

**Minutes of the meeting of Elsdon Parish Council held in
Elsdon Village Hall
on Thursday 8 August, 2019**

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

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.

4. Matters arising

a) Ray Wind update – The Clerk advised that there would be a Ray Windfarm CIC stand at the Elsdon Fete.

The Chair provided details of a quote received via Cllr France for possible village green protections. This would be approximately £7,200 + VAT for a 50 metre x 2.5 metre stretch. There was debate about the total cost this may mean and it was agreed to look for further quotes before a decision how to proceed was made.

b) Replacement road signage and road surface markings, Raylees road safety – The Clerk reported that he had been advised that a new sign was now ready however NCC did not have currently the workmen to install it so there would be further delay. The Clerk advised he was still attempting to get NCC to get an engineer out to the Raylees junction to assess what can be done to improve safety.

c) Revitalising Redesdale – Cllr Morgan advised there had been no further meeting since his last update and there was nothing to report at this time.

d) Brown Tourist signs – The Clerk advised he was attempting to set up a meeting with Richard McKenzie in Elsdon so further progress could be made on both the tourist and general signage in the village.

e) Village Green tree seat – Cllr Renton advised that work on the seat should begin in September.

f) Repair of roadside fence alongside burn – Reference was made to Cllr Bridgett's email that he would be making the request for this work as part of the Local Transport Programme under the traffic calming and road safety plan. It was agreed that the Parish Council would support this plan when completing the LTP for this year.

g) Green waste disposal & recycling options - Reference was made to Cllr Sanderson's response to the letter requesting green recycling. All were disappointed at NCC's lack of flexibility on the matter but agreed not to take any further action at the time.

h) Benshaw Moor drop in session review – It was reported that NWT were delighted with the turn-out for the event with about 40 – 50 people attending to learn about the early proposals for the area.

i) Parish Council filing cabinets in Village Hall – The Clerk advised that as the filing cabinets were very old it was proving very difficult to find anywhere able to provide replacement keys. Cllr Renton advised that he was aware of a large quantity of keys and would examine these. If a key could not be found it was agreed to consider the possibility of replacing one of the two draw cabinets with one with a key.

j) Rose Cottage access – Thanks were expressed to Dr Wollaston for leaving two lines of uncut grass to highlight the access route across the village green to Rose Cottage.

k) Liberty Hill tracks for planned forestry – The Clerk advised that the case officer, Katherine Robbie at NCC was on leave until 12 August and it was agreed to move this matter until the September meeting.

5. Finance:

a) There no finance matters this month.

6. Planning:

a) There were no planning applications this month.

7. New business:

- a) Local Transport Programme 2020-21 - It was agreed that one of the three priorities would be to support Cllr Bridgett's plan for the work where the fence was damaged. It was agreed to give consideration during the next month as to what other priorities the Parish Council wished to submit.
- b) Traffic cones for August fete – Whilst in the past traffic cones to place on the village green edges have been free it was reported that this year these would cost £276.00. The cones were considered a necessity to prevent parking on the village green edges but there was agreement this was a considerable cost for a small fete. Cllr Bolam agreed to approach Cllr Sanderson regarding a possible discount.
- c) Date of 2020 Annual meeting – The Chair advised he would be away on the proposed date of this meeting. It was agreed to consider the previous week 7 May as an alternative.
- d) Local crime rate and police response – The Clerk advised that the letter from the local Parish Councils was almost completed and would be sent the next day.
- e) Northumbria Water servicing the septic tank in Elsdon – The Clerk advised that having spoken to someone from NWL the current work would be finished at the end of the current week. The work being undertaken was to replace a few parts as recently it had not been processing waste as it should have been but was now fully functioning.

8. Any other business:

- a) The Clerk provided an update on the proposal agreed by NCC for tourist signage at Carter Bar for Redesdale. All were in agreement with proposals.
- b) The Chair provided an update from recent communications received regarding the Rothbury Hospital. He highlighted the concern that Scots gap and Bellingham surgeries were not mentioned.
- c) Cllr Maddison made a request for a skip to be placed on the village green near his home for a day. This was agreed by the other Councillors.

9. Date, time and place of next meeting: The next meeting will be on 12 September, 2019 starting at 7.00pm at the Elsdon Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm