

Minutes of the meeting of Elsdon Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Thursday 13 June, 2013

Present: Councillors Colby (Chair), Maddison, White, Simmance and Tait. Clerk Martin Chilvers and Parishioners Sarah Cowan and Fiona Brown

1. Apologies: There were no apologies.

2. Minutes of the April meeting: The minutes of the previous meeting was accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair.

3. Matters arising:

- a) The Clerk read out the emails he had received from NCC regarding the work required on the Burn near Crawford Cottages. It is understood that the funding has been agreed for the work and that it should be undertaken within the next few weeks.
- b) Under the Freedom of Information Act paperwork regarding the ongoing matter of the underground electric cabling has been obtained. There was agreement among the Councillors that the project has appeared to be poorly managed and communicated and many residents are also unhappy with service provided. The paperwork appears to be inconsistent in actions agreed and actual work undertaken. It was agreed to invite Gary O'Brien, Alan Dobson and Paul Aldsworth from Morison Utility Services as well as Rob Mayhew from NNPA to the next meeting to discuss the project. The Chair advised the Cllr Bridgett had confirmed his attendance at the July meeting.
- c) There has been no response to the letter sent to NCC regarding the TV signal in Elsdon. The Clerk was asked to send a copy on to Cllr Bridgett.
- d) The Clerk collected the remaining bank mandates from the Cllrs. The Clerk advised he had been told by Barclays bank that if he takes the mandates into a branch this would be sufficient and avoid the need for each Cllr to go. It was agreed that therefore the Clerk would also be a signature on the account.

4. Finance:

- a) It was agreed to reimburse the Clerk £20.00 in respect to payment for the Cllr training.
- b) The payment of the annual subscription to NALC for £52.88 was agreed.
- c) Payment of £2.52 was agreed to Harvey Parr Ltd re the printing of the letter to residents regarding the TV Signal.
- d) The Clerk confirmed he had received £125.06 as payment for the Wayleave.

5. Planning:

- a) 13/01397/FUL: Proposed general purpose agricultural building: Land North East of Liberty Hill farm, Elsdon: The Chair invited Parishioners Cowan and Brown to speak regarding the planning. They reported that whilst not fully objecting to the application it was the proposed location they objected to. The proposed location would compromise the view from their own properties and given the extensive amount of land owned by the Applicant they ask that the barn is located on the Otterburn side of the existing buildings. Additionally there is concern over the amount of light coming from the existing barn with sometimes the lights on all night shining into their properties. The Cllrs then discussed the matter. There was agreement that the proposed location and type of building would have an adverse impact on the view from the hills opposite when travelling from Elsdon. It was agreed to object to the location but would wish to hear of any amended application suggesting a different location.

6. New business:

- a) The Clerk highlighted the petition details he had received from NCC regarding the state of the local roads. The petition sent to Rt Hon Sir Alan Beith MP was forward on to NCC. It was acknowledged that

some road resurfacing was being carried out by the County Council however there were many parts that had not as yet been attended to or was missed. Additionally it was highlighted that in many places the sides of the roads were very bad with loose chippings that are dangerous for cyclists. Also there are still many pot holes remaining in and around Elsdon requiring attention.

- b) The Clerk highlighted that there was to be a temporary road closure of the B6341 Monkridge to Elsdon for road surface. Details have been posted on the Parish Council website.
- c) There was discussion as to how communication can be improved across the Parish. A village tweet / facebook was considered but it was acknowledge that whilst technology needed to be used where available, those residents unable to communicate via such forums needed to also be considered. The Parish Council website and notice board were also highlighted.
- d) The Clerk raised the matter of the Newsletter. He asked that Cllrs share the invitation for articles for next edition that will be required by end of June. Articles can be emailed to redevalleynews@gmail.com
- e) The Clerk shared the recent Cluster meeting minutes he had received. It was agreed that the Parish Council would not currently join the Cluster meetings.

7. Any other business:

- a) Cllr Maddison & Simmance raised the matter of expenses to be reimbursed in respect of the recent Parish Plan (Heritage Day) event. The expenses included printing £35.00, stamps £27.10, paper, replica helmets, ink cartridges and food totalling £398.96, food & glasses £34.00, stationery, drink & food £265.02.
- b) Cllr White provided an invoice for payment from P. Grieves in respect mole control at Crawford Crescent.
- c) Cllr Maddison advised that it was planned to have professionally guided and supervised archaeological investigation on the weekend 27 July.

8. Date, time and place of next meeting: The next meeting will be on 11 July, 2013 starting at 7.30pm at the Village Hall, Elsdon

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