

HEDLEY ON THE HILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the AGM and Council meeting held on 13th July 2020 at 7.30pm in Hedley

Present: Cllrs Rodgeron, Watkins, Penny, Celino, Speak and Douglas. Monica Anderton, Clerk was in attendance. Three members of the public were present for questions: Melanie Annable. Val Barnes and John Dixon.

Mrs Annable attended regarding a query about access across the Village Green to the property High Ridge which is under offer. Following consultation with all the paperwork the Parish Council holds and discussion with the Solicitor who made the original easements when in Tynedale DC; the Parish Council agreed to sign a letter of comfort for the purchasers, drafted by Annable's solicitor, to the effect that the easement is legally correct and the access point is as shown on an added plan.

Mrs Barnes raised an issue about drainage and effluent coming out of the manhole cover opposite the track to East House Farm. This coincided with Mr Dixon having cleared the blockage so no further action was required. Mr Dixon's query was taken as item 8 on the Agenda.

1. **Election of Chair and Vice-Chair:** Cllr Speak proposed Cllr Watkins as Chair with Cllr Douglas seconding that. Cllr Douglas proposed Cllr Speak as Vice Chair with Cllr Watkins seconding that. Both nominations were **approved**.
2. **Standing Orders:** These were **approved**.
3. **2019/20 Accounts and audit:** these were formally **approved** by the Council.

4. **Apologies:** Cllr Horncastle

5: **Declarations of Interest:** None

6. **Minutes** from meeting of 9th March 2020: These were **approved** as a true record.

7. **Matters arising:** None

8. **Village Green /East House Farm Development:** Despite a new person dealing with this matter at GF White and despite repeated phone calls, there was no movement to a resolution of the matter. Mr Dixon agreed the fault lay with the Land Agents and he would try and remedy the situation. Although the Council would prefer an offer of land for future in return for formal access across the Green – which would need to be legally confirmed; a financial settlement might possibly be considered. An alternative site was also discussed. Mr Dixon agreed to contact GF White again.

9. **Planning:** 20/01263/FUL – Extension at 1 School Row: **Granted** permission

20/00825/FUL – Bungalow on land adjacent to Clare Lea – **Non determined**;

APP/P2395/W/20/325678: Above **appeal** to Planning Inspectorate.

Re the above Appeal – the Parish Council will contact both the Planning Inspectorate and Northumberland County Council planners to ask to see other comments that have been made to, and by them on the appeal.

10. **County Councillor Report:** None

11. **Correspondence:** Circulated as emails: weekly E News from NALC; Covid information from various sources. **The Council would like to take this opportunity to thank all the residents who**

have contributed to helping so well during the Pandemic. It is much appreciated and shows a great Community spirit.

12. **Finance:** a) Balance at 30th June 2020 is £3645.94
b) The Exemption Certificate for Audit was approved;
c) The Governance statement for Audit was approved;
d) The Internal Audit report was approved;
e) The Accounting statement for 2019/20 was approved;
f) The following payments were authorised:

MFAnderton, Clerk, April 2020	132.08
MFAnderton, Clerk, May 2020	132.08
MFAnderton, Clerk, June 2020	132.08
Internal Audit for 2019/20	50.00
Grass cutting 1/20	330.00
Grass Cutting2/20	330.00
Grass cutting 3/20	330.00
NALC subscription 2020/21	79.42
East Tynedale Forum	20.00
MFAnderton, Expenses to date	28.91
Thea Watkins, reimbursements for expenses (2 in total)	33.00 and 40.00
T Robinson re noticeboard	45.00

13. **Information received:** Clerks & Councils Direct/May/July; CPRE magazines May/July

14. AOB: ~ The Clerk will contact Karbon Homes again as they have not been to repair damage yet;

~ A brief discussion about weeds in the village. It was noted the gardener had just recently sprayed them. It was also noted and the Council will also thank Mr Potts for spraying Japanese knotweed just past the village houses;

~ Cllr Rodgeron has indicated his willingness to help with some duties in the village after his forthcoming retirement; the offer is gratefully accepted by the Council;

~ Children have been climbing and attempting to swim in the water tower despite new warning notices and locks; Northumbria Water will be contacted to see if the tower can be removed on the grounds of safety;

~ The Clerk will ask NCC if there are grants available under strategic Planning to be used in aiding the development of a village facility;

~ The Chair and council agreed to look at the Clerk's current remuneration; they also presented her with a wonderful bouquet of flowers for the work during the current pandemic;

~ Cllr Speak asked for information on good sites to place a few remaining litter notices that had been provided by NCC to try and reduce the litter being left by cyclists and walkers in parts of the

Parish; the possibility of a couple of dog waste notices may be considered in future as well.

15: **Date of next meeting:** 14th September 2020 at 7.30pm

Chair:

Date: