

HEDLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 14th October 2013 at 7.30pm in the 'Feathers Inn'

81. Present: Councillors R J Penny, F A Speak, J S Douglas, D R M Rodgeron, Mrs D M Watkins and County Councillor C Horncastle
Mrs M Senior (Clerk)

82. Apologies for Absence – None

83. Declarations of Interest – None

84. Minutes of the meeting held on 12th August 2013, having been circulated, were approved and signed as a true record,

85. Matters Arising

- a) **Memorial** – The quote is still awaited.
- b) **Water Leaks** – The water leak had been repaired however the temporary black surface had not been replaced. NWL will be contacted to replace the temporary surface with the agreed finish.
- c) **Blocked gulleys** – The gully at the entrance to Hedley East Farm still appears to be blocked. NCC will be contacted for an update.

86. Correspondence

All correspondence had been listed on the agenda and was noted. All relevant items had been distributed to all councillors.

- a) **Avonline Satellite Broadband** – It was noted that BT had recently been excavating cables and the phone lines had been more reliable. Once the old cables up the West Hill are replaced then residents should be receiving broadband speeds of 2.5Mb. Guy Opperman MP is pursuing this. An email had been received from Avonline Plc offering satellite broadband in association with iNorthumberland. They advise that upfront costs (hardware, installation and activation) can be greatly reduced. On a standard installation the upfront costs for hardware activation and installation could be £275 but with the iNorthumberland scheme, this is reduced to £99.99 depending on the data package required. These costs can be reduced further if 4 or more systems are installed in the same area on the same day.
- b) **Northumberland County Council – Local Plan Core Strategy: Housing, Employment and Green Belt Preferred Options.** The second part of the Preferred Options consultation will run from 31st October – 2nd January 2014. A number of drop in events (7th November – Prudhoe Spetchells Centre and 19th November – Prospect House, Hexham) have been arranged which will include a small exhibition, with planning officers present, from 3.00pm – 6.00pm followed by a discussion session between 6.30pm and 8.30pm.
- c) **NCC Joint Meeting with Parish/Town Councils** – It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 15th October 2013 at 6.00pm in Hexham Mart.

87. Finance

a) **Invoices for Payment.**

Mrs A Senior – Salary up to 30/09/13 – £100.00
HM Revenue & Customs – PAYE - £25.00
Broker Network – Insurance renewal - £278.95
Campaign to Protect Rural England – Subscription - £29.00
Mrs A Senior – Expenses - £114.91

- b) **Bank Balance.** The bank balance of £6207.69 as at 2 September 2013 was noted (Statement 22).

88. County Councillors Report – Colin Horncastle advised that he was still yet to meet with Louise Hayward who is NCC, Highways and Neighbourhood Services Manager. Colin is to request Louise to attend a future Parish Council meeting. Problems are being experienced all over the County will blocked gulleys as there are insufficient gully cleaners/equipment.

It is likely that the Hoodsclouse application will go to committee on 5 November. 9 of the 15 planning committee members attended the site visit although due to time constraints did not visit the whole site. Paul Kelly, Chairman of the Planning Committee had requested a full Highways statement.

89. Planning Applications - None

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- 90. Grass Cutting** – 3 further invoices received from Kris Fagan for grass cutting. The invoice for £145 for the repairs to the path was still outstanding as the path was still not satisfactory. After discussion it was agreed that there had been no evidence of grass cutting on the dates stated on the invoice. The clerk will contact Mr Fagan. Mr Douglass will arrange for a contractor to do a one off cut of the village grass to end the season.
It was suggested that the grass cutting could be opened up to people in the village who may wish to take responsibility for a specific area. Another suggestion was for a village handyman whose duties would include grass cutting.
- 91. Dry Stone Walling** – Repairs had been carried out to the wall on the village green by the post box.
- 92. State of the Roads**
- Gulleys – Many of the gulleys in the area appear to be blocked. Mrs Senior will request the gully tanker to visit Hedley.
 - Grit Bins – NCC will be contacted and asked to fill the grit bins.
 - Trees – Mrs Watkins will undertake a survey of the trees in the village and come back to the next meeting.
 - White Lines – It was noted that the white lines between Hedley and Leadgate Cottages had not been replaced when the road had been resurfaced. This will be reported to NCC.
- 93. East Tynedale Parish Councils Forum** – The forum has arranged for Northumberland County Council to make a special presentation/consultation on the Local Plan Core Strategy; Housing, Employment and Green Belt at Newton and Bywell Community Hall on Monday 25th November at 7.00pm. The next meeting of the Forum will take place in January 2014.
- 94. Minerals Workings** –. The NCC planners report was not completed in time for the October committee meeting so it is expected that the application will come to committee on 5th November. NCC Senior Planners are concerned to bring the application to conclusion. WAG is urging Parish Councils and individuals who are against the application to attend the committee meeting to demonstrate the strength of feeling. A busy public gallery must be of significant benefit. To assist with this it was agreed that the Parish Council would subsidise the cost of a coach to take people to Morpeth. John Renwick thanked the Parish Council for their offer. WAG will be distributing posters once the date of committee has been confirmed.
- 95. Mickley Moor Farm** – Nil.
- 96. Village Green** – Nil
- 97. Information Items**
All relevant items had been distributed to councillors by email.
Community Action Northumberland News Annual Report 2012-2013
Northumberland Association of Local Councils – Annual Report 2012-2013
Clerk and Councils Direct
Northumberland Knowledge 2011 Census Fact Sheet
Northumberland County Council – Members Handbook
Northumberland County Council – Public Transport Newsletter – September 2013.
- 98. Water leaks.** It was noted that there was a leak on the service pipe feeding Feathers Cottage. This had been reported to Northumbrian Water. Michael Banks is the contact at NWL.
- 99. Date and time of next meeting.** The next meeting is to be held on Monday 11 November 2013 at 7.30pm in The Feathers Inn.

Chairman _____

Date _____