

HORSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 19 November 2012 AT 7.00PM IN THE W/VILLAGE HALL

- 0426. PRESENT:** Cllr M D Senior, Chairman of the Council together with Cllrs J A Holmes, R D Lillie and A Turnbull
In attendance: Mrs M Senior, Clerk to the Council; County Councillor Paul Kelly
- 0427. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Cllr S Lynch
- 0428. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** Cllr A Turnbull declared a personal interest in items relating to Northumbrian Water.
- 0429. MINUTES.** It was proposed by Cllr J A Homes, seconded by D Lillie and AGREED that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 November 2012 be signed as an accurate record.
- 0430. MATTERS ARISING.**
- a) **TRAVELLERS.** Maurice Holliday had written to Northumberland Estate advising of the problems with travellers camping in the Water Works entrance. Northumberland Estates intend to speak to John Bramwell however the Northumbrian Water site manager had mentioned at the meeting in December that they were looking into options. It was agreed to contact Northumbrian Water to ask them what measures they are going to put into place to prevent the unauthorised camping. Many people in the village found the travellers intimidating and Northumbrian Water were reluctant to take any action in case of damage to property and vehicles. A letter will also be written to Northumberland Estates backing up Mr Holliday's letter.
 - b) **PLAY AREA FENCING.** Further quotes still awaited.
 - c) **BUS STOP – HIGH BARNES.** Further quotes still awaited.
 - d) **BURGLARIES.** It was noted that there had been 2 burglaries in the village recently in late afternoon. Residents were asked to be extra vigilant.
- 0431. COUNTY COUNCILLOR PAUL KELLY'S REPORT.** Councillor Paul Kelly presented a written report which is attached to this minute.
- 0432. RESIDENTS** present raised a number of matters and where relevant they are listed together with the actions that will be taken, if required. In due course if necessary, reports will be made back to Council.
- a) **SEATS.** Terry Mulligan thanked the Parish Council for installing the new seats at the bus stops in the village.
 - b) **FOOTPATH REPORT.** Maurice Holliday had submitted his footpath report and all outstanding issues had been sent to NCC. He advised that some waymarkers had been removed from the footpath over the A69 and many deliberately damaged. This will be reported.
- 0433. CORRESPONDENCE.** All correspondence received had been listed on the agenda and circulated.
- 0434. NORTHUMBERLAND RESIDENTS FESTIVAL.** The Northumberland Residents Festival will take place on 16 and 17 March 2013. Over the festival weekend, local residents will be able to enjoy free or discounted entry to many of the top attractions across the county including castles, gardens, stately homes and museums. Further information can be found at <http://residentsfestival.northumberland.gov.uk>.
- 0435. PUBLIC TRANSPORT NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2013.** Newsletter received with gives information affecting local bus services which receive financial support from NCC public transport budget. Distributed to all councillors. Copies available on request.
- 0436. NORTHUMBERLAND ASSOC OF LOCAL COUNCILS WORKSHOPS.** Workshops will take place on Thursday 24 January 2013 in Prospect House, Hexham at 6.00pm to give people more information about becoming a town or parish councillor.
- 0437. NORTHUMBERLAND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN.** Following the Issues and Options consultation for the Northumberland Local Development Plan, Core Strategy a further consultation will be undertaken from 6 February to 20 March 2013 on the Preferred Options document. Drop in sessions have been planned for Thursday 7 March 2013 in Hexham Auction Mart from 11.00am until 1.00pm and again from 6.00pm until 8.00pm.
- 0438. NALC.** Annual report received for 2011-2012. Copies available on request.
- 0439. TYNEDALE VISITOR 2013.** The Hexham Courant is once again offering Parish Councils the opportunity to submit, free of charge, around 200 words to publicise their area in the 2013 Tynedale Visitor magazine. The magazine is due to be published on Friday 19 April and the clerk will submit the usual article for submission.
- 0440. FUNDING FOR OUTDOOR SPORT AND OUTDOOR PLAY.** Applications are invited to the Housing Developer fund (S106 contributions) which has funds available for outdoor sport and outdoor play projects in the Tynedale Area. Further information can be found at www.northumberland.gov.uk/housing_developer_funds.
- 0441. WINTER SERVICES.** Northumberland County Council have issued general information on council procedures during periods of heavy snowfall.
- 0442. COMMUNITY ACTION NORTHUMBERLAND.** Annual report for 2011-2012 received. Copies available on request.
- 0443. LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN NEWS.** Information received from NCC on their Local Transport Plan Programme for 2011-2012.

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0444. PUFFING BILLY FESTIVAL. 2013 celebrates 200 years since steam locomotives were used to transport coal from Wylam Colliery to Lemington. A partnership has been formed between Beamish Museum, Newcastle City Council and local councils in along the route of the wagonway. The intention is to organise a Puffing Billy Festival during 2013. It is intended to involve as many local community organisations as possible with a large range of events along the route. The largest single event is planned over the weekend of 20th to 22nd September when Beamish Museum's replica of the Puffing Billy will be on display in Wylam on the Saturday and Newburn on the Sunday. During the autumn half term Beamish will hold a special opening for community groups at which the Puffing Billy will be working on the demonstration track. A public meeting will be held in March. Further information from Tom Martin, Wylam Parish Council 01661 852025 tommartin1963@sky.com or Geraldine Straker Community Engagement Co-ordinator, Beamish Museum 0191 3704000 ext 2080 geraldinestraker@beamish.org.uk.

0445. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

a) **PLANNING DECISIONS/APPLICATIONS.** Details of planning decisions and applications as circulated were AGREED by all Councillors.

REFERENCE	ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION	DECISION
12/01514/FUL	Vallum Farm, Stamfordham	Amendments to previously approved scheme, changes to proposed uses and changes to opening times	Decision awaited
12/01817/FUL	Northside Farm, Harlow Hill	Part conversion and extension of existing farm buildings to accommodate a small office and cafe including kitchen, outdoor area and amenities	Decision awaited
12/03600/FUL	Old Post Office, Horsley	Proposed new single storey rear glazed orangery	Decision awaited

0446. FINANCE

- a) **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.** It was proposed by Cllr J A Holmes, seconded by Cllr A Turnbull and AGREED accounts on the list as circulated be paid.
- b) **PRECEPT 2013-2014.** It was agreed to levy a precept of £8800 on NCC for 2013/2014, no increase from 2012/2013.
- c) **TO RECEIVE ACCOUNTS UPTO 31 DECEMBER 2012.** It was proposed by Cllr J A Holmes, seconded by Cllr A Turnbull and AGREED the Council receive and approve the Budget report for the period ended 31 December 2012.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET OF VAT	VAT	CHEQUE AMOUNT	CHEQUE NO
Mrs A Senior	Clerical Services	£272.94		£272.94	SO
Viking Direct	Stationery	£155.07	£17.51	£137.56	000725
HMRC	PAYE	£68.20		£68.20	000726
HMRC	PAYE	£68.20		£68.20	000727
Society of Local Council Clerks	Subscription 2012-2013	£27.00		£27.00	000728

INCOME RECEIVED

NAME	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	DATE
HMRC	Vat repaid	£230.26	16.11.12
Lloyds TSB	Interest	£0.42	10.12.12

0447. VILLAGE ISSUES

- a) **GRASS CUTTING.** It was AGREED that the grass cutting contract will be put out to tender for 2013/2014 as it is 5 years since the last contract was agreed. A specification had been prepared and notices and advertisement will be arranged.
- b) **GRIT BIN.** It was agreed to provide a grit bin for the residents of Cherry Tree Gardens. This will be ordered from NCC at a cost of £200 plus £100 for a further 2 refills.
- c) **CROWN AND ANCHOR.** The Crown and Anchor had been registered on the Public Register of Assets of Community Value. A six week interim moratorium period had been triggered which gives the community interest group 6 weeks to submit their intention to bid for the asset. If a serious intention is registered then this gives a further six months in which the owner cannot sell the property. This period will run until 1 February 2013 however it was thought unlikely that an intention to bid would be submitted.
- d) **NORTHUMBRIAN WATER.** Meeting held in December with representatives of Northumbrian Water to discuss the various issues with the ongoing building works, traffic, noise and light pollution. Cllr S Lynch

had advised that although the noise/light pollution had improved since the meeting it was now becoming a problem again. It was agreed to contact Northumbrian Water (Alan Willoughby and Richard Johnson), thanking them for attending the meeting and to advise that the problems are still present.

- e) **BUS STOP TIMETABLES.** Confirmation received that the updated information for the bus stop opposite the Lion and Lamb would be updated as soon as possible.

0425. DATE OF NEXT MEETING. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be provisionally held on Monday 18th March 2013 at 7pm in the WI/Village Hall.

Signed as an accurate record _____

County Councillor Paul Kelly's Report for January 2013

1. Before the December Council meeting, executives from SECTOR, a major financial adviser to Local Authorities nationally, briefed members on the financial management of Northumberland County Council. Judicious investment by NCC officers had produced savings (1.9%) way above the average rate of return for local authorities (1.28%). Of the £100+ million already saved on the budget since the introduction of unitary government, more than £10 million were returns on sound investment.
2. The recent Local Government Settlement has been particularly hard on North East Councils. The Association of North East Councils (ANEC) estimates that Eric Pickles' figure of an average 1.7% reduction in council spending power will be double that in this region. When the cut in Council Tax Support is factored in, central grant is being cut in the North East by 8.6%. Retention of Business Rates and the New Homes Bonus will benefit the South East at the expense of our region.
3. At the West Area committee on 15th January, the Leader, Deputy Leader and the Executive Member for Resources presented the NCC budget for 2013-14. Required savings have been revised upwards from £74 million to £86 million over the next three years with particular pressure coming in 2014-15. Although further efficiency measures will be possible, achieving savings of that order cannot be done by simplistic slashing of back office staff.
4. The good news: NCC has been awarded £3.9 million over the next two years to help it remedy some of the highways deterioration caused by consistently bad weather. The bad news: The Rothbury landslip could gobble up almost all that amount.
5. NCC assumes responsibility for Public Health from the end of March. The Department of Health has given it a slight uplift on existing budget of 2.8% the same as all Labour controlled authorities in the North. Curiously, North Tyneside has an uplift of 6.1%. Northumberland starts from the lowest baseline in the region of only £40 per head compared to Durham's £83 and Middlesbrough's £111.
6. I met Dr Alistair Blair last week for a briefing on progress of the Clinical Commissioning Group, due to take over the Primary Care Trust at the end of March. When asked if there would be any less bureaucracy as a result of the change, he answered no – the PCT was already efficient and their experts were needed to help the CCG function after the change.
7. The Community Chest for West Area was used up in December. Please consult Susi Robertson (formerly Goncu) for advice on bids in the next financial year. It is confirmed that £90,000 will be available for the West Area in 2013/2014.
8. County Council members funding for capital project will continue in 2013/2014. Paul Kelly is to speak to Tynedale Rotary Club on Wednesday to advise what his communities needs are and what support they have been getting and from who. Speeding and parking problems continue to be issues. One priority is also social housing and how communities can be made sustainable without the provision of affordable housing.