

Minutes of the meeting of Elsdon Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Thursday 13 October, 2016

Present: Councillors, Colby (Chair), Simmance, White, Maddison and Tait. Clerk - Martin Chilvers. Tony Gates, Glen Sanderson & Clive Coyne (NNPA until 7.45). Cllr Chris France, Cllr Sue Bolam (from 7.25), Jackie Morgan, Peter Morgan, David Renton, Alison Simmance (from 7.25), Helen Hill and Cristina Mircescu, Simon Etheridge (until 8.20)

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. Tony Gates (Chief Executive, Northumberland Park – NNP), Glen Sanderson (Chairman, NNP) & Clive Coyne (Head of Forward Planning, NNP)

The Chair welcomed the gentlemen from National Park. Mr Sanderson and Mr Gates provided background and current priorities of the National Park including progress of the development of the Sill. Mr Sanderson additionally referred to action taken since his last visit.

Mr Coyne then spoke about his role and the work on the revised Local Management Plan that was last updated in 2009. The Chair then asked questions on behalf of residents regarding 'Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment' (SHLAA). Mr Coyne advised this was work and details that the Government instruct must be undertaken. He advised that any land appearing on the list would need to still follow the same process before any planning permission may possibly be granted. He reported that any land appearing on the list would not 'skip' any part of the process. Additionally he advised that there was a criteria for land appearing on the list that included proximity to an existing road and facilities as well as the infrastructure of the local area. It was conceded that perhaps communication could be better in an attempt to avoid confusion as to what appearance on the list means. Mr Coyne advised that the last list was completed by NCC and that as part on revised plan the National Park would be undertaking the exercise and learn from the past. Cllr Simmance highlighted some errors on the current list and asked if the Parish Council could be involved at an early stage when the work was being carried out.

Mr Coyne advised that there would be a series of workshops when the Local Plan was being developed that would allow residents as well as the Parish Council to be included and provide comments before it was finalised. The Chair thanked Mr Gates, Mr Sanderson and Mr Coyne for their time.

5. Matters arising

- a) Relocation of 30mph sign location – The Clerk highlighted the emails shared with Neil Snowdon (NCC) and the copy of the letter from Steve Mason (Chief Executive, NCC) to Anne-Marie Trevelyan (MP). The Clerk advised he had not as yet heard back from Neil Snowdon regarding a site visit to discuss the matter.
- b) Collection of garden waste from Elsdon – The Clerk provided details of the email received from Adam Keen (NCC). As the number of residents requesting green waste collection had not met the minimum number it would not be 'viable' to start the service at this time. The Clerk made reference to the details in the above letter from Steve Mason confirming the email from Adam Keen. There was discussion regarding a potential 'community' waste collection however it was agreed it would be difficult to ensure only appropriate material was put on it and it was agreed not to take any action at this time.
- c) BT Openreach wayleaves – The Clerk advised he had exchanged emails with Mr Noyes of BT Openreach and sent further signed wayleave paperwork to him.
- d) Winter's gibbet – The Chair read out a draft copy of a letter it was proposed to send to Mr Dower regarding the missing head on the gibbet. All agreed that letter should be sent.

6. Finance:

- a) Clerk's salary and expenses: It was agreed to pay the Clerk the six month salary (April – October 2016) salary of £375.00 plus reimburse the cost of £6.60 for a book of second class stamps.

7. Planning:

- a) 16NP0089: Removal of existing derelict carriage, construction of car port/garage incorporating solar panels and covered link to property. Demolition of existing rear extension and construction of replacement extension and construction of fuel hopper: Whitlees, Elsdon, NE19 1BT – This application had been reviewed and agreed by all Councillors between meetings. The Clerk confirmed he had advised National Park Planning.
- b) 16/0037BT: BT proposal to remove public payphone, Elsdon, NE19 1AA – It was confirmed the telephone had not been used once in the previous 12 months. Based on this fact it was agreed there was no argument for it to remain open. The Clerk was asked to request that the concrete base that the box sits on was removed as well and put to grass.
- c) Easement plan for Harbinger House: Cllr Madison confirmed he would provide a googlemap showing the proposed track across the village green so it can accurately be recorded in the easement documentation.

8. New business:

- a) Elsdon Mill Bridge & Elsdon East Bridge – Following discussion it was agreed the Mill Bridge was listed and there was concern over whether the correct materials were going to be used on the repairs. It was also highlighted that arch needed to be cleared before the work was considered completed.
- b) Changes to Household Waste Recovery Centre opening days: The Clerk provided details received from NCC
- c) Annual Parish & Town Council Conference: The Chair and Cllr Tait attended the conference that afternoon. They reported that unfortunately it was not very good and learnt little from the experience. It was only presentations and all questions seemed to be individually focused on the larger councils. The Chair did report that Homes for Northumberland was now back within NCC.
- d) Anne-Marie Trevelyan tour: There was disappointment that Anne-Marie didn't actually get to Elsdon. Her Chief of Staff did attend in her absence but there were a number of comments that he was perhaps was not prepared as he did not have a pen and paper.
- e) Bonfire night preparation: It was confirmed the event would be on 5 November. The fire would be lit at 6.00pm and the fireworks from 6.30pm. The Clerk confirmed he would notify the Parish Insurers as well as the Police and Fire Brigade. It was confirmed the fire would not start being prepared until 29 October and only appropriate materials to be included.

9. Any other business:

- a) Cllr Simmance shared the idea proposed by Rev. Peter Mander of a 'welcome' village brochure for residents moving to the village. All agreed this was a good idea.
- b) The Clerk spoke of the recent Transparency Code training he had attended. The Cllrs agreed to fund a third of the cost of the 'Local Council Explained' publications that was recommended at the training. It is proposed that with a bigger precept the neighbouring parish that the Clerk worked with (Otterburn) would meet the remaining cost.
- c) The Chair read out a letter from a local resident to the Otterburn Camp regarding near miss incidents where soldiers were almost hit by a tractor in the dark on the range. He apparently had not received a response as yet despite posting it on 21 September. It was agreed the Clerk would make some enquires.

- 10. Date, time and place of next meeting:** The next meeting will be on 10 November, 2016, starting at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, Elsdon

Meeting closed at 9.20pm