemed sensible, as ever increasing problems were occurring, however soil would now need removed by tractor and large trailer, and Proludic had stated if children are unable to climb the slide it was because they were too small to use the equipment. It was agreed Parish Council could not fund the play area further, and there had been a large proportion of money already spent on it, with contributions from the Parish Council. New swing seats quite small, however this was the largest Proludic provided.

**2016/48 Urgent Business**

* A696 still flooding, Hollyburn drain problems ongoing.
* Sulphur Well to be added to next agenda, with guest speaker to attend to discuss the subject.
* Convoys of wind farm machinery in the area, and should be avoiding peak travel periods, with police escorts and two loads daily. Pinchpoints were at the Badger, near to Dobbies garden centre; Belsay; and Ponteland roundabout, and if problems encountered Cllr Thornton should be contacted.
* If further funding unsuccessful, mower would still need to be purchased before February 2017, or Community Foundation funding would need returned.
* Yearly hedgeworks usually actioned before Kirkwhelpington Show – Cllr E Rogerson declared an interest - and it was agreed Cllr Fortune would assist K Rogerson with the maintenance.

**2016/49 Information Items**

* City and County Journal.

**2016/50 Date of next Meeting**

The next meeting of Kirkwhelpington Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 13th September 2016 commencing 730pm in Kirkwhelpington Memorial Hall.



Claire Miller

Parish Clerk

The meeting closed at 830pm.

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