

Minutes of the meeting of Elsdon Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Thursday 7 March, 2013

Present: Councillors Maddison (Chairman) and White. Clerk Martin Chilvers. Paul Aldsworth (Morrison Utility Services), Richard Simmance, John Tait, Rita Colby and (from 9.05) David Coles.

1. Apologies: Were received from Cllrs Armstrong and Graham.

2. Underground cabling – Paul Aldsworth re second stage of project: Mr Aldsworth provided a background of progress to date of the underground cabling. He advised he would be able to return to Elsdon anytime to complete the project. However he was waiting to hear from NCC for when they would be able to undertake their part of work.

Mr Aldsworth advised that two engineers will visit each property at a pre-arranged time to make the connections. One will work outside the other inside the property. The actual connection will take approximately 15 – 20 minutes during which time the power will need to be off.

There was discussion about the church. It was suggested that an armoured cable could be put in the same trench accessing the church. The Chairman advised he would contact the Arch Deacon for authorisation to proceed.

3. Minutes of the last meeting: With only two Cllrs present it was decided the minutes from the February could not be agreed at this meeting but would be in April.

4. Matters arising:

- a) The Chairman reported the meeting regarding the Parish Plan had been well attended. There appeared to be a definite interest in the plan to proceed.
- b) It was reported that workman from NCC had visited Elsdon regarding the drainage at the cross-roads. The work they carried out appeared to have resolved the problem although the drainage from the cross-roads to the Coach House still required attention.
- c) The Chairman advised he had spoken to Mr Renton regarding the erosion of the burn. Whilst further engineers had visited the site no action had been taken yet to resolve the situation. It was reported that a report was being produced and it was hoped the work would be undertaken in the spring.
- d) There was no update on the Superfast broadband this month.
- e) In addition the Mr Aldsworth comments, the Chairman provided an update on the placement of the new street lights. Following a visit from Mr Bolt of NCC 14 locations for street lighting with the new 'dark sky'/energy saving lighting were agreed. These should be installed at the same time as the underground cabling was completed.
- f) Following further discussion regarding the TV signal in Elsdon it was agreed half the village appeared to have a problem. The Chairman advised he would call Stuart Wiggins for a quote of a call-out in an effort to establish and resolve the fault.
- g) The Clerk reported that apart from Hepple no other local Parish apparently shared the request to hold a local Core Strategy Option meeting. Hence there would not be one arranged by NCC.

5. Finance:

- a) Whilst the Clerk's salary and expenses were agreed there were insufficient Cllrs present with signatory authorisation to sign the cheque.

6. Planning:

- a) The planning application for Redesdale Riding School, Soppit Farm was sent to Otterburn parish Council however is located just outside the boundary with Elsdon. The matter was discussed and

whilst there was a degree of reservation about the possible result there were no objections from those present.

7. New business:

- a) The Clerk explained the Parish elections process and timeframe. He also handed out nomination packs.

8. Any other business:

- a) The Chairman reported he had received a letter of resignation from Cllr Hall. He confirmed this had been accepted and stated how appreciative he was of her work and support over the years on the Parish Council.
- b) It was reported there would be a Murder/Mystery evening on 27 April with funds going towards the Village Hall.

9. Date, time and place of next meeting: The next meeting will be on 4 April, 2013 starting at 7.30pm at the Village Hall, Elsdon