

HEDLEY ON THE HILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 13th January 2020 at 7.30pm in the Feathers' Inn

Present: Cllrs Penny, Celino, Rodgeron, Watkins, Speak and Douglas. Monica Anderton, Clerk and County Cllr Horncastle were in attendance.

1. **Apologies:** None.

2: **Declarations of Interest:** None

3. **Minutes** from meeting of 13th November 2019: These were **approved** as a true record.

4. **Matters arising:**

a) Hedge – the wall is now crumbling; it was agreed to leave the matter for now.

b) Speeding – No further action can be taken as criteria do not apply to Hedley;

c) Pavements – Cllr Horncastle was reminded that he had agreed to help with reinstating some of the pavements once the moss had been removed. Bad weather is preventing this from being done at the moment.

d) Sign at School Row – this has been supplied and will be attached soon.

e) Drain – this was reported and has been put on the inspection list by Highways. It will be chased up as it freezes badly in cold weather now.

f) Polling Station – offer of a free room at The Feathers had been refused by the County Council. This will be followed up as going to Whittonstall is difficult for many residents.

6. **Planning:** 19/03535/VARYCO – Phoenix House changes: Indications from the Planning Department suggest that a decision will be forthcoming. There is still concern about the drainage issues and these could still be forwarded to the Planning Department. Cllr Douglas will speak about this at the LAC meeting where the application is to be decided. Flooding is still a potential issue.

19/03736/AGTRES – Permission has been given for this application to go ahead subject to a number of stringent conditions. (East House Farm). However, the conditions imply there is a private road for access to the site. This is incorrect as it is a track over the Village Green. The Clerk will formally write to the Director of Planning on this specific issue for now.

19/03966/VARYCO – 6 Clare Lea – Granted permission;

18/02239/FUL – Marley Tiles development – Refused.

7. **County Councillor Report:** Some savings are expected to be needed to be made in the Finance settlement by the County Council. Local Services are expected to be maintained as usual for now. The Local Plan is still being examined and, due to a delay, should be finished by Easter. Cllr Horncastle suggested it might be useful for Hedley PC to consider making a Neighbourhood Plan. This is a complicated procedure but there is funding available to help and it was agreed that the local expert consultant be asked to talk to the Council at a future meeting. The Clerk will follow this up.

8. **Correspondence:** Circulated as emails: weekly E News from NALC

9. **Finance:** a) Balance at 31st December 2019 is £2833.20

b) The following payments were authorised:

MF Anderton, Clerk, November 2019	£132.08
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Grass cutting (inv.8)	£165.00
WELMedical Ltd (defibrillator battery)	£197.94
NCC re sign for School Row	£30.00
Calico Ltd – re certificate for website	£28.80
Clerk, expenses	£71.10
Reimbursement to Cllr Celino re Xmas tree etc.	£31.00
Whittonstall Community Band, fees for Xmas	£60.00

c) It was agreed to increase the Precept for 2020/21 by £500 to a total of £6500.

10. **Information received:** CPRE National - Winter; Clerks & Councils Direct, January.

12: **AOB:** ~ Chase up re trees on West Hill – a lot of local concern especially in the current bad weather;

~ Xmas trees to be stored in the pub with theirs. Thanks noted specifically to Cllr Celino on this;

~ 30mph sign fallen over/damaged at bottom of West Hill – this is in Stocksfield Parish and their Clerk will be notified;

~ the Horse warning signs are deteriorating very rapidly with the poor weather;

~ the 30mph signs at the entrance to the main road in the village are very faded. Can they be replaced?

~ the Post box needs repainting. Can the PC do this with the PO's permission:

~ The Ebchester road is also deteriorating badly at present. Highways will be notified;

~ The area around the rock seat needs tidying up. The gardener will be asked to add this to his list of jobs;

~ Cllr Rodgeron noted that he intends to do some dry stone walling in the village when the weather improves.

14: **Date of next meeting:** 10th February 2020 at The Feathers at 7.30pm.

Chair:

Date: