

Minutes of the meeting of Elsdon Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Thursday 8 September, 2016

Present: Councillors, Colby (Chair), Simmance, White, Maddison and Tait. Clerk - Martin Chilvers. Cllr Chris France, Cllr Sue Bolam, David Coles

1. Apologies: There were no apologies

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.

4. Matters arising

- a) Relocation of 30mph sign location – The Clerk advised Mr Forrester had made contact with Neil Snowdon of NCC who promised to look into the matter of relocating the 30mph sign on the Otterburn side of the village when he returned from holiday on 5 September. There was discussion regarding other points in the village and the Clerk was asked to approach Mr Snowdon regarding the possibility to move the sign at Townfoot further out of the village as well as introduce a 20mph restriction around the village green as there was no pedestrian footpath.
- b) Collection of garden waste from Elsdon – The Clerk provided details of the email received from Adam Keen of NCC. The number of returns from residents requesting green waste collection had apparently been low. Whilst the deadline date had been pushed back to 31 August it was not expected sufficient number would respond to make the service viable. Alternative 'Elsdon Community' green waste disposal and recycling was discussed and Cllr Simmance agreed to approach a local resident about the matter.
- c) Bellingham surgery – Otterburn Memorial Hall service – Cllr Simmance provided a review of the meeting with representatives from Bellingham surgery.
- d) BT Openreach wayleaves – The Chair highlighted an email she had received from an Andrew Noyes of BT Openreach regarding two recent wayleave requests. The Clerk advised that as the Councillors had agreed both he had printed, signed and returned them to the address provided. The Clerk also pointed out that neither had the usual 'NA' reference and neither had a financial sum recorded on the paperwork that previous wayleaves had. He advised he had requested on several occasions what the financial figure would be provided but as yet not received a response. It was agreed the Clerk would contact Mr Noyes.
- e) Winter's gibbet – The Chair advised she had not as yet written regarding the missing 'head' on the gibbet. After discussion it was agreed to search for any photo-graphic evidence proving a 'head' had previously been a feature of the gibbet before writing to request it to be replaced.

6. Finance:

- a) Payment of invoice to A. Dodd regarding repairs to village green: The invoice for £528.00 was agreed and paid. It was noted that the same amount had been credited to the Parish Council account by Otterburn Camp as payment for the repairs.

7. Planning:

- a) There were no planning applications to consider this month

7. New business:

- a) Annual Parish & Town Council Conference - It was agreed the Chair and Cllr Tait would attend the afternoon session on October 13.
- b) Ray Wind - update: Cllr Simmance provided an update from recent meetings attended. He advised that there was a proposition from a number of the Steering Group to establish a Charitable Incorporated Organisation however there was still some work to be done before Vattenfall are likely to be agreeable to the proposal.

- c) Review of the Elsdon fete: There had been very good feedback following the fete. It was felt it had been very well organised. Whilst still to be confirmed early figures suggest a profit of £2,900 was made. A meeting has been arranged for 27 September to decide how to split the profits.
- d) Forthcoming Pinfold meeting: The date of the meeting was confirmed as 2 October starting at 2.00pm in Elsdon Village Hall. There would be free food to attendees.

8. Any other business:

- a) Cllr Maddison advised an oak tree had been planted on the Village Green. This was a replacement for the damaged Millennium tree.
- b) Cllr Maddison provided an update on the progress of the work on the church bell-tower.
- c) The Chair spoke of the meeting with Susannah Buylla from Northumberland National Park (NNP). It was agreed it was a positive meeting and hoped this would help greater understanding and clarity working with NNP going forward.
- d) There was discussion regarding the news of the potential permanent closure of Rothbury Hospital. Whilst it was acknowledged there was little the Parish Council can do, the Clerk was asked to write and offer support to the Action Group working to keep the place open.

9. Date, time and place of next meeting: The next meeting will be on 13 October, 2016, starting at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, Elsdon

Meeting closed at 8.50pm