

# Minutes of the meeting of Elsdon Parish Council on Thursday 11 May, 2023

**Present:** Councillors, Stuchfield (Chair), Simmance, Renton and Brownlee – Martin Chilvers, Cllr Bolam, Billy & Carol Lewins, Joan Thompson, Annie Gregory, Simon Etheridge, Neil Bird, Geoff Rickelton, Mandy Buck

**1. Apologies:** There were apologies from Cllr Bell

**2. Declarations of Interest:** None were raised.

**3. Minutes of the previous Ordinary meeting:** 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 there was nothing new to report this month however grants were still available and anyone with a query should contact Jo Willis, Community Development Officer on either 0776 217 9579 or at [admin@raywindfund.co.uk](mailto:admin@raywindfund.co.uk)
- b) Village Hall power outage preparations / Northern Powergrid (NPg) grant application – The Clerk reported Mr Lewins was meeting with representatives from Northern Powergrid on 12 May to share a progress report and a NPg news article. It was also reported that Richard Wilson was due to undertake the required electric work at the end of the month.
- c) Speed Indicator device (SID) – It was noted that NCC had installed the pole for the SID and the Clerk was asked to contact Westcotec for the SID to be installed.
- d) Potential funding for EV charging points – The Clerk highlighted that NCC had advised the request for a charging point to be installed at the car park would be too expensive and the work would not be sanctioned. Assistance from NCC had been requested as to where a charging point could be installed, although a suggested location near the Pinfold had been dismissed due to safety concerns as well as lack of space.
- e) Community Emergency & Contingency Plan – The Clerk provided details following a conversation with Nigel Fisher (NCC) regarding the development of the Emergency Plan and it was agreed a separate meeting should be set for the plan.
- f) Dark sky events events & access to the Pinfold – The Clerk shared details of a conversation he had with Duncan Wise (NNPA) regarding the possible modifications of the Pinfold for future dark sky events. It was questioned as to whether events could be run on a section of land next to the Pinfold that would allow improved accessible to the location.

## **5. Finance:**

- a) Payment of the annual NALC subscription – The payment of £74.01 was agreed.
- b) Parish Council insurance renewal from 1 June, 2023 – There was discussion on the cover proposed with a premium of £473.26. Whilst it was agreed the cover met the Parish Council requirements the Clerk was asked to determine what cover could be provided for a dog show at the village fete in August.

## **6. Planning:**

a) 23NP0015: Proposed construction of 1 detached principal residence residence dwelling house: Land adjacent to Larkes Cottage, Elsdon, NE191AZ: Whilst there was no overall objection for a property to be built on the land there were a number of concerns raised by all in attendance. These included the land being a green field site, question over the proposals for the foul water discharge, the impact of the retaining wall on rainfall and possible increase risk of flooding incidents on B6341 and at Batt Hall opposite the proposed plot. There was agreement between the Councillors based on concerns raised that given the details within the documentation received it would need to object until at least further information was received. It was agreed the Clerk would draft a response to NNPA, sharing it with the Councillors before submitting the comments.

b) 23/01336/VARYCO: Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) on approved application 22/02179/FUL in order to change glazed roof on porch to a slate roof, garage use changed to utility and boot room and garage door replaced with bifolding doors: Halls Hill, West Woodburn, NE482TU – The Councillors agreed to support the application.

**7. New business:**

- a) The 'Big Help Out' on the village green on 8 May – The Chair reported and thanked all the people who had turned out in pouring rain to help cut the long grass, remove the cuttings and sow wild-flower seed.
- b) Pot holes within the Parish – The Chair highlighted the need for everyone to report a pot hole that they discover. It was acknowledged that NCC was usually quick in attending and repairing pot holes however each individual needed to report a pot hole when discovered.
- c) Flooded section of B6341 – The Chair advised he had reported the flooding section. It was highlighted that water was flowing even during dry weather and it was suggested there was a possible leaking pipe.
- d) Defibrillator replacement pads – The Clerk confirmed he had received funding from Ray Windfunds for the replacement pads.
- e) Ward boundary change proposals – There was discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of the current boundary and proposed changes. Whilst there was general feeling that for many attending there was no strong objection it was agreed to give consideration to the matter before the Councillors decided how to respond at the June meeting. In the meantime the Chair encouraged everyone to have their individual say and respond to the consultation that is open until 10 July, 2023.

**8. Any other business:**

- a) The Chair highlighted that Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP was visiting Elsdon on 23 June and would like to meet with the Parish Council. Both the Chair and Cllr Simmance confirmed that they should both be available whilst Cllrs Brownlee and Renton were unsure of their availability at this time.
- b) Mrs Lewins highlighted that the sign for the glass recycling had also stated 'house hold waste' as well. This had been 'blacked out' however a more permanent accurate sign should replace the existing one.
- c) It was reported that a street light at Townfoot was hidden by a tree and needed clearing so the light can illuminate the road.
- d) Mr Rickelton suggested that speed cameras were required on all roads entering the village as speeding vehicles was a problem on all roads. It was agreed to give this consideration however previous advice from NCC had suggested it may be difficult to install a camera given the nature of the roads.

**9. Date, time and place of next meeting:** The next meeting will be on 8 June, 2023 starting at 7.00pm at Elsdon Village Hall.

Meeting closed 9.15pm