

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HAYDON PARISH COUNCIL AT 7.30PM ON THURSDAY 25th OF JULY 2019, AT HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE.

Present : Cllrs. I. Burrows, E. Charlton, E. Faulks, B. Howard, J. Keyte, A. Kirsopp, A. Sharp, R. Snowdon, and J. Thompson; members of the public and C. McGivern (mins.).

1. Public participation –

- a) Mr. S. Brown said that he was not opposed to the idea of a bus stop at Innerhaugh, but he protested that it could not stay where it was. He and his wife felt that they had lost all privacy in their home and garden. He suggested that the bus stop could be moved 40 m to the West. During a meeting to discuss traffic measures on Ratcliffe Road a request for this new bus stop had been made, and it had been added to the programme. Cllr Charlton said that on the Local Plan the “strawberry field” was earmarked for development and a bus stop slightly to the West would serve this location too. Another member of the public said that the bus stop was needed, but she agreed that the proposed location would be fine. Cllr Faulks said that the PC would take on board these views and ask NCC to move the bus stop.
- b) Mrs C. Price explained that the lunch club had just completed the second successful year. There will be a holiday in August. However a small number of volunteers will hold a kids lunch club 5 times over the summer. They have received a grant from the Shaftoe Trust to allow this to happen. Parents will need to attend with their children, but if this works it is hoped they can be held in the future too.
- c) A member of the public wondered why half of the village is 20 mph and half not. The PC explained that the rest of the village, apart from un-adopted lanes will also be 20 mph when the scheme is completed.
- d) Mr P. Fletcher said that installation of new benches and picnic tables was to start at the riverside in the next few days. Cllr Charlton explained that Co-op money had funded this work.
- e) Mrs C. Price said that the steering group had 3 documents for the PC to approve. Once this had been agreed, the group was ready to talk to a planning consultant to move forward. Mr Fletcher said that the group would need to liaise with the Clerk to apply for grant funding of around £9,000 from “Locality”. Cllrs said that they were very grateful to the steering group for taking the project on and the PC approved the draft documents. **MRS PRICE SAID THAT FROM SEPTEMBER ONWARDS THEY WOULD NEED MORE LOCAL RESIDENTS TO TAKE PART TO MOVE THE PROJECT FORWARD.**
- f) Cllr Charlton said that Mrs Price had also been organising planting projects around the village. Cllr Keyte had attended the Scouts AGM, and had suggested various activities that the Scouts might carry out. He said that the Scouts leaders felt that the young people would be more interested in getting involved in events like the Haydon Hundred, acting as marshals. Mrs Price wondered if they might help deliver the Neighbourhood Plan around the parish. Cllr Charlton said that she had recently been reminded that Haydon

Bridge had once won “Best Kept Village”. At this time everyone in the village had put out planters. Once again there had been a wonderful response as people had seen the initial clusters of planted wellies, and joined in.

- g) Mr Fletcher said that he had spoken to two local groups to encourage them to make applications to the Community Chest.

2. Apologies – were received from Cllrs K. Richardson and D. Thornhill.

3. Declarations of interest – none were received.

4. Minutes of previous meeting – having been circulated, were agreed and signed.

5. Highways –

- a) A request for three transport priorities was received from NCC and passed to Cllr Charlton.
- b) Cllr Thompson reported two signs that were obscured by branches. These were the picnic area sign, and one near the entrance to Martin’s Close. The Clerk will report the one at Martin’s Close, and branches at the picnic area will be cut back to allow the sign to be seen.
- c) The issue of noise created by the new road surface on the bypass were discussed. Cllr Kirsopp said that there were similar problems at Bardon Mill. Cllr Snowdon said that he would take this forward. There are two road surfaces. One which is skid resistant, which is the rougher surface that has been installed; and a smoother/quieter surface. The smoother surface has recently been installed on a nearby slope. Cllr Charlton said that Roadlink had a 30 year contract, running until 2036. She presumed that the new road surface would last until the end of the contract, and it would then fall to NCC to install new surfacing. Cllr Keyte said that Roadlink would have a duty to keep the road safe. However, he wondered if the rougher surface would damage tyres and therefore release more plastic particles. A site meeting with representatives of Roadlink will be requested.

6. Lighting –

- a) Cllr Charlton said that there was a light out at 27 Greenwich Gardens. The Clerk will report this to NCC.
- b) Cllr Thornhill had left a message to say that NCC are willing to retrieve the floodlights from the old bridge, but there would be a charge for this.

7. Report from Northumberland County Council –

Cllr Sharp said that he had spoken to Neil Snowdon and the 20mph scheme had been passed to the area office and work should begin in the next month. Regarding Ratcliffe Road and

Church Street that the topographical and safety surveys are now in and there are no major issues. Hopefully this work can be finalised soon.

The Community Centre had been given £2000 from the Community Chest and another £3000 from Cllr Sharp. They also have some other funding bids in and will be able to have the new doors installed.

Tim Fish had said that he was happy to meet with Cllr Sharp and a couple of parish Cllrs to discuss the Spa Well footpath. Cllr Sharp will use money from his Member's Allowance to allow repair work at Whittis Crescent to be carried out.

Branches that had been piled up in the cemetery behind Alexandra Tce have now been removed, and the gate will be replaced.

Cllr Sharp has now got the necessary exemption for funding for the fingerpost for the village. Estimates need to be provided to NCC. Cllr Sharp also hopes to find someone to put down road planings to repair the road behind the Community Centre. Drains have been cleared on John Martin Street, but a camera survey is needed as problems keep recurring.

8. Planning applications –

19/02377/VARYCO - Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) pursuant to planning permission 17/04221/FUL in order to reflect the works carried out on site to the ground and first-floor construction and internal wall,. High Staward Farm, Langley- NO OBJECTIONS.

19/01899/FUL - Land South East Of Hedgley North Bank Haydon Bridge Northumberland - The Parish Council OBJECTS to this application - as further clarification is needed on the materials to be used, and the treatment of surface water and sewerage from the site. There are existing problems with surface water from above the site travelling down the dene toward the sports hall and toward Belmont. It is understood that there is a water holding facility at the sports hall, but this is not thought to be sufficient. Therefore the Parish Council has concerns about this problem being exacerbated. The Parish Council would like to see the management strategy for water run off as the development is in an area which, although it does not flood, contributes to an area that does. By the erection of a building and the provision of a drive way, the surface area available to absorb water will be reduced.

9. Accounts – as in budget.

10. Correspondence –

- a) Details of upcoming maintenance work on the “new bridge” in the centre of Haydon Bridge were received from NCC.

11. Parish projects –

- a) **Development Trust** – The DT is busy with ongoing work at the picnic area. Cllr Faulks said that they expected to the surface of the new signs sealed and the lettering and bridges painted to make them more visible.
- b) **Cemetery** – Cllr Charlton distributed plans from Mr MacDonald for work to improve the North end of the cemetery. Plans to have an area for ashes at this side of the cemetery have been discussed since 2006. There is one grave in this area, but the depth had been checked nearby and found to be not deep enough for normal burials. Cllr Kirsopp agreed that at present the area looked very messy. Funds have already been set aside for this work. Cllr Charlton explained that the plan was to put in half-size plots for urns, probably a square metre per plot. Working from existing fees for an ashes plot and headstone, Cllr Charlton had worked out that when full the proposed area would have brought in £33,000. The work was agreed. It was noted that Mr Batey, who is tending the cemetery, had filled in some graves that have sunk to protect his grass cutting equipment. In the past people have been asked to look after their own graves. It was agreed that this should be discussed at the budget meeting in November when next year's expenditure and precept request are set.
- c) **Trees for schools** – Cllr Kirsopp said that the Head of the Shaftoe Academy was delighted that the PC was getting one of the tree packs. Mr Robson had been in touch to confirm that these will be mixed trees and it was not possible to ask for specific trees. It was hoped that the school children could be involved in planting the trees. Cllr Charlton said that perhaps some trees could be planted at Rattenraw to provide more tree coverage.
- d) **Dog fouling** – Cllr Kirsopp had been approached by the governors of Shaftoe Academy to ask if anything more could be done about dog fouling on the school field. Cllr Charlton said that there was a public footpath around the edge of the field and down the steps into the village. Cllr Kirsopp wondered about having the sports area fenced, Cllr Sharp will ask about this. Dispensers for bags have been created and installed.
- e) **Shaftoe Green** - Cllr Keyte said that there had been a discussion about whether cut edges of timbers for edging needed to be treated. Geoff Jackson had suggested using Larch as this would be more resistant to water damage. It was agreed that the steps would be done by Richard Hines, and the edging by Jack Romney.
- f) **Patient Group** – Cllr Thornhill has spoken to Mrs Fletcher and agreed to attend the next meeting of the patient group.
- g) **Recycling** – Cllr Keyte said that he was waiting for a response from NCC on a couple of points that he had raised. He wondered if other Cllrs had questions, if so he would compile a list for sending to NCC.
- h) **North Bank** – Cllr Burrows said that compacted leaves were still lying on the path near the High School.
- i) **Hedge near Sunningdale** – Cllr Kirsopp said that the hedge had not yet been cut. Cllr Sharp confirmed that this work would be done.
- j) **20 mph at Showfield** – Cllr Kirsopp wondered if residents could put up “Children playing” sign in the hope that drivers would slow down. Cllr Sharp said that this could only be put up on private land.

