

Minutes of the meeting of Elsdon Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Thursday 14 June, 2018

Present: Councillors, Graham (Chair), Maddison, Morgan, and Renton. Clerk - Martin Chilvers. Cllr C. France & Cllr S. Bolam

1. **Apologies:** There were apologies from Cllr Simmance
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. Matters arising

- a) **Ray Wind update** – The Clerk provided an update on progress. It is believed the Grant Agreement between Vattenfall and the Community Interest Company has been signed by the CIC and is currently with Vattenfall for completion. When completed the funds should be released allowing the CIC to advertise for the Administrator role as well as have the website created and finalise the process to accept applications. It was highlighted that the first decision panel sat to consider the Small Grant Funds applications via the Community Foundation. The Clerk advised that applications totalling £152K were received for a fund totalling £90K for the year TO February 2019. Community Foundation will be contacting all applicants to advise whether they have been successful or not.
- b) **Update on completion of new and relocating road signage work** – The Clerk advised he was still chasing NCC to replace the damaged signs as well as add the road markings at the junction of the car park.
- c) **Street name signposting** – Cllrs Renton and Graham were considering the best option for installing the sign. Cllr Renton agreed to speak to the resident to check they were happy for it to be fixed to their fence which was believed to be the best location.
- d) **Action required regarding Data protection regulations** – The Clerk provided an update on action that had been taken to meet the requirements by the 25 May. He reported on the remaining points that required attention.
- e) **Development of village green pinfold update** – The Clerk provided a report received from Cllr Simmance. This advised the membrane and gravel had been laid. Also EPIC had ordered and paid for a table and bench. Thanks were expressed to all those who have helped with the project. Cllr Renton advised that the turf taken from the pinfold had been used to level the corner of the village green.
- f) **Elsdon (Knightside) bridge** – The Clerk advised he was still chasing David Moat (NCC) to establish the action plan for repairs on the bridge.
- g) **Update on Gibbet road drainage problems** – The Clerk confirmed that he had received and shared a copy of the letter from NCC to the occupier of Lonning regarding the damaged ditch.
- h) **Update on review of the Definitive Map & Statement of Public Rights of Way** – The Clerk confirmed he had collated the feedback received from Councillors and advised NCC that the Parish Council did not wish to see any of the six routes highlighted to be converted to a BOAT.
- i) **Elsdon Online website** – The Clerk shared the comments from Cllr Simmance advising the matter had been discussed at the EPIC meeting on 4 June. Cllr Maddison advised different options were being considered with possible residents to take on the responsibility of the website.
- j) **Elsdon to Raylees (Knightside) road and its use by heavy / large vehicles** – The Clerk advised he had sent Neil Snowdon (NCC) an email requesting the junction and road is given attention following recent incidents where walls and buildings have been damaged by vehicles too large to negotiate the tight corners at Raylees. He had so far received no response but would continue to follow up.

5. Finance:

- a) **Online banking for Parish Council** – Cllr Graham agreed to be added to the banking authorisation of the Parish Council and the Clerk was asked to progress the paperwork.
- b) **Reimbursement of Clerk's NALC GDPR training:** – The Councillors agreed to £10.00 payment.

- c) Payment of the annual NALC subscription: The payment of £68.86 was agreed by the Councillors.
- d) Parish Insurance premium, confirmation of details agreed: The Clerk confirmed he had managed to negotiate the removal of the £50.00 admin fee by Came & Coy reducing the premium to £280.00. This was cheaper than the quote received from Zurich and the Councillors had agreed to the three year long term plan.

6. Planning:

- a) There were no planning applications to consider this month.

7. New business:

- a) Appointment of representative for the HF Heritage decision panel: Following discussion Cllr Morgan agreed to take on the role.
- b) Newcastle International Airport masterplan 2035 – There was discussion covering the consultation but it was agreed no action was required.
- c) Revitalising Redesdale, Battle of Otterburn project launch – The Clerk provided details of the event but advised the spaces had all been booked.
- d) Bailiffgate Museum Out of Town Project, update from Clerk – The Clerk shared the email received regarding the museum bid for HLF funding.
- e) Update on the LTP for 2018-19 – The Clerk shared the letter received from NCC regarding the three priorities made in 2017. The resurfacing of the car park had been agreed and the work completed. The two requests for brown signs (one for Winters Gibbet and other to be located on the A696) had been declined as NCC advised such requests are not eligible for LTP funding. NCC advise such signs must be funded by the owner of the relevant tourist attraction. Cllr Graham advised he had written to the Manager of Wallington asking if they would like to pay for a sign for Winters Gibbet but to date had not received a response.
- f) Street lighting in Elsdon, update from Clerk – There was discussion regarding the potential location of possible additional street lights. Three locations was discussed that included the east gate of the church, in front of the church and along the road beyond the old school. There was objection to the third proposal by Cllr Graham. It was agreed by all they did not feel the galvanised light columns were in-keeping with the village. It was agreed that lights were not required where NCC had suggested and that the Councillors would welcome a visit from NCC to discuss the situation.
- g) Remains of bolts embedded in concrete at Village Hall end of footbridge – Cllrs Graham and Renton agreed to have a look at the area and use a grinder to remove the bolts.

8. Any other business:

- a) Cllr Morgan highlighted that there was an arranged walk in Elsdon on 11 July organised by the Sill that started at the tea rooms.
- b) Cllr Morgan shared a communication he had received from Cllr Glen Sanderson on the condition of roads and the plans for a permanent repair programme.
- c) Cllr Renton advised he had been approached by a resident about the removal of the tree stump on the village green. It was agreed by the Councillors for Cllr Renton to speak and get proposals from the resident.
- d) Cllr Renton advised he had been advised there was no signage for the public toilets. It was agreed that perhaps there should be a sign however concern was raised about the number of roadside signs in the village and it was agreed for an audit to be undertaken of the number and type of signs.
- e) Cllr Maddison highlighted that there was a high powered spot light on a neighbour's house that shone into the Cllrs house well as the house next door. There was discussion what could be done and agreement to determine the National Park perspective on such matters.

9. Date, time and place of next meeting: The next meeting will be on 12 July, starting at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, Elsdon. Meeting closed at 8.05pm