

Minutes of the meeting of Elsdon Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Thursday 10 July, 2014

Present: Councillors Colby (Chair), Maddison, White and Tait. Clerk Martin Chilvers. Chris France

1. Apologies: There were apologies from Cllr Simmance.

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

3. Matters arising

- a) It was reported that the remaining four street lights still had not been converted to LED. It was agreed the Clerk would contact Gavin Barlow at NCC to determine when the work would be undertaken.
- b) It was reported that the further repairs required to the bridge had still not been completed and the Clerk was asked to contact NCC for an update.
- c) It was reported that there had been no apparent progress on the repair of local roads since the matter was last discussed. Whilst the verges on the Raylees road have been cut, it was highlighted that the overhanging trees were still to be cut back.
- d) The Clerk confirmed he had received a cheque for £2,252 from Northern Powergrid as payment towards the village green drainage repairs. This was a compensation payment following the problems related to the underground cabling project. There was agreement Cllr White would order the materials and arrange the hire of equipment. It was agreed the materials should be stored at the pinfold. It was also agreed there should be a site meeting regarding the drainage work on the village green.
- e) It was confirmed that NNPA had agreed to provide £2,500 towards the costs of the village fete. It was agreed that as these funds would be paid into the Parish Council bank account, the sub-committee organising fete did not have a bank account and that the Parish Council would be able to reclaim VAT, it would be easier to conduct the fete costs via the Parish Council.
- f) It was confirmed that Abi Mansley (NNPA) would be providing an article in both the Rede Valley newsletter and communication via the Town Crier.

4. Finance:

- a) *NALC subscriptions:* It was agreed to pay the annual subscription of £55.52.
- b) *Compensation payment from Northern Powergrid:* The Clerk confirmed he had received a cheque for £2,252.88.

5. Planning:

- a) *Blaxter Quarry – Environmental Planning Committee meeting 2 July:* Three Councillors together with a parishioner attended the meeting. There was confirmation from the authorities that improvements had been made to the various conditions. It was reported that the quarry would be operational again but that Joe Nugent from NNC was attending the site each week monitoring the situation.

6. New business:

- a) *Local Transport Plan 2015-16:* There was discussion what should be included in the next year's plan. Initial thoughts included moving the 30mph from the Rothbury side of village further out of the village. The same idea was suggested on the Otterburn side of the village out beyond where the Larks was located. It was also suggested that there perhaps should be a 20mph limit around the village green. It was agreed to give consideration to the matter and discuss at the next meeting.
- b) *Proposed Northumbrian Water inspection cover:* The Chair provided details of a conversation she had had with Matthew White of Northumbrian Water. He advised there would be a need to install an inspection cover near the telephone box and street light at the edge of the green. There would be need to turn off the water for some residents however there would be communication and notice before this happened.

- c) *Visit to Renewables UK*: It was agreed by those Councillors that attended the presentation that the day was interesting and informative.

7. Any other business:

- a) Cllr Madison reported that what is believed to be Giant Knotweed had been identified on the roadside verge near the 30moh sign at Moat Hill. The Clerk was asked to contact the NCC to visit and take appropriate action.
- b) It was reported that the Tyneside Stage rally would be held on 3 August using some of the roads around Otterburn Camp. It was suggested that the details could be posted on the website as well as via the Town Crier.
- c) Cllr Madison spoke of the work he had been doing to prepare for an exhibition in respect of the commemoration of the outbreak of WW1. He hoped there would be some funding from NNPA towards the costs but asked whether the Parish Council could meet some of the printing costs. This was supported by Councillors.
- d) Chris France provided details following the recent National Park AGM, confirming Cllr John Riddle was appointed as Chair and that the Vice-chair was Glen Sanderson.

8. Date, time and place of next meeting: The next meeting will be on 14 August, 2014 starting at 7.30pm at the Village Hall, Elsdon

Meeting closed at 8.50pm