

Otterburn Parish Council

Wednesday, 4 July, 2007

Between 7pm and 8.45pm at Otterburn Memorial Hall

MINUTES

Present

Val Corbett

Harry Scott

Ron Holden

John Hartshorne

Vice Chair in Chair

From 8.15pm

Apologies

Sarah Robson

Clive Emerson

Absent

In attendance

Miss Emma Anderson

Cllr. Brian Corbett

Cllr John Riddle

David Turnbull

Parish Clerk

Otterburn Play Scheme

Copy to

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting, having been circulated, were accepted as a true record and signed by the Vice Chairman.

3. Matters arising

- a) *item 3a: Playground:* The Clerk reported that the Chairman had visited the playground on a number of occasions since the last meeting and had found it tidy and in excellent condition. No additional damage had been observed leading to the conclusion that there had been a marked improvement in behaviour on the part of those previously causing damage..
- b) *item 3b: Review and status of public seating in village:* Mr. Holden reported that he had visited all of the public seating in the village:
1. Town Head: In good condition, firm but in need scraping and painting;
 2. Village Hall: In good condition, firm and not requiring work;
 3. Redewater View: In good condition and firm. Weeds need treating with herbicide;
 4. Brierley Gardens: In good condition but needs anchoring;
 5. Opposite the Border Reiver: Three of the six anchoring points are broken. The seat is not in as good condition as the other seats. Suggest scrapping the seat and replacing with a wooden seat which will match the wooden seat at the toilets. A plinth will be required.

Members agreed that seats were required at two further locations, namely Redewater View and beside the former police house. The Vice Chairman **agreed** to discuss this with the Chairman with a view to progressing before the next meeting. The Vice Chairman thanked Mr. Holden for his report.

- c) *item 3c: Remedial work to recent installation of PC Joe Carroll Memorial Seat:* This work had not been completed and the account had not been paid.

- d) *item 3e: Otterburn Hall:* Mrs. Corbett reported that no response had been received from the footpath officer at Northumberland County Council or from the Angel Group. Statements about footpath use over a period of sixty years were being collected.
- e) *item 3g: Land opposite Carter Cottages:* The Clerk reported that the meeting on Thursday, 21 June, which brought together the house owner and other interested parties, had been positive and productive. After discussion, the owners agreed to move the fence to the boundary line required by the planning authority. This would enable the construction of the first part of the proposed footpath to Otterburn Mill. Jeff Marshall will be co-ordinating the people involved.

Councillor Riddle said it had been necessary to compromise on the width of the completed path. Normally six feet, the completed path would be three to four feet wide, requiring less ground from the garden on the roadside.

- f) *item 3h: Millennium Green:* The Chairman had received a letter confirming that the new arrangements for the management of the Millennium Green would be in place within a matter of weeks.
- g) *item 6a: Interactive Speed Limit Sign:* The Clerk reported that correspondence had been received from Slayley Parish Council inviting Otterburn to join a consortium of local Parish Councils to share an Interactive Speed Sign. This could have significant benefits for Otterburn, not least the reduction in costs. **Members agreed** to accept the invitation to join the consortium on the terms stated (correspondence attached for information).
- h) *item 7b: Parish Council Forum, Monday, 9 July, 2007:* No members were available to attend the meeting.

4. Finance

- a) *Parish Clerk's salary and expenses for June, 2007:* The Clerk's claim for salary (£105.00) and expenses (nil) was **agreed**.
- b) *Air Ambulance Donation:* **Members agreed** to make a donation of £150 to the Great North Air Ambulance.
- c) *Memorial Hall charges:* Mr. Scott reported that the Annual General Meeting of Otterburn Memorial Hall had agreed to increase room charges for the coming year. Otterburn Parish Council would now be charged £9.00 per meeting for the use of a room.

Mr. Scott asked the Parish Council to consider its annual grant to the Memorial Hall. He hoped the Parish Council might consider increasing the grant to £800 for 2007/08. The Vice Chairman thought it appropriate that the Parish Council see the Memorial Hall accounts before taking a final decision. She suggested that a grant of £750 could be made, subject to the approval of the Chairman, with the proviso that an additional £50 could be granted if needed during the year. **Members agreed.**

It was also **agreed** to defer consideration of further donations to local organisation to a future meeting.

- d) *Commercial Waste Collection charges:* The Clerk said an account totalling £133.37 had been received from Tynedale Council for taking away dog waste. Payment was **agreed**.

5. Planning

- a) *Troughend, Otterburn*: A planning application for Troughend, Otterburn had been withdrawn. Re-submission was expected.
- b) *The Cottage, Otterburn Hall*: Revised plans for an extension of this property had been re-submitted. The Parish Council **agreed** the application without objection.

6. New business

- a) *Tynedale Local Development Framework Site Allocations*: The Clerk reported that the full Site Allocations book had been received. A special public meeting would be arranged to discuss the allocations. Representatives of Tynedale Council had agreed to attend. **Members agreed.**
- b) *Local Transport Plan (Integrated Transport Programme) 2008/09*: **Members agreed** that the Parish Council's priorities for the coming year were the construction of the footpath to Otterburn Mill and Interactive Speed Signs.
- c) *Code of Conduct and Standards Framework (Meeting on Monday, 16 July, 2007)*: No one was available to attend this meeting.
- d) *NALC: Vacancy on Standards Committee (Reply by Monday, 16 July, 2007)*: No one was available to attend this meeting.
- e) *State of the Area Debate (Meeting on Thursday, 5 July, 2007)*: No one was available to attend this meeting.
- f) *Minerals and Waste Development Framework*: The Chairman **agreed** to review this matter using the CD Rom received.

7. Any other business

- a) *Play Scheme*: David Turnbull was invited to address the issue of funding for the Play Scheme being withdrawn. He said local Head teachers had argued against this. There was an opportunity for alternative funding and he sought the support of the Parish Council.

Members made a number of suggestions regarding other sources of funding. The Vice Chairman asked that a request be put in writing. The Parish Council would then be able to add its support to applications for funding which might be of help. **Members agreed.**

- b) *Official opening of New Bridge across the River Rede*: Correspondence had been received concerning this event. The Parish Council was asked to send a representative and was asked for suggestions of others who it might be appropriate to invite.

8. Date, time and place of next meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7pm on Wednesday, 5 September, 2007 at Otterburn Memorial Hall.