

**MEETING OF HAYDON PARISH COUNCIL AT 7.30PM ON THE 19<sup>TH</sup> OF  
DECEMBER 2019 AT HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Present :** Cllrs E. Faulks (Chair), K. Richardson, A. Sharp, R. Snowdon and D. Thornhill; C. McGivern (mins.).

1. **Public participation** – none.
2. **Apologies** – were received from Cllrs J. Bates, I. Burrows, E. Charlton, B. Howard, J. Keyte, A. Kirsopp, and J. Thompson.
3. **Declarations of interest** – none were received.
4. **Minutes of previous meeting** – having been circulated, were agreed and signed.
5. **Report from Northumberland County Council** –

Cllr Sharp was pleased that the automatic doors had now been fitted at the Community Centre, the Community Association had received funding from him. The fingerpost had now been ordered and NCC had agreed to install it. A meeting had been held to discuss the best location for it and it had been agreed to position it on the circle on the paving in front of the hairdressers on the corner of Church Street. The Clerk will email Cllr Sharp when she has a delivery date. Cllr Sharp had also met with officers from NCC to discuss parking at Peelwell. This was slightly trickier than he had expected, due to a farm gate, so it would be limited to perhaps 3 parking places. NCC would be happy to do this and will provide a price for the work. A local resident had expressed concern about the proposal and Cllr Thornhill will find out what the concerns are. A wheelie bin had also been suggested for this location, as there is nowhere to dispose of dog poo until you get much further down North Bank. It was agreed that there is point installing the bin until a decision has been taken on whether to go ahead with the parking proposal. Work should start on traffic calming measures at the Showfield in the New Year. A drain outside the Co-op needs attention. When the road was resurfaced the road surface became higher than the drain and this needs to be sorted out. Resurfacing work and painting of white lines need to be carried out at the Elrington junction, where water is also running down the road. At a meeting with NCC Cllrs Sharp and Snowdon had noted that water was coming off a field and cascading down the road. This leads to ice on the section of road near Woodhall. Camera surveys have been done on drains at John Martin Street and Martins Close, but problems have still not been resolved. The Ratcliffe Road/Church Street plans have gone back to officers at NCC. Another meeting to discuss this was suggested for the New Year. Potholes to the west of the village, from Innerhaugh to Rattenraw have now been attended to. The proposed new street light between the Club and Showfield was discussed. It was felt that there was plenty of light now that the leaves are off the trees, and it may be that additional tree pruning was all that was needed in the spring. The road surface on the road between Hill House and

Standalone has partly been washed away. The road surface is also in an appalling state between Standalone and Woodbine Cottage.

**6. Highways –**

- a) It was noted that there were still quite a few holes in the lane behind the Community Centre, although overall it is much improved.
- b) After discussion it was thought that the trees at the library only needed some light pruning to keep them off the roof.

**7. Lighting –**

- a) Cllr Sharp asked whether all of the orange lights had now been replaced. Cllr Faulks asked if it was a policy decision to keep the heritage lights on Church Street the old orange lights. Cllr Sharp will ask about this.

**8. Planning applications – none were received.**

**9. Accounts – as in the budget.**

**10. Budget for 2020-21 & precept request-**

The budget for 2020-21 was approved and a precept request for £46,000 was signed by the Chair. It was agreed that money from a VAT refund for the year 2019-20 would partially offset expenses for year 2020-21. A request from Lifespan charity for grant funding will be discussed at the next meeting.

**11. Correspondence –**

- a) BT Openreach had approached both the Clerk and the Chair for permission to remove a diseased tree at the North-East corner of the cemetery, in order to restore the telephone lines in this area. Permission was given.

**12. Parish projects –**

- a) **Development Trust** – nothing to report.
- b) **Flood meeting** – Cllr Snowdon said that the last meeting which had brought together the EA, Lead Local Flood Authority and NWL in May 2019, parish Cllrs and flood wardens had been a very heated one. A fortnight later a drop-in session at the Community Centre had had a disappointing turnout. Since then the Haydon News has provided all households with a sheet explain what to do in a flood. He agreed with the Clerk that it would be a good idea to invite all concerned back to

meet with the PC and provide updates on progress since last May. Cllr Thornhill agreed that it was important for the PC to stay engaged with the other bodies.

- c) **Neighbourhood Plan** – Peter Fletcher and Carol Price had contacted the Clerk to say that it was now time to provide the planning consultant – Joanne Garrick – with a contract of employment. This was agreed.

### 13. Any other business –

- a) Cllr Richardson asked who was responsible for cleaning pavements on the estate. She said that the cut near the Community Centre was very muddy and it was difficult for older people to negotiate. Cllr Sharp said that he would raise this with Karbon Homes. Cllr Snowdon said that state of the verges at Greenwich Gardens were appalling.
- b) Cllr Faulks said that the PC had been due to receive saplings which they hoped to plant on Shaftoe Green. The idea was to improve the school children in this. However, Rural Property Services said that they would advise their clients against the idea. The saplings had been delivered to the wrong address, but Cllr Faulks had managed to retrieve them. To make up for this error a second batch of saplings had been sent out and both sets are currently held in on the Clerk's allotment. Cllr Faulks said that the PC would need to decide where to put them all. The idea of a small copse at the edge of Shaftoe Green was still being considered, but the PC would need to wait and see if permission was given for this. An area around the rugby pitch was also discussed. The High School would have to be approached for permission, and it was felt that they might engage with a green issue. Cllr Faulks asked everyone to consider possible locations for planting.
- c) Cllr Sharp said that he had been very sorry to hear of the passing of Vera Fletcher. The PC said that they wished to minute their sadness at this news, as Vera had always had the village at heart.