

**Minutes of the meeting of Elsdon Parish Council held in
Elsdon Village Hall
on Thursday 10 January, 2019**

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

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.

4. Matters arising

a) Ray Wind update – The Clerk advised that the CIC website was now up and running and accepting enquiries regarding funding possibilities. Additionally a flyer highlighting the CIC and funding was being put through doors of properties in the catchment area. There was discussion regarding potential projects in the community that would require funding that had been identified by the EPIC team.

b) Replacement road signage and road surface markings, Raylees road safety – The Clerk reported that he had had assurances from Lee Dundass (NCC) that a replacement sign was being created. Additionally Mr Dundass had informed the Clerk that the old grit bin near the Pinfold would be removed very soon and a new grit bin installed on the Gibbet Road.

c) Street lighting in Elsdon – The Clerk advised he was still chasing Lynsey Sawyer and Gavin Barlow (NCC) for an update on the progress of the requested work including the installation of a column at the location marked 11ED. Cllr Morgan highlighted how dangerous it was for people along the road from the pub past the church at night because that road was so dark.

d) Grit Bins in Elsdon – This topic was covered in agenda item 4b.

e) Parish notice board on the bus shelter – Cllr Renton advised he hoped the notice board would be installed the following week.

f) Revitalising Redesdale – Cllr Morgan advised the next meeting was scheduled for 13 March. He also provided details of forthcoming events.

g) White lining on roads including recently resurfaced sections of B6341 – The Clerk advised he had chased NCC Highways for a response on this matter however had still received no reply. Cllr Bolam reported that she had spoken to Cllr Sanderson on the same topic. There was current focus on repairs to highways before white lining would be undertaken.

h) Brown Redesdale signs – There was discussion as to what signs would be beneficial to Elsdon. It was proposed that a sign on the three main roads into the village would be good including the Otterburn direction at the A696 / B6341 junction and the Newcastle direction at the Raylees junction. There was agreement that ideally the signs should highlight 'Elsdon – Ancient Capital of Redesdale' as well as Refreshments, Pub, Toilets and possibly B&B. It was agreed to approach NCC for agreement that such signs could be installed. Meantime the Chair agreed to speak to Jo Scott on the matter. There was further discussion on the possibility of having a 'Tourist Information' board in the bus shelter.

i) Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP visit to Elsdon - The Chair reported he had met the MP and provided an update on progress made in the village. He advised had also highlighted the high cost of road closure requests to NCC for events such as the August fete and she has promised to speak to Peter Jackson on the matter.

j) BBC Countryfile filming – It was agreed the show was very good and had put Elsdon positively on the map. There was reports that the visitor book in St Cuthberts church showed increase activity whilst meanwhile business at the Bird in Bush and First & Last Brewery had increased significantly since the viewing.

5. Finance:

a) There were no financial matters on the agenda this month

6. Planning:

- a) There were no planning matters this month.

7. New business:

a) Location of potential additional litter bin and dog poo bag dispensers: - There was discussion on the most appropriate and safest location for any potential new litter bin and dog poo bag dispenser. It was agreed the best spot would be on the verge / fence on the right hand side as you exit the village. It was agreed the Clerk would contact Bill Pringle (NCC) for confirmation that they would service the litter bin at that location. He would also contact the land (fence) owners for permission for a dog poo bag dispenser to be attached to the fence. There was further discussion regarding the possibility of having an additional dog poo bag dispenser attached to the bus shelter.

8. Any other business:

- a) The Chair highlighted that there was a Parish Council of the year competition however after discussion it was agreed not to enter on this occasion.
- b) The Chair highlighted that CAN had shared details of the Royal Garden Party. He shared the criteria for the ballot and it was agreed no action would be taken on this occasion.
- c) Following an email from a local resident there was discussion regarding the location of hydrants in the village and the plates showing these locations. The Clerk advised he had spoken to the Fire Brigade who confirmed that each hydrant location was computerised. She advised that Bellingham fire service would investigate and take any necessary action when it undertakes its next inspection.
- d) The Chair reported that a resident had provided a map that was found online of the village and that could be used to assist delivery van drivers to locate individual properties. It was acknowledged the map was a little out of date but the Chair advised he would write to the website owner for an update before further action was taken in making it available to a wider audience.
- e) Cllr Maddison advised that the church website had now gone live and provided information regarding St Cuthbert's church. He advised the village website was still under construction.
- f) Cllr Bolam provided an update on the work of the Bailiffgate Museum since funding request had been granted for the Out of Town project.

9. Date, time and place of next meeting: The next meeting will be on 14 February, 2019 starting at 7.00pm at the Elsdon Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.35