

# Minutes of the meeting of Elsdon Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Thursday 12 July, 2018

**Present:** Councillors, Simmance (Chair), Maddison, Morgan, and Renton. Clerk - Martin Chilvers. Christine Maddison and Paul Cowie (from 7.45 – 8.20)

1. **Apologies:** There were apologies from Cllr Graham
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 advised that the Grant Agreement between the CIC and Vattenfall had been signed. The CIC was still waiting for the funds to be provided by Vattenfall at which stage the Administrator role would be advertised and the website developed. There was confirmation that when the funds had been received the CIC board had agreed to transfer £100,000 to the Community Foundation so that a further round of applications could be received in this current financial year before Vattenfall paid the second year of funds for charitable small grant applications. Additionally a further £30,000 would be placed in a legacy investment with Community Foundation that Community Foundation would add an additional 50% of that total. It was noted that the Ray Windfarm seemed to be offline at the current time and it was agreed to find out why.
  - b) **Update on completion of new and relocating road signage work** – The Clerk advised he had met with Neil Snowdon (NCC) regarding a number of matters. Mr Snowdon had confirmed he would chase up for the agreed road surface markings at the car park junction as well as the ‘SLOW’ and ‘30MPH’ in a circle markings in the various points about the village, to be completed as soon as possible.
  - c) **Street name signposting** – It was confirmed that the sign was in place and thanks were expressed to Cllrs Renton and Graham for their work installing it.
  - d) **Development of village green pinfold update** – The Chair advised he had received an email to confirm that the table would be arriving on 16 July. When installed in the pinfold the project would be complete.
  - e) **Elsdon (Knightside) bridge** – The Clerk provided details received in an email from David Moat (NCC) advising that the bridge was being regularly monitored. At present it was not considered action was required but that checks would continue. Cllr Renton advised that it appeared there was some working being undertaken on the East Nook bridge.
  - f) **Update on Gibbet road drainage problems** – The Clerk confirmed he had received an email from Mitch Young (NCC) advising the work on the drain had been completed. There was thanks expressed from the Councillors to NCC for this and agreement that it appeared a good job had been done.
  - g) **Elsdon Online website** – Cllr Maddison advised he and resident Cliff Lamb were looking at how the Church website could be enhanced to include the areas covered by the Elsdon Online website. The Chair read out an email from David Coles regarding the potential solution to improving the delivery service in the village. It was agreed a map with individual properties could be developed with a copy online as well as another possibly at the bus shelter. Cllr Maddison agreed to investigate what would need to be done to make this happen.
  - h) **Elsdon to Raylees (Knightside) road and its use by heavy / large vehicles** – The Clerk advised he and Mr Snowdon visited the Raylees road. Mr Snowdon agreed to arrange for engineers to assess the area in an effort to prevent vehicles too large for the road attempting to negotiate the tight corners.
  - i) **Remains to bolts embedded in concrete at Village Hall end of footbridge** – Cllr Renton confirmed he had removed the bolts.
- 4a) Ray Windfarm update** – Paul Cowie provided details and an update on the progress of the Ray Windfarm CIC initiative of providing superfast broadband to properties within the catchment area without it. He reported on

the data received that was specific to Elsdon and the implications this appeared to be showing. He spoke of possible ideas for connection to remote properties.

**5. Finance:**

- a) Signing authorisation on Parish Council bank account – The Clerk provided the paperwork for Cllr Graham to complete. Cllr Renton agreed to take this for him.

**6. Planning:**

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

**7. New business:**

a) Street lighting in Elsdon: There was discussion following the latest details provided by the Clerk received from NCC. There was agreement that a meeting with NCC would be very beneficial in an effort to ensure lighting was installed at the appropriate locations.

b) Elsdon fete, road closure request – There was disappointment that it would cost £250 this year and £500 in future to have the road closed for the Elsdon fete. It was agreed this sum would be such a significant proportion on the funds raised for local projects that it could not be justified in requesting the road closure. It was agreed to work with EPIC to re-plan the locations for the attractions at the fete.

c) Northumberland Local Plan, Draft plan for regulation 18 Consultation – The Clerk shared the details with the Councillors.

**8. Any other business:**

- a) Cllr Morgan asked whether it was possible for a new notice board to be fitted in the village. There was discussion about possibly fitting one at the bus shelter.
- b) Cllr Morgan shared an email he had received from a resident regarding the piri piri burrs that had apparently been discovered at Cragside. There was concern that it may soon be found in and around Elsdon and it was proposed to write to NCC seeking guidance.
- c) Cllr Renton highlighted that dog mess had been found near the Knightside bridge. It was not known if it was a local resident's dog or someone visiting the village. Cllr Renton also highlighted that a dog had been worrying sheep recently and there had been an incident of a lamb being bitten.
- d) The Chair made reference to the recent communication from Cllr Glen Sanderson regarding the state of the roads in Northumberland. It was agreed to write to him regarding the poor condition of the B6341.
- e) The Clerk reported that he had received an invite from NCC to submit the Local Transport Programme priorities for 2019-20 and it was agreed to add the matter to the August meeting agenda.

**9. Date, time and place of next meeting:** The next meeting will be on 9 August, starting at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, Elsdon. Meeting closed at 9.10pm