

HEDLEY ON THE HILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13th September 2021 at 7.30pm in The Feathers

Present: Cllrs Watkins, Speak, Barnes, Douglas and Wolters. Monica Anderton, Clerk was in attendance. Also present were Robert Oliver and Helen Craddock

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Renwick

2: **Declarations of Interest:** None

3. **Minutes** from the meeting of 12th July 2021: These were **approved** as a true record.

4. **Matters arising:** a) Information from the Land Registry is still ongoing; Cllr Wolters will continue his efforts on this;

b) Camping Days: it has been established that the 56 allowable days for wild camping do not have to be continuous but can relate to only days on which tents are used; it should be stressed the Council support all local businesses in their efforts;

c) Broadband: Cllr Douglas had recently attended a presentation at Stocksfield by the company dealing with the County Council and the roll out of fast fibre broad band in the County. For various reasons, the fact that Hedley is to be included appears to have been forgotten on occasions so that the deadline for responding expressions of interest is on 24th September. Councillors will publicise this to residents; the Clerk will arrange a note to go on the website; and there will be a public meeting with representatives of the project attending to answer queries in the Feathers on Monday 20th September at 6.00pm. Initial expressions of interest will commit residents to nothing in the first instance and will allocate a 'voucher' valued at £1500 for the work to be done if the second stage is reached. If a resident agrees to continue, the only commitment will be to sign up with the Company Facto, for one year at least at a monthly rate of £24.99 for its Broadband services. After that, it will be up to the resident to continue or change provider. The fibre will be installed direct to their property.

5. **Local Transport Plan 2022/23:** requests for consideration have been asked for by NCC.

Although speeding in the village continues to be a problem, a lot of work has been done on this previously and the criteria cannot be meet. Cllr Wolters suggested, and it was agreed by Council, that a request for an electric charging point in the village would be a good idea.

6. **Climate Change emergency:** A request had been made to all councils to let the County Council know if they are doing anything towards this topic. It was agreed that the council is too small with few resources to do anything major on its' own. However, as part of East Tynedale Community Forum, it is hoped that projects may be jointly undertaken in the future.

7. **Planning:** a) A modification order has been sent relating to footpath 20 which had been designated for part of its length as being in Prudhoe. This has been changed to formally place it in Hedley.

b) A review by Northumberland County Council on planning criteria appears to cover all issues that might arise and that should be considered in submitting and evaluating planning applications. Waste treatment and sewerage, which are of concern in Hedley are well covered.

8. **County Councillor Report:** None

9. **Correspondence:** Circulated as emails: weekly E News from NALC;E- News from CAN and

Covid information from various sources

8. **Finance:** a) Balance as at 30th August 2021 is £5086.78

b) The following payments were authorised:

MFAnderton, Clerk, August 2021	149.89
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Came & Company, Insurance	582.64
CPRE, Annual fee	36.00
Clerk, expenses	28.19

c) To note that VAT of £118.39 has been reclaimed (still not in bank account)

d) Second tranche of precept received - £3250.00

e) Not to fund request from Sport Tynedale

10. **Information received:** CPRE Summer; Clerks & Councils Direct

11. **AOB:** ~ Request Richardson's to cut top branches from oak on the Village Green;

~ To trim branches round defibrillator – Cllr Wolters will do this;

~ Cllr Barnes noted she had responded to Transport consultation about lack of bus transport anywhere near the village. Although desirable, it would appear to be financially unsustainable;

~ Re Land the council wish to be able to use. Whilst the Land Registry are still responding, the Clerk would ask what are the legalities of the Council stepping in and using it anyway if no owner appears;

~ A new village photo of residents was needed as the last was 10 years ago. Whilst agreeing with this, it was decided to wait until next Spring to see how the Covid pandemic is progressing and make a decision then;

~ It was agreed to support a pumpkin trail on the 31st October which would finish in the Feathers. A Meet the Maker market session was also suggested for before Christmas to show crafts etc. that could be used as gifts, using the outside tables at the Pub. This would be combined with a coffee morning inside the Feathers. A provisional date of mid November would be decided;

~ the Whittonstall band would be invited to play Christmas music and Carols again – possibly on Sunday 19th December;

~ Because of the potential demise of the Leek Club, another event on a regular monthly basis needs to be put in place to encourage people to come together to socialise. More coffee mornings were one suggestion. A small meeting would be held in Cllr Wolters home to look at this and other suggestions;

~ Formal thanks to long service Councillors would be discussed with proposals at the next meeting.

12: **Date of next meeting:** 11th October 2021 at 7.30pm

Chair:

Date:

