Hepple Parish Council Ref 0517

Minutes of meeting of Hepple Parish Council held on Monday 8th May 2016 at 8.30pm in the Village Hall

Present: Mr J Hasson Chairman

Mr S Whitfield Mr W Woolley

Mr D McKechnie Clerk

1. Introduction

1.1 Welcome, apologies for absence and declarations of interest/grant of dispensations or cooptions

An apology was received from Mrs Buckley, who was recovering from illness.

1.2 Public Questions

No members of the public were present

1.3 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th February 2017 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman

1.4 Matters arising

The Clerk reported that:-

- VAT on items such as a notice board is reclaimable, even though the council is not VAT registered
- Neither the Council nor BT could give a date when the telephone box would be removed. BT have employed contractors to remove boxes throughout the UK and have no schedule of, and cannot find out, when the work will be done
- No progress had been made on the application to the Green Rigg Fund, other than that the cost of
 the speed indicator devices would be £6685 plus VAT. Application would be made before the next
 meeting.

 Action Clerk
- No concerns had been expressed regarding transport problems in Hepple, so it was decided that no further action should currently be proposed in connection with the CAN Getabout scheme.
- Janine Rillands of the Northumbrian Water Rainwise Flood Protection Project had advised us that currently they were not working in the Hepple area. It was agreed that if, in the future they should work near Hepple, we should invite them to a Parish Council meeting to talk about the project.
- The Clerk agreed to establish to whom in the local police should the minutes be sent, as Sergeant Wharrier had now moved to Wooler.

 Action Clerk
- a decision on a donation to Hospice Care was postponed to the next meeting

2. Items for Discussion and Potential Decisions

The clerk reported that an application had been made to the NNPA for a grant towards the cost of replacing the notice board. We were informed that the maximum amount we could expect would be £500. It was decided that we should obtain the Notice Board costing £855, so that £355 would have to be contributed from the Parish Council Funds.

Action Clerk

3 Details of any meetings attended by Councillors or the clerk

The Chairman reported attending a Paris Cluster meeting which was very poorly attended. Little of import resulted from the meeting.

4. Finance

4.1 Financial report

• Balance at Lloyds Bank at 31/3/2017	£848.69
• Precept Received 11/4/2017	£475.00
• Balance	£1321.69
• Payments since 31/3/2017	
• NALC Subscription	£75.06
• Clerk's Expenses	£89.75
Stephen Carey Defibrillator Fund	£54.90
• Current Balance	£ 1101.98

- Cheques were signed for NALC subscription (£75.06), Stephen Carey (Defibrillator) Fund (£54.90) and the Clerk's travelling and phone expenses (£89.75)
- It was agreed that the Clerk should obtain internet access to view the Bank Account, but with no ability to perform transaction. Any payments will still be by cheque, signed by 2 designated councillors

4.2 Precept

- As reported to the Annual Meeting, the first precept of £475 was received on 11th April.
- **4.3 Minute Reference AG1** The Annual Governance Statement, 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.

Minute Reference AS1 The clerk has completed the Accounting Statement for 2016/17 and it was approved by the Council at the council meeting.

The internal audit will be completed by Larry Lampert our internal auditor and the papers forwarded to the Auditors at BDO LLP for final audit. (*NB Done 15/5/2017 Clerk DMcK)

The "Period of Exercise of Public Rights Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2017" will be available from 5th June 2017 to 14th July 2017 and details will appear in the Parish Council website

and on the Notice Board, together with the Annual Governance Statement and the Statement of Accounts as required by the audit commission.

5. Planning

It was agreed that the council had no objection to the proposal to upgrade to a restricted byway the footpath from Caistron to Farnham, provided no cost to the council would be incurred. The NCC Definitive Map Officer, Mr John McErlane would be so informed.

Action Clerk

6. Nomination for Parish Representative to Northumberland National Park

Agreed that no nomination would be forwarded, as our Vice Chairman, Mr France, admirably represents Hepple Parish interests to the NNPA.

6. Any Other Business

Mr Woolley informed the meeting that Kathleen Little and Christine Whiffen, nieces of Jock and Margie Hall, would like to erect a bench in their aunt and uncle's memory in Hepple, where they lived for over 40 years. The likely site would be on the verge at the bottom of Kiln Way. The council welcomed this gratefully.

7. Date of Next Meeting

8pm on Monday 7th August 2017 in Hepple Village Hall