

Minutes of the meeting of Hepple Parish Council held on Monday 9th November 2015 at 8.00pm in Hepple Village Hall

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| Present: | Mr J Hasson | Chairman |
| | Mr S Whitfield | Vice Chairman |
| | Mr C France | |
| | Mrs C Buckley | |
| | Mr B Woolley | |
| | Mrs L Honey | Current Clerk to the Council |

Also present were June Hasson, Jenny and Pete Bates, Steve Kerry, David McKechnie, Richard Chapman, Bessie Rogerson, Dan McCaffrey and Carole Bell.

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

MATTERS ARISING

The Chairman gave an update on highways issues. Cllr Chris France asked if any further progress had been made regarding putting a pipe down Bickerton Bank and the Chairman stated that the Highways Authority were not inclined to do this work. Cllr France asked that the Chairman continued to press the Authority regarding this matter.

FLOODING IN HEPPLER VILLAGE

All present agreed that the recent flooding in Hepple had been horrendous, particularly at Hepple Tower where run off from the fields added to the problem of water running down to the bottom of the village.

The Chairman has had a site meeting with Northumberland County Council managers, showing them the issues on the ground, including Kiln Road from where a great deal of the problems arise. Notes from this meeting are available on the Parish Council website (<http://www.parish-council.com/hepple/>). The main actions arising from this meeting are:

- Work to Kiln Road to prevent excessive water running down it, including clearing out all ditches and drains and installing a new pipe.
- Inspecting and jetting the blocked drain opposite the village hall. If this does not solve the blockage, the drain will be excavated and repaired.
- The ditches in the field opposite Hepple Tower require some work and the Council will contact the landowner with regard to this. The two road drains at the entrance to Hepple Tower will be cleaned out and jetted.

Discussion followed the Chairman's summary of his meeting with the Council and several points were made which the Chairman will take to the Council in the course of his negotiations with them. In the meantime, the agreed works will be undertaken and a view will be taken when they are completed.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter from The Children's Foundation asking for a donation. Councillors decided not to contribute.
2. Letter from Anne-Marie Trevelyan asking for an update on the Neighbourhood Plan for Hepple
3. Letter from Northumberland Community Voluntary Action asking for a donation. Councillors decided not to contribute.

4. Letter and information from NHS regarding "Unlocking integrated care in Northumberland"
5. Email from Betty television production company asking for participants in a new Channel 4 programme.
6. Request for a contribution towards a retirement gift for David Francis. Councillors decided not to contribute.

FINANCIAL REPORT

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| Balance at Lloyds Bank as at 26 th May 2015 | | £831.15 |
| Payments Received | | |
| 11/09/15 Precept (2 nd instalment) | <u>£475.00</u> | |
| Total Payments Received | £475.00 | |
| | | £1,306.15 |
| Payments Made | | |
| 13/08/15 Dawn (Advice) Ltd | £20.00 | |
| 14/08/15 Insurance paid to Northumberland County Council | £165.20 | |
| Donation to Village Hall | £300.00 | |
| Donation towards Christmas lights | £20.00 | |
| Donation towards children's Christmas party | <u>£50.00</u> | |
| Total Payments Made | £555.20 | |
| | | £750.95 |
| Payments Due | | |
| Thropton Parish Council (Coquetdale Cluster) | £12.00 | |
| Donation to Great North Air Ambulance Service | £100.00 | |
| Total Payments Due | £112.00 | |
| Balance after payments | | £638.95 |

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

Councillors agreed the "Review and Effectiveness of the Internal Audit".

PLANNING

No new planning applications have been received.

The application for removal of existing rear off-shoots and rebuilding of two storey rear extension at The Badger Swindon was approved 17/12/15.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Chris France gave an update of news from the Northumberland National Park Authority including the fact that the Park had won the Countryfile award for best national park in the UK, and that a previously unknown Roman road had been discovered during work to extend the car park at Housesteads.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Was agreed for Monday 9th May 2016 at 8.00pm in Hepple Village Hall