

Minutes of the meeting of Elsdon Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Thursday 11 August, 2016

Present: Councillors, Colby (Chair), Simmance, White, Maddison and Tait. Clerk - Martin Chilvers. Cllr Chris France, Cllr Sue Bolam, Glen Sanderson (until 8.00pm)

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 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair.

4. Glen Sanderson – Chairman, NNPA

The Chair welcomed Mr Sanderson who initially provided background to his journey to the position currently held with the National Park. Concern was highlighted to Mr Sanderson over the perceived lack of understanding of Elsdon by the National Park Planning Department and recent comments made in respect of applications submitted. Following discussion Mr Sanderson agreed to raise the matter with appropriate people in an attempt to resolve the matter. Discussion moved on to the 'Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment'. There was confusion why a list of areas was made public on the NNPA website and the true meaning of the SHLAA. Mr Sanderson advised he would ask someone in the Planning Dept to clarify. There was also discussion over the frustrating restrictions placed on listed properties that had recently made planning applications and these were shared by both residents of Elsdon as well as NNPA. The poor state of some footpaths around Elsdon were highlighted and Mr Sanderson provided a point of contact at NCC who should be able to assist in resolving this situation. The final topic of discussion was the Winters's Gibbet and the missing head. Mr Sanderson advised he had a point of contact at the National Trust and would raise the matter. The Chair thanked Mr Sanderson for his time.

5. Matters arising

- a) Log wagons using local roads/speeding vehicles and 30mph sign – The Clerk advised he was waiting to hear an update from Mr Forrester on the matter of speeding vehicles and possible relocation of the 30mph sign. There was discussion about the flashing speed sign recently installed in Ridsdale. Potential funding from Cllr Bridgett and National Park were considered for something similar in Elsdon.
- b) Collection of garden waste from Elsdon – It was noted that there had been no update from County Council on this matter despite a deadline for returns being 1 August. The Clerk was asked to contact County Council.
- c) Registration of the village green – The statement prepared by the Clerk having already been circulated was confirmed as suitable for purpose.
- d) Bellingham surgery – Otterburn Memorial Hall service - The Clerk advised that a meeting was being arranged with the partners of the Bellingham Surgery in respect of their proposal to permanently close the Otterburn Memorial Hall service. Cllr Simmance provided an update of the closed Harbottle Surgery and details of a meeting on 19 August.
- e) Ray Wind Steering Group – The Clerk provided an update on the meeting by some of the Steering Group with iNorthumberland and BT Openreach on 3 August. BT Openreach is to provide a plan and costings for installation of superfast broadband across the areas currently without it that are within the catchment area of the Ray Wind Farm.
- f) BT Openreach wayleaves – Whilst the Clerk advised he had not heard from Abby Oliver in Anne-Marie Trevelyan's office yet it was highlighted that there had been further development across the village green and a new pole erected.

- g) Winter's gibbet – Following Mr Sanderson's comments it was agreed not to write Director General of National Trust, Dame Helen Ghosh, at this time.

6. Finance:

- a) Payment of invoice to A. Dodd regarding repairs to village green: The Clerk advised he had not as yet received the invoice.

7. Planning:

- a) 16NP0070: Removal of existing rear extension and construction of 2no. rear extensions, re-roofing of property and change of use of land to facilitate creation of access at: Harbinger House, Elsdon, NE19 1AA: - The Chair advised that most of the Councillors had met the previous evening at Harbinger House at Dr Wollaston's invitation. Following discussion all Councillors were in support of the application. There was discussion regarding the access that would be required across the village green and the Clerk was asked to write to Dr Wollaston.

7. New business:

- a) Green Rigg panel member vacancy - It was agreed to highlight the vacancy in the 'Town Crier'.
b) EE rural coverage: The Clerk provided details and it was agreed to allow Elsdon to be a pilot area if the project were to proceed.

8. Any other business:

- a) Cllr Maddison advised the Millennium tree on the village green had snapped. A local resident had kindly offered to donate an oak tree as a replacement and this was agreed.
b) Cllr Maddison highlighted that some of the other trees on the green appeared to need some attention and it was agreed to investigate who could quote for the work. Cllr Bolam believed she may have a point of contact that could be used.
c) Cllr Simmance advised that EPIC had been successful in their funding bid via Green Rigg for the marquees and border mesh.

- 9. Date, time and place of next meeting:** The next meeting will be on 8 September, 2016, starting at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, Elsdon

Meeting closed at 9.40pm