

# Minutes of the meeting of Elsdon Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Thursday 10 September, 2015

**Present:** Councillors, Colby (Chair), Simmance, White, Maddison and Tait. Clerk - Martin Chilvers. Cllr Chris France, Barbara Foti (until 8.55), Allan and Glen Graham (from 7.25 to 8.55)

**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. Matters arising**

- a) Elsdon Bridge repairs – Cllr White advised he had spoken to Mark Bolton who reported the repairs of the footbridge were going smoothly. The Clerk advised there had been no further update regarding the repair on the other bridges but he would continue to maintain contact with NCC to ensure the matter was not forgotten.
- b) State of local roads – The Clerk advised he had passed on the thanks to Mitch Young (NCC) regarding the good work undertaken on the verge repairs alongside The Larkes. Cllr Simmance spoke of the similar work outside his house that had been completed that day. Cllr France spoke of the ongoing matter in pursuing NCC to repair damaged roads and this would be raised again at the cluster meeting the following week. There was discussion and identification of several road signs in the local area that were either hidden by overgrown hedgerows or very dirty.
- c) Broadband in Elsdon – Update: It was noted an email had been received from iNorthumberland advising the rollout of superfast broadband had been postponed to December. Cllr Simmance reported that at the Fete the iNorthumberland reps were advising that due to difficulties with underground cables consideration was being given to providing the service on poles.
- d) Winter's Gibbet: The Clerk advised he had not as yet received a reply from Paul Hewitt (Countryside Manager, Wallington) regarding the replacement of the 'head' on the gibbet.
- e) Garden waste collection: The Clerk advised he had received no response as yet from Cllr Bridgett regarding the collection. Whilst it was noted it was towards the end of the season, it was agreed communication should continue in an effort to have the service provided in 2016. The Chair advised she would raise the matter at the Annual Conference on 24 September.
- f) Log wagons using local roads – Whilst it was noted the strips had been placed across the road there had been no update from NCC. The Clerk was asked to contact NCC for a progress report.
- g) Harbottle Surgery – The Clerk shared a letter received from Alwinton Parish Council to the NHS regarding the surgery closure. Cllr Simmance provided an update on various meetings that had taken place recently as well as correspondence received. Whilst there was concern the decision to close the surgery would not be reversed there was agreement among the campaigners to continue to fight the closure and potentially proceed with a judicial review. Cllr France advised that the National Park may potentially provide funds towards the review.

## **5. Finance:**

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

## **6. Planning:**

- a) 15NP0057: Proposed construction of two storey dwelling & detached garage: The School House, Elsdon, NE19 1AA – Following discussion between the Councillors and Mr Glen and Mr Allan Graham that provided clarity over the meaning of recent correspondence between parties, Mr Glen Graham provided details of the application. The changes from the original application were highlighted. Mr Graham also provided plans regarding the vehicle access across the village green seeking agreement from the green owners, the Parish

Council. After explaining the materials that would be used and dimensions as well as answering questions from the Councillors, there was agreement for the access from the Councillors subject to the Parish Council first obtaining legal advice. Mr Graham agreed to meet the Parish Council legal costs in respect of the vehicle access. It was agreed by the Councillors that Mr Graham would contact his solicitor to get advice and suggestion of a solicitor who could act on behalf of the Parish Council.

Mr Graham advised he would also speak to Paul Hewitt regarding the response awaited about the Winter's Gibbet

- b) Article 11 covering proposed development of a two storey dwelling with detached garage and creation of access track from U4069 road – The subject was covered in the agenda item 6a.

#### **7. New business:**

- a) *Local bus services:* - The Clerk provided an update on the revised bus services introduced by NCC. It was agreed details on amended timetables would be posted on the Parish Council website. It was reported that the Spirit bus service would be receiving subsidy from NCC for the next 12 months.
- b) *BT Openreach wayleave on village green:* - The Clerk provided details received from BT Openreach on two poles in the village. It was agreed one was on the village green and the Clerk was asked to confirm this with BT Openreach.
- c) *Installation of defibrillator and first aid training:* - The Clerk provided an update on the latest position of the defibrillator installation on Checkgate by The Stephen Carey Fund.
- d) *Ray Wind development:* - After discussion it was agreed to register interest with Vattenfal in respect of the development and ask for representative to attend a future Parish Council meeting.
- e) *Review of the Elsdon fete:* - It was confirmed that takings calculated to dated totalled £4,508.55 with expenses totalling £2,802.72. A wash-up meeting has been arranged by EPIC for 17 September.
- f) *NALC AGM – 17 October:* - The Clerk provided the details of the event.

#### **8. Any other business:**

- a) Percy Arms, Otterburn: The Clerk provided details received from the new owner of the plans, timescales and theme as a wedding venue being proposed.
- b) Elsdon fireworks: Details of this year's fireworks and bonfire were discussed. It was agreed the finances should ideally be conducted through EPIC. The Clerk was asked to contact Game & Co regarding the insurance.
- c) Cllr France advised that a meeting was scheduled regarding the Sill the following week when a decision was due to be made on the future of the project. He also highlighted the National Park Management Plan review meeting in Elsdon on 13 October.

#### **9. Date, time and place of next meeting:** The next meeting will be on 8 October, 2015 starting at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, Elsdon

Meeting closed at 9.20pm