

Minutes of the meeting of Elsdon Parish Council on Thursday 13 August, 2020

Due to the Coronavirus emergency and social distancing imposed the meeting was conducted via video link between the recorded attendees.

Present: Councillors, Simmance (Chair), Graham and Morgan. Clerk - Martin Chilvers. Paul Cowie (until 7.10)

- 1. Apologies:** There were apologies from Cllrs Renton & Maddison
- 2. Declarations of Interest:** None were declared.
- 3. Minutes of the previous Ordinary meeting:** The minutes of the meeting was accepted as a true record.

4. Matters arising

- a) Ray Wind update – Mr Cowie provided an update on activities within the Ray Windfarm CIC. He advised that the Covid-19 Hardship fund was still open for applications and that recent requests for funds had changed mostly now being for financial assistance in respect of the arrangements businesses re-opening safely. The Chair advised that he believed the Village Hall were likely to submit an application for assistance in opening the Village Hall / toilets. Mr Cowie left the meeting.
- b) Brown Tourist signs and replacing other road signage – The Clerk reported that he had received an email from Richard McKenzie (NCC) advising that due to lock-down earlier in the year it is likely there will be no progress of the installation of the signs until October at least.
- c) Revitalising Redesdale – Cllr Morgan advised that there had been no developments in the last month.
- d) Repair of roadside fence alongside burn – There was agreement that the work completed by NCC looked good and made the area safer.
- e) Cabinet and frame for church – The Chair advised he had not received any response although he understood that there was a PCC meeting that evening so it was hoped there may be an update at the next meeting.
- f) Soppit Lane road flooding – It was believed the work on the collapsed culvert would be happening during the week commencing 24 August when the road would be closed.
- g) Replacement of notice board near Pinfold – The Clerk provided an update on the progress of this matter. It was hoped the final details would be submitted to Noticeboards Online very soon and that the new boards would be in place around the end of September. The Clerk reported he had received confirmation from Revitalising Redesdale that they would support the project up to £2,000. This would mean the new noticeboard would cost the Parish Council £416.00 after reclaiming the VAT.
- h) Annual bonfire and firework display – The Chair provided an update after speaking to key people involved in the potential firework and bonfire event on 5 November. There was general support for the event to go ahead assuming social distancing could be put in place although there was agreement there would be no food this year. Katie Bland (Bird in Bush) provided the Chair her plans to operate if the event were to go ahead. It was agreed to monitor further for Government guidance. Cllr Morgan raised concern over the ability to maintain social distancing at the event especially given it would be dark

5. Finance:

- a) Reimbursement of £10.26 for supplements made to Elsdon food parcels – It was noted that this had been agreed by the Councillors and paid to Mrs Y. Oliver between meetings.

6. Planning:

- a) 20/02028/BT: Proposal to remove phone box 01830520676: Elsdon, EN191AA: The Clerk reported that whilst the objection of the proposal had been submitted, BT had requested an extended consultation period through to 28 February, 2021 to allow further consideration from across the communities where it was

proposed telephone boxes were to be removed. It was believed BT were looking to remove 49 telephone boxes within the local area.

- b) 20/02286/FUL: Proposed detached garage: Rede River Cottage, Monkridge Hill Farm, NE48 2TU: Following discussion there was agreement to support this application.

7. New business:

- a) Outdoor concert on village green – The Clerk shared the most recent plans and safety procedures received from the organisers. Following discussion there was agreement and support from all Councillors for the concert to go ahead on the village green.
- b) Future use of the bus shelter – Following evidence of the bus shelter being misused by some visitors to the village there was discussion on the possible future of the building. Whilst a number of ideas had been proposed Cllr Graham advised he had heard from Cllr Renton that NCC will be picking up school children from the bus shelter for the school bus service from the start of the new term. Cllr Graham agreed to provide some ideas how to ‘tidy’ the place up with possible windows and will report back.
- c) Local Transport Programme feedback from NCC – The Clerk had shared the report received from NCC prior to the meeting that provided feedback from NCC on the LTP requests made last year. It was acknowledged that the bollards had just been completed and that there was a notice for road closure on the Gibbet Road that will be repaired / resurfaced. There was disappointment that the road around the church was not going to be included but it was agreed to write to Mitch Young (NCC) to determine whether at least the pot holes could be repaired before they became much bigger.
- d) Format of future Parish Council meetings – It was agreed to continue monitoring the situation on a month by month basis but that the September meeting would be conducted via video link again.

8. Any other business:

- a) Cllr Morgan highlighted that perhaps there could be a better link up between the Parish Council and the various other committees within Elsdon. The Village Hall committee and EPIC were both given as examples as well as the PCC. It was agreed to approach the committees and seek a method to share the minutes for each respective meetings as early as possible so perhaps actions were not being repeated or missed.
- b) Cllr Graham reported on his finding of the Bull Stone in the village green. It was agreed it would be good to somehow highlight the location and Cllr Graham agreed to look at costs for a possible notice.

9. Date, time and place of next meeting: The next meeting will be on 10 September, 2020 starting at 7.00pm via video link.

Meeting closed at 8.15