

## HAYDON BRIDGE AND HAYDON PARISH DEVELOPMENT TRUST

### Minutes of the meeting held on 13 October 2020

#### Present

Mark l'Anson (Chair), Esmond Faulks, Ian Foster, Eileen Charlton,  
Henry Swaddle, Kate Minto, Peter Fletcher

**20.11 Apologies** Will Rutherford (Vice Chairman)

**20.12 Declarations of interest** None

#### **20.13 Minutes of the meeting held on 15 January 2020**

These were accepted as a correct record. The meeting planned for 20 May 2020 had been cancelled because of Covid19.

**20.14 Matters arising not already on the agenda** None

#### **20.15 Parish Plan**

##### Tourism

*Haydon Hundred (HH)*: MI reported that the HH planned for 13 June 2020 had been cancelled because of Covid19. Costs of £1200 had been incurred, of which around £1000 worth could be re-used for next year's event, which would be on 12 June 2021. The DT had also lost substantial income because of the cancellation of this year's event.

##### *Car Parking at Riverside and Village entry signs*

No action had been taken by Thompsons of Prudhoe to create extra car parking spaces down at the Riverside, or to provide gravel to fill in the holes around the two village entry signs.

**Action: EF/PF to follow up with Thompsons of Prudhoe**

*Village leaflet*: IF reported that the new village leaflets for 2020 had been designed and printed but no action had been taken to distribute them to tourism businesses because of Covid19. The leaflets would be distributed for the 2021 tourist season.

*The Bridge:* EC reported that many of the volunteers were in the vulnerable age category. Plans had been progressing to re-open the Bridge, and the building had been cleaned. However, this did not now seem possible in the foreseeable future, given the recent increase in Covid19 restrictions in Northumberland, and potential health risk to volunteers who ran the services at the Bridge. Plans for the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the opening of the Bridge had been put on hold.

The main concern about loss of services at the Bridge was for people who did not have a computer at home and came to use the computers, for such things as job applications and benefit claims

EC and IF reported that the alarm did not seem to be working at the Bridge. It was possible that the alarm battery was flat.

**Action: IF to contact the alarm company**

*Luncheon Club:* the luncheon club was not operating because of the Covid19 restrictions. This would be reviewed once Covid19 guidance made re-opening possible

*Communication:* HS had provided the latest analysis of website usage since the last meeting.

**Action: PF would circulate website usage figures**

HS reported that the requirements of the Parish Council, as a Public Body, in relation to providing information that met new accessibility requirements, meant that the village website, which hosted the Parish Council pages, needed to update its format in terms of accessibility. HS has done work on this which should mean that the website is suitable for another 5 years. However, the parish might need a new website in the next 5-10 years.

**Action: PF to circulate the work HS has done on accessibility to DT Directors**

## **20.16 Governance matters**

The DT annual report and accounts for 2019-20 had been circulated to Directors.

**Decision: The Directors unanimously approved the 2019-20 annual report and accounts**

**Action: PF to submit report and accounts to Companies House**

## **20.17 Finance and grants**

PF reported that a successful application had been made to NCC for a Covid19 grant of £10,000, which had now been received.

Arch had also provided a one month rent rebate of £366.61

EF reported that because the annual PC grant to the DT related to rent, the grant paid at the end of October would take account of the rebate received from Arch. If the DT was in financial difficulties because of Covid19 and needed an additional emergency grant from the PC then a separate application should be made from the normal annual grant application.

MI reported that the loss of income from the cancellation of the 2020 HH and from losing income from library activities had been balanced by the Covid19 grant from the government through NCC. There was no immediate financial concern for the DT.

## **20.18 Neighbourhood Plan (NP)**

PF reported that Covid19 had halted action on the NP for a period, but that the pace of work was picking up again. Over the last few months:

- A Housing needs survey had been published and Locality funding has now been secured for AECOM to produce a housing needs assessment
- Locality funding was also secured for the community to work with AECOM to produce a Design Guide for the NP
- Other work on the plan has continued in relation to: community facilities and services; transport; and the natural environment
- Two surveys are going out with the November edition of the Haydon News, one for local businesses and the other for every household in the Parish. The focus of these is to get feedback on other areas that need to be developed for the plan
- The planning consultant supporting the Steering Group on developing the plan has undertaken a policy review and has now prepared a draft set of policies to further develop for the plan
- The Steering Group would start to meet again shortly

MI asked about progress in relation to sustainability, as the DT had discussed this at its last meeting and was interested in getting engaged in this element of the work. PF said that action would follow when the results of the household survey were produced. PF would come back to the DT on this.

**Action: PF to provide a written update on the NP to Directors, and to liaise with HS about updating the NP page of the website**

**20.19 Any other business (notified to the chair before the meeting)**

Will Rutherford had raised with the Chairman the state of the trees and overhanging tree branches at the Bridge, and the potential risk to guttering

**Action: WR & PF volunteered to prune the branches outside the library**

**20.10 Date of next meeting**

Date to be arranged but it will probably be in December 2020 or January 2021