

HEPPLE PARISH COUNCIL Ref 0515

=====

Minutes of meeting of Hepple Parish Council held on Monday 26th May 2015 at 8pm in the Village Hall.

<i>Present:</i>	<i>Mr J Hasson</i>	<i>Chairman</i>
	<i>Mr S Whitfield</i>	<i>Vice Chairman</i>
	<i>Mr C France</i>	
	<i>Mr W Woolley</i>	
	<i>Mrs C Buckley</i>	
	<i>Mrs J Hasson</i>	<i>Clerk to the Council</i>

The meeting was also attended by Mr Brendan Buckley

The minutes from the February meeting were read, agreed & signed.

MATTERS ARISING

1) Following the last meeting the Chairman again contacted NCC about the highways issues raised and an update on the items is as follows:

- a) Hedges and trees that were encroaching onto roads between Bilsmoor and Hepple have now been trimmed.*
- b) Large potholes on road between Hepple and Elsdon are due to be filled within the next 14 days. This will be using a "Hot Box" which gives a much better job.*
- c) The moss on the paths in Hepple has been treated again but the chairman has been carrying out additional work himself.*
- d) The drainage ditches on the Bickerton bank have now been completed according to N'thd CC. However, they still appear to be unsatisfactory as being a single track road there is now nowhere to pass. The Chairman will contact N'thd CC again to see what they can do to resolve the problem.*

In addition the Chairman has managed to obtain from NCC 2 grit bins for Bickerton and Hepple Whitefield banks as the new Highways manager is in agreement that it poses a serious accident risk in winter.

Notice board for Flotterton should be in place fairly soon

2) Following the general concern about the new planning review, at a meeting the Chairman and clerk attended on Monday, the planning officer stated that there were no plans to exclude Parish Councils from making comments from planning applications and that these would still be taken into consideration when making decisions.

WEBSITE

Brendan Buckley has very kindly agreed to set up the website for us free of charge. Cllr Chrissie Buckley has also agreed to maintain it once Brendan has done that. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to pay £24.95 to exclude adverts from the website as some of these may not be have been suitable. The Parish Council are very grateful to Brendan for his time in setting up the website for us.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) N'thd CC – Standards Committee guidance for use on Social Media*
- 2) Royal Voluntary Service – Wooler's Men in the Workshop newsletter about service*
- 3) NALC – Newsletter*
- 4) Upper Coquet Resource Group – Minutes of February meeting*
- 5) Community Action N'thd – Asking for a donation*
- 6) N'thd CC – Consultation on a draft Private Sector Housing Strategy for N'thd*
Available at N'thd County Councils website & responses can be sent to
PlanningStrategy@northumberland.gov.uk

FINANCIAL REPORT

<i>Balance at Lloyds Bank at 31st March 2015</i>		<i>£ 633.35</i>
<i>Payments made</i>		
<i>30/3/15 Mrs J Hasson – Clerks expenses</i>		<i><u>£ 154.09</u></i>
<i>Balance</i>		<i>£ 479.26</i>
<i>Payments received</i>		
<i>07/4/15 Parish Precept 1st Instalment</i>		<i><u>£ 475.00</u></i>
		<i>£ 954.26</i>
<i>Payments due</i>		
<i>N'thd Assoc. of Local Councils</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>73.16</i>
<i>Website advert removal (gold ad service)</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>24.95</i>
<i>Insurance (approx)</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>156.00</i>

The Parish Council also agreed to make a £25.00 donation to Community Action Northumberland

Balance after payments *£ 675.15*

The clerk received a letter from Aon Insurers Ltd asking if they could give a quote for the Local Council Insurance. She followed this up, but the quote given was £193.34 which is more than that usually paid to NCC which is in the region of £156.

Donations are made under expenditure power S137 and subscriptions to Local Government Associations under section 143 of the 1972 Local Government Act

The Risk Assessment and Financial Procedures documents were reviewed by the Parish Council together with the internal control and the management of risk guidelines supplied by BDO and found that all the key areas were fully covered and complied with.

The clerk has completed the Audit for 2014/15 and the internal audit has been completed by Larry Lampert our internal auditor and found to be correct. It was approved by the Council for the purpose of submission to the Auditors at BDO LLp for final audit.

The “Notice of Appointment of Date for the Exercise of Electors Rights Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2015” was displayed in the village notice board from 6th April 2015 to 19^h April 2015

PLANNING

- 1) East Hepple Farmhouse – Removal of central section of cast iron range & installation of wood burning stove. Approved 2/4/15*
- 2) The Old Coach House, Hepple Whitefield Hall – Approval of conditions 3 & 4 of planning permission. Approved 8/4/15*

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 1) The Chairman had the latest Police report but the Parish Council had seen this on Community Messaging (please get in touch if you would like to join)*
- 2) The Chairman & Clerk attended a meeting with N'thd County Council in Thropton on Monday 18th May. The chief planning officer give an update on the latest planning issues and the Chairman asked the Highways Manager – Steve Bucknall about the outstanding issues we had at Hepple*
- 3) N'thd National Park is currently undergoing a review of its Management Plan and was wanting a representative from each Parish. The clerk spoke to Clive Coyne, Head of Planning and advised him that Chris France who was on the National Parks was also one of the Councillors on Hepple Parish Council. He said he would therefore advise Cllr France of the relevant information to represent Hepple at the appropriate meetings about the Management Plan.*
- 4) There will be a Jim Clark Reivers Forest Rally in Redesdale and Harwood Forest on Sunday 31st May. The organisers have very kindly written to us to let us know in the hope that the event does not inconvenience us*
- 5) Cllr Chris France has agreed to attend the Coquetdale Cluster meeting Wednesday 17th June*

DATE of NEXT MEETING

Monday 10th August at 8pm in the Village Hall