

**MEETING OF HAYDON PARISH COUNCIL ON THE 22nd OF JULY 2021, AT
HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE.**

Present : Cllrs J. Bates, I. Burrows, E. Charlton, E. Faulks (Chair), B. Howard, A. Kirsopp, K. Richardson, Sharp, and D. Thornhill; C. McGivern (mins.).

- 1. Public participation** – none.
- 2. Apologies** – were received from Cllrs J. Keyte, R. Snowdon and J. Thompson.
- 3. Declarations of interest** – none were received.
- 4. Minutes of previous meeting** – having been circulated were approved and signed.
- 5. Report from Northumberland County Council** –

The surface dressing works have been carried out on the road at the west and east ends of the village and the road markings would be completed in the next couple of days.

The work on the road to Threepwood will be carried out in the first week in September.

The road surface dressing on the road beside the cemetery will be being done during the last week in August.

There are some further road works still required going up to Lipwood; and on the road to the west of the bridge at Standalone Cottage, this work is in the programme to be done.

The road to West Rattenraw is also still due to be done and hopefully further works will be carried out shortly.

The damaged iron fence opposite the Show Field will be repaired during the next few weeks, Cllr Sharp would like this done before the children go back to school.

The drain on Church Street which has been a problem for some time, is also going to get sorted out. NCC are going to do a camera survey on the drain.

Richard Snowdon and Cllr Sharp met with NCC regarding the safety of the road from the junction on the A69 at Haydon Bridge to the top of the hill on the road to Lowgate and Cllr Sharp will contribute £2,000 from his Members Small Scheme Allowance towards a feasibility study. This will look at providing improved signage and road markings on the road, as traffic is travelling too fast on this section of road.

NCC has agreed to the request to install a wooden bench on the land opposite the Co-op.

Cllr Sharp said he would be meeting with Karbon Homes in the next week, to discuss the play area at Greenwich Gardens. Cllr Charlton said that older children were playing on equipment meant for younger children, who would get hurt. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Karbon Homes.

6. Highways –

- a) Cllr Howard said that the gullies in the pavement which have metal covers need to be cleaned out. Water from the rooves cannot flow into them and pools on the pavement instead where it can freeze and cause a hazard. The Clerk and Cllr Sharp will raise this with NCC.
- b) Cllr Richardson asked if the road sweeper could be asked to come out to the estate.
- c) Cllr Bates asked if potholes could be dealt with on the road down to West Deanraw.
- d) Cllr Richardson said there was a large hole in the road surface near the junction of Foundry Yard and Church Street.
- e) Cllr Kirsopp reported that the road from Castle Farm needs attention.

7. Lighting – nothing to report.

8. Planning applications –

21/02646/FUL – Ground floor side extension across the front of the existing attached garage. Dormer windows to front and rear above side extension at Innerhaugh House – NO OBJECTIONS.

9. Accounts – as in budget.

10. Internal audit – The internal audit was completed by Adrian Miller on the 29th of June. He found no issues to report and the Annual Governance Return and associated documents have now been sent to the external auditors, PKF Littlejohn.

11. Correspondence –

- a) Billie-Jo Blackett had emailed to ask for an update on the replacement fencing required for a green area behind the Community Centre. Cllr Sharp said that he would be meeting with Karbon Homes in the next week and this would be one of the issues to be discussed.
- b) The Clerk of Allendale Parish Council had emailed to say that they share the PC's concern regarding Staward Bridge and request an update on the matter. This had been provided.
- c) Christopher Armstrong had emailed to say that he and his partner hope to create a café in Oddfellows' Hall. He was anxious to get damp/drainage issues addressed before the refit and wondered if the PC could assist. Cllr Sharp will look into this.
- d) Karbon Homes had replied to an email requesting the replacement of play equipment at Langley Gardens, saying that a survey of residents had been carried out and they would be in touch again once they had the results.

12. Parish projects -

- a) **The Bridge** – Cllr Charlton said that the volunteers were receiving training. After problems with the security system they had now moved to Safe and Secure, who are based in Station Yard and were very friendly and helpful. NCC are putting new printers into all of the libraries. Although everyone is keen to get started there aren't enough volunteers yet to do so. Some existing volunteers have other commitments at present, however, two new volunteers had come forward in the last week. Cllr Howard asked if the problem of water flowing toward the library from an inspection cover had been sorted out. Cllr Charlton said that a lady had been out to look at the problem, but of course it has dried up at present, and she had said to get in touch if it happens again.
- b) **Northumbria Integrated Drainage Partnership study** – The Clerk said that she was still chasing up a promised meeting with Northumbrian Water to discuss the results of their drainage study and to hear the proposed actions arising from it. A meeting had been promised in July, but had not materialised.
- c) **Cemetery** – A request to raise the canopy of one of the lime trees at the entrance to the cemetery was discussed. It was agreed that the PC preferred the tree as it is, and do not want it to be pruned.
- d) **Neighbourhood Plan** – Peter Fletcher had confirmed the consultation dates for the plan are 2 August to 27 September 2021. He had asked PC members to confirm that they will attend the consultation day as ambassadors for the plan. Cllrs Charlton, Faulks, Keyte, Kirsopp, Richardson, Snowdon and Thornhill confirmed they would be attending. Cllr Faulks said that they wanted as many children as possible to attend and there would be children's events outdoors with the playgroup and the Scouts taking part. Cllr Charlton said that they hoped to get people to join groups to adopt local flower beds, walks etc.

13. Any other business –

- a) Cllr Charlton said that NCC had requested the PC's top 3 highways priorities for the next year. She suggested that the current top 2 priorities remain the same –
 - i) A slip-road at the Alston junction of the A69
 - ii) A cycle route from Haydon Bridge to Hexham

And she asked Cllrs to consider what the 3rd priority should be.

- b) Cllr Charlton said that a number of people had told her that the ticket machines were out of action at the station. The Clerk said that the guards were aware of this and were selling tickets on the train. Northern Rail is aware of the issue.
- c) Cllr Thornhill said that Vanessa Reid at Murray Farm Care had been talking to other shop keepers in the village and was considering whether a shop local scheme could be set up. The PC supports this idea and asked that she let them know if there is anything practical the PC can do to help. They will have a table at the Neighbourhood Plan consultation event. Cllr Faulks said that the Co-op had just undergone a £685,000 refit. He presumed that this meant they would be in the village for some time to come.

- d) Cllr Thornhill had recently visited the cemetery and counted the number of warning signs on graves where memorials need attention. Some of the markers seemed to be missing. The Clerk said she was aware of a few where work was planned to repair memorials. Cllr Thornhill said that at churchyards they considered whether it was practical to report issues to the family concerned, whether the churchyard was listed in which case the repair might come out of parish costs, and finally a memorial might be laid flat on the ground to remove any risk. Cllr Charlton said that she knew $\frac{3}{4}$ of the families affected. In some cases there were no family members left alive to provide for the upkeep of the grave.
- e) Cllr Howard noted that the flashing speed sign was still saying 30mph. Cllr Sharp replied that this had been discussed at NCC in the last week.
- f) The PC had recently been contacted by Natural Ability, a charity which provides opportunities for people with learning disabilities to be included as valuable members of the community by carrying out services like gardening. Cllr Kirsopp wondered if they could be approached to care for flower beds in the village. Cllr Howard said that as the bed had been left over lockdown, would it be better to start again and perhaps sow a wildflower meadow on the "rose bed" opposite the Community Centre. This would be good for the environment and low maintenance. Cllr Charlton said she would like to talk to Carole Price and see what her plans were, as she had been involved in the planting of plants supplied by a Co-op grant.
- g) Cllr Kirsopp said that the cemetery behind Alexandra Terrace needed mowing. This will be reported to NCC.
- h) At the Showfield play area Cllr Keyte is arranging for repairs to the fence, including the installation of a gate to allow children access through.
- i) Cllr Faulks had met with Tula to discuss the suggestion of moving ironwork around the play area to funnel children away from the road. She has been asked to get a quote for the PC to consider.