

**Minutes of the meeting of Elsdon Parish Council held in
Elsdon Village Hall
on Thursday 13 December, 2018**

Present: Councillors, Simmance (Chair), Maddison, Morgan and Renton. Clerk - Martin Chilvers. Cllr France, C. Maddison

1. Apologies: There were apologies from Cllr Graham

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.

4. Matters arising

- a) Ray Wind update** – The Clerk advised that the CIC website was in process of being developed and that a mailshot would be delivered to all properties within the catchment area in January. He additionally provided contact details for the Administrator, Jane Cartridge, - email admin@raywindfund.co.uk and phone 07762 179579. The Clerk also advised that the Decision Panel met on 4 December in respect of the latest round of applications made via Community Foundation and that contact should be made within the next week.
- b) Replacement road signage and road surface markings, Raylees road safety** – The Clerk reported that whilst the road markings had now completed he was still chasing regarding the Raylees junction to A696. It was highlighted that the ‘Elsdon’ sign on the Gibbet road still had not been replaced. It was reported that this had been damaged on delivery and some of the letters on the sign were made in duct tape.
- c) Street lighting in Elsdon** – The Clerk advised he was still chasing Lynsey Sawyer (NCC) for an update on the progress of the requested work including the installation of a column at the location marked 11ED.
- d) Grit Bins in Elsdon** – The Clerk reported that he was still chasing Lee Dundass (NCC) for installation of the second grit bin on the Gibbet road. It was confirmed that a new grit bin had replaced the broken one near the church and whilst a new grit bin had also been installed at the Pinfold the old, broken, one had not yet been removed.
- e) Parish notice board on the bus shelter** – It was agreed to move this item to the next month.
- f) Revitalising Redesdale** – Cllr Morgan provided an update following attendance at the recent meeting as well as the Heritage Community Fund decision meeting. He also spoke of the meeting at Redesdale Arms that celebrated the fifth anniversary of the Dark Sky Park. There was discussion regarding the possibility of a wild-flower area in Elsdon that could be incorporated into a Revitalising Redesdale project. Potential locations were identified including in front of the Pinfold and at the ‘fork’ at the two bridges. Cllr Morgan advised that there had been three people from Elsdon at the Pie & Pea evening expressing an interest to help with such a project.
There was discussion regarding possible future application for the Revitalising Redesdale funding including seating on the Village Green and possibly the ‘round tree’ seating. The Chair advised he would bring the matter to the attention of EPIC
- g) White lining on roads including recently resurfaced sections of B6341** – The Chair spoke about the lack of middle of the road white lining on the B6341 from Elsdon to Rothbury and in particular the sections that had recently been resurfaced. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact NCC to seek details of the policy for white line marking and whether this road should have lines marked.
- h) Brown Redesdale signs** – It was highlighted that the sign at Carter Bar with the wording ‘25 miles to Redesdale’ could perhaps be referring to Redesmouth that was actually that distance. It was agreed the sign was misleading and that more accurate signs were required to assist with the objectives of the Revitalising Redesdale project. There was agreement that there needed to be a decision on what signs were needed before contacting NCC as well as raising the matter with the project team for Revitalising Redesdale.
- i) BBC Countryfile filming** – It was agreed by those who had been there that the filming had seemed to go well and all were looking forward to the screening on 23 December.

5. Finance:

- a) Parish Council finance update and adoption of the 2019-20 precept – There was discussion on the possible spend for the next financial year. This include the possibility of an additional litter bin for dog mess as well as a dog poo bag dispenser to be located near the Knightside Bridge. Quotes were discussed and a possible location. It was agreed the Clerk would share a map to gain agreement on preferred location before approaching NCC for confirmation the bin would be emptied free of charge at the desired spot. It was agreed by the Councillors to increase the Clerk's salary to £802pa and the Clerk thanked the Councillors. Following further discussion it was agreed to leave the precept at the present level of £1,525.
- b) Payment of invoice for Remembrance wreath – The payment of £18.50 was agreed.
- c) Payment of invoice to Spanglefish for website subscription – The payment of £29.95 (including VAT) was agreed
- d) Receipt of VAT claim – The Clerk confirmed he had received £194.19 from HMRC.

6. Planning:

- a) There were no planning matters this month.

7. New business:

a) Visit to Elsdon from Anne-Marie Trevelyan on December 21: - The Chair highlighted that the MP would be visiting the Bird in Bush at 2.00pm.

8. Any other business:

- a) The Chair advised he planted bulbs at the 30mph signs on the Otterburn side of the village. He had now run out of bulbs.
- b) Cllr France highlighted that the application for re-introduction of lynx at Kielder had been rejected by the Secretary of State.

9. Date, time and place of next meeting: The next meeting will be on 10 January, 2019 starting at 7.00pm at the Elsdon Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.35