

Minutes of the meeting of Elsdon Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Thursday 21 July, 2016

Present: Councillors, Colby (Chair), Simmance and Tait. Clerk - Martin Chilvers. Cllr Chris France, Terry & Trish Taberner (until 7.40pm)

1. Apologies: There were apologies from Cllrs White & Maddison

2. Declarations of Interest: There were none raised

3. Minutes of the previous Ordinary meeting: The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair.

Northumberland National Park forward planning matter

The Chair welcomed Mr & Mrs Taberner. Mr Taberner provided details regarding a Forward Planning Application on a piece of land adjacent to their property. Following discussion it was agreed Northumberland National Park should have an obligation to highlight all pieces of land that a similar application may have been made. Cllr France advised he would attempt to speak to Clive Coyne of Northumberland National Park Planning about the matter at a meeting they were both attending on 17 August. It was agreed the Parish Council would write to Clive Coyne for clarification on the matter. Also the Clerk was asked to write to Cllr Sue Bolam seeking assistance and her comments.

4. Matters arising

- a) Log wagons using local roads – It was noted that there is a flashing 30mph sign in Corsenside parish and the Clerk was asked to contact the Parish Council to determine how this was funded.
- b) Collection of garden waste from Elsdon – It was noted that residents had been receiving the letters from NCC seeking interest to garden waste collection. Additionally it was noted that whilst NCC requested responses they had not provided any mechanism for residents to return their replies.
- c) Registration of the village green – The Clerk advised he had spoken to Mr Rickelton and now had a copy of the online evidence confirming ownership of the village green. A statement recording anecdotal evidence of ownership was being written.
- d) Grass protection on the village green - It was agreed to return to this matter in the New Year.
- e) Bellingham surgery – Otterburn Memorial Hall service - The Clerk shared details of the letter from the practice with their proposal that the cancellation of the service in the Memorial Hall would become permanent. Following discussion it was agreed that potentially a 'slimmed-down' of the service (once a week) and not provide all aspects that had been provided previously would be a possible compromise.
- f) Ray Wind Steering Group – Cllr Simmance provided details of two recent meetings. The first was with Vattenfall and second for just the Steering Group members to discuss the proposed terms of reference and possibility to create a Trust.
- g) Damage to village green – It was agreed Andrew Dodd had done a great job to repair the damage to the green. It was noted that a BT Openreach van had caused further damage to the green and thanks were expressed to Graham Charlton for removing the ruts and 'smoothing down' the surface.
- h) BT Openreach wayleaves – The Clerk advised he had not as yet had a response from Abby Oliver in Anne-Marie Trevelyan's office and he would chase this up.
- i) Winter's gibbet – It was agreed to write to Director General of National Trust, Dame Helen Ghosh on the matter of returning the 'missing' head of the gibbet.

6. Finance:

- a) Payment of invoice to A. Dodd regarding repairs to village green: The Clerk advised he had not as yet received the invoice.

7. Planning:

a) There were not planning items in the agenda this month.

It was noted however that an application had been received from Northumberland National Park. This was 16NP0068LBC for the Bird in Bush. Following discussion all were in agreement to support the application. It was also noted that a letter had been received from Sarah Morpeth who has a holiday let in the village. She reported that the lack of pub in Elsdon was having a detrimental effect on business. It was agreed to share this with Northumberland National Park Planning with the request that they do what they can to speed up the process to allow the Bird in Bush to open as soon as possible.

7. New business:

a) Local Transport Plan Programme 2017-18 – After discussion it was agreed to leave the LTP as presented by County Council.

b) Otterburn Memorial Hall Doctors surgery: This topic was covered earlier in the agenda.

c) Northumberland Local Plan Core Strategy: Pre –submission Draft – Proposed major modifications consultations: The Clerk provided details of the paperwork received. It was noted that it was a pity NCC had not provided an Executive Summary rather than expecting people to ‘plough’ the huge amount of paper and detail.

d) Green Rigg application deadline date: The Clerk shared the details from Community Foundation. Cllr Simmance mentioned he had not as yet heard about the application for marquees and barrier mesh.

8. Any other business:

a) The Clerk shared the details of the consultation on plans for Ponteland Leisure.

b) There was discussion regarding Tony Gates response to the communication about the late cancellation of NNPA visit to the July Elsdon Parish Council meeting.

c) Thanks expressed to Carol Lewins for organising the Big Lunch.

d) Cllr Simmance reported that the Flower Festival and concert had been a great success.

e) There was discussion regarding the funding of £1,430 from NNPA for a feasibility study regarding the Pinfold. As part of this feasibility study, a community event will be held on 2 October to discuss and consider potential ways for enhancing the pinfold.

9. Date, time and place of next meeting: The next meeting will be on 11 August, 2016, starting at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, Elsdon

Meeting closed at 9.10pm