

Minutes of the meeting of Elsdon Parish Council
on Thursday 10 June, 2021
Held at Elsdon Village Hall

Present: Councillors, Simmance (Chair), Morgan, Stuchfield, Graham and Renton. Clerk – Martin Chilvers.

1. Apologies: There were no apologies.

2. Declarations of Interest: None were declared.

3. Minutes of the previous Annual and Ordinary meetings: The minutes of the meetings had previously been shared with the Councillors and were accepted as a true record.

4. Matters arising

- a) Ray Wind update – The Clerk advised that the Small Grants Fund administered by Community Foundation on behalf of Ray Windfarm closed on 31 May and that the decision panel would be sitting mid July.
- b) Brown Tourist signs – The Clerk advised he was waiting for the invoice from the County Council.
- c) Revitalising Redesdale – Cllr Morgan reported that there was a site visit on 28 June. Cllr Renton advised that the contractor who provided the tree seat would not be able to build a half seat for the second tree until February 2022. There was a discussion whether a Community Heritage Fund application could be made at that stage.
- d) Cabinet and frame for church – The Chair advised he had met with Jo Scott to discuss possible funding for the items. It was recommended to contact a Marcus Byron who could draw up plans and costings for the total work. The Chair advised he would call Karen Collins (Revitalising Redesdale) to establish whether funding could possibly be provided for this element of the project as well.
- e) Repair of old noticeboard and relocation – Cllr Renton advised that having spoken to David Scott the repaired noticeboard would be fixed on the external side wall of the bus shelter in the next week.
- f) Notice for the bull stone – There was discussion regarding the proposed slate notice and fixing this to an appropriate stone. It was agreed Cllrs Graham and Renton would work together to provide options and costs at the next meeting.
- g) Flooding at Starmyers bridge – The Clerk reported that he had received confirmation from NCC that the repair work had been scheduled to be undertaken out although no timescale had been advised.
- h) Damage to village green at Crown Farm corner – It was noted that the corner as well a few other locations had been repaired and reseeded.
- i) Request for a permanent bus service through Elsdon – The Clerk reported on his conversation with Neil Easton (NCC). Mr Easton had advised that the contractor was not willing to make the detour as there was no benefit to the business. Mr Easton advised he would be willing to trial the detour and fund the contractor for the extra work if it was believed there was sufficient interest to use the service. It was agreed to share a communication with the residents to determine how many would be interested.
- j) Request to repair an access-way across the village green – The Chair provided a report from the meeting on 24 May with residents of the three properties who use the access track to their properties plus Cllr Renton and the Clerk. It was agreed to seek further guidance and clarification with NALC on points raised by one of the residents. Additionally the Clerk was asked to seek quotes for possible repair work on the track and potential funding options.
- k) Northumbria Water planned work at Elsdon treatment works – It was highlighted that work had started at the treatment works and concern was raised over the tight access in Crawford Close.
- l) Loose tread on footbridge near car park – The Clerk shared details of an email he had received from Margaret Anderson (NNPA Ranger) for the repairs of the footbridge. It was agreed that when the cost was determined and the amount NNPA would be willing to fund known, to then investigate possible funding for any contribution that the Parish Council would need to make.

5. Finance:

- a) Review of Parish Council finances and plans for 2021-22 – There was discussion on the various options for a Christmas tree with decorations on the village green. The Clerk provided details of possible battery powered lights. It was agreed to seek possibilities of a tree with roots that could be planted in appropriate location on the village green and be used for years to come.
- b) Payment of Parish Insurance premium for £448.00 – It was confirmed that having reviewed the cover provided by BHIB that the invoice should be paid.

6. Planning:

- a) 21NP0036: Two storey side extension to existing dwelling: 6 Crawford Crescent, Elsdon, NE191AD. Following discussion there was support for this application.

7. New business:

- a) Review of the Definitive map & Statement of Public Rights of Way – There was discussion on various public rights of way highlighted by NCC but with a degree of uncertainty what was being requested the Clerk was asked to seek confirmation of action required.
- b) Plans for bonfire and fireworks display on 5 November – Cllr Renton advised he had spoken to Chris Armstrong who (if social restrictions allow) would like arrange the fireworks and bonfire event this year on 5 November. It was agreed to review the risk register and monitor the government guidance before making a definite decision.

8. Any other business:

- a) Cllr Morgan asked what was the position regarding parking at Kielder for Elsdon residents in 2021.
- b) Cllr Renton reported he had been asked by a visitor as to whether there was an electric car charging point in the village. It was agreed given the location and that there were no known points in the local area it would be beneficial to have one installed. The Clerk was asked to approach NCC to determine if one could be fitted in the car park.

8. Date, time and place of next meeting: The next meeting will be on 8 July, 2021 starting at 7.00pm at Elsdon Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 9.00