

# Minutes of the meeting of Elsdon Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Thursday 13 August, 2015

**Present:** Councillors, Colby (Chair), Simmance, White, Maddison and Tait. Clerk - Martin Chilvers. Alison Simmance

**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 was accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair.

**4. Local Transport Plan 2016-17:** The Clerk provided details of those items on the current plan from previous years. Following discussion it was agreed to highlight and prioritise three areas 1) moving the 30MPH sign further out of the village on the Otterburn and Rothbury sides of the village, 2) recognised formal passing spaces on the long 'bendy' road at knightside down from Raylees to Elsdon and 3) installation of 'No footpath' signs on roads entering the village to warn drivers that pedestrians will be walking in the road.

## **5. Matters arising**

- a) *Elsdon Bridge repairs* – The Clerk reported he had heard from Mark Bolton (NNPA) who advised the repairs on the footbridge would take place first week of September. There was positive feedback regarding the new metal railings fitted on the bridge and the Clerk was asked to thank David Moat for the fitting of these.
- b) *State of local roads* – It was confirmed that the overhanging trees on the road towards Whiskershiel had been cut back. It was reported that work had not yet started on the verge repair outside The Larkes and the Clerk was asked to approach NCC for an update. There was a suggestion that there was no sign at the Raylees junction on the A696 indicating direction towards Elsdon and this was to be investigated.
- c) *Community Asset transfer* – It was confirmed that an application had been presented for the Bird in Bush but no acknowledgement had as yet been received. There was discussion about community pubs and where they had been successful. It was reported that the Rectors School had been empty too long for an application to be made.
- d) *Broadband in Elsdon – Update* – The Clerk confirmed that iNorthumberland would be attending the Elsdon fete. It was reported that they had been no update regarding the rollout of superfast broadband and the Clerk was asked to contact NCC for progress report.
- e) *Winter's Gibbet:* The Chair provided details of the Countryside Manager at Wallington and it was agreed the Parish Council would write to him regarding the possibility of replacing the 'head' on the gibbet.
- f) *Garden waste collection:* The Clerk advised he had not as yet heard from Cllr Bridgett seeking support in having garden waste collected in Elsdon by NCC. A further name of a resident was provided who wished to have garden waste collected and it was agreed the Clerk would write again to Cllr Bridgett.
- g) *Log wagons using local roads* – It was acknowledged that wires had been placed across the road as promised by NCC.

## **6. Finance:**

- a) There were no finance matters on the agenda.

## **7. Planning:**

- a) *Article 11 covering proposed development of a two storey dwelling with detached garage and creation of access track from U4069 road* – The Clerk provided an update following a call with NNPA. It was advised that a revised application had been submitted but still required some additional information before it would be provided for comment. Following discussion it was agreed to write to Mr Graham regarding the potential vehicle access required.

b) Consultation on planning protocols: It was agreed the Clerk would share the training dates and venues.

**8. New business:**

a) Harbottle surgery: - The Chair invited Alison Simmance to provide an update on the position regarding the Harbottle Doctors surgery. There was apparently confusion regarding the communication being circulated as to whether the surgery would remain open. After Dr Brunt had been dismissed there were apparently no doctors currently working at the surgery. Assurances have been given that no patient would be without a surgery. Following discussion it was agreed to write to the Practice Manager asking that they write to everyone registered with the Practice confirming the position and plans for way forward.

**9. Any other business:**

- a) It was reported that a suspicious white van had been seen in the village. An incident had been reported to the Police but all residents should be vigilant and report any suspicious sightings.
- b) An update was provided on the revised local bus services introduced by NCC and details from a meeting at the Otterburn Memorial Hall the previous evening. It was reported that NCC had not undertaken a consultation due to the need to quickly implement changes. However they have promised to investigate how it may be possible to accommodate the requirements of the local residents and would return with proposals by 26 August.
- c) The Clerk reported the details of the second NCC annual Parish & Town Conference. It was agreed consideration would be given by the Cllrs who would attend.

**10. Date, time and place of next meeting:** The next meeting will be on 10 September, 2015 starting at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, Elsdon

Meeting closed at 9.15pm