

**MEETING OF HAYDON PARISH COUNCIL AT 7PM ON 22ND OF JUNE 2017 AT
HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE.**

Present : Cllrs. I. Burrows, E. Charlton, E. Faulks (Chair), K. Richardson, D. Robson, A. Sharp, R. Snowdon, J. and L. Thompson and D. Thornhill; press and public; C. McGivern (mins.).

1. The Chair welcomed Kelly Richardson to the Parish Council.

2. Public participation –

- a) Cllr Faulks explained that Simon Walker had reset the church clock to the correct time. A volunteer is needed to take over these duties.
- b) Mrs K. Davison and Mrs G. Gilholme explained that they had claimed Flood Resilience grants from NCC. With the grants they had paid for work by a firm called Crocodile Flood Solutions. This firm had been chosen because it was the only one to be mentioned on the webpages providing information about the grant. In addition Alex Fraser had said that while they could not recommend them, they had used their products in the past. Residents felt that this conferred the impression of reliability to this firm. Three households had purchased flood doors from CFS, which had since proved to be faulty. Mrs Davison had since spoken to the manufacturers of the doors, who confirmed that they were no longer willing to deal with CFS, as their installation of the doors, and replacement of parts since installation, had rendered them useless as flood doors and this invalidated the 10 year warranty. Mrs Davison and Mrs Gilholme were now seeking help from NCC with claiming refunds from CFS. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to NCC in support of all three households who had been affected.
- c) Mrs Brown asked for overhanging branches on Church Street to be cut back.

3. Apologies – were received from Cllr Fletcher.

4. Declarations of interest – Cllr. K. Richardson declared an interest in a highways point about parking in front of Claire's shop; Cllr. E. Faulks declared an interest in the planning application at Chesterwood.

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

6. Report from Northumberland County Council –

Cllr Sharp explained that the new Area Committees will meet once a month. The problem of parked caravans at Willow Gap is still being pursued. Highways issues to be tackled are weeds on Ratcliffe Road, potholes on Threepwood road and work at Elrington junction. Everyone agreed that the area in front of the fire station is now a disgrace. This was previously cut by the firemen themselves. Work on the road from West Mill Hills to East Haydon will be carried out in the new two weeks. A sign

warning that the road is not suitable for heavy vehicles will be installed on the Plunderheath road. Cllr Sharp had pursued the issue of Spa Well with Tim Fish and progress is being made. They had also discussed the riverside path from the Old Bridge toward Brigwood. This work should be completed soon. With regard to the bin requested at the Showfield, a resident had said that they would prefer this to be on the path outside the estate. Cllr Charlton had looked at this area. The problem has been caused by the developers leaving a piece of ground between the wall and the garden fence. There is also a problem with a manhole at the Showfield that Cllr Sharp is trying to resolve. Parking on the yellow lines at the end of the old bridge was discussed again. Cllr Sharp is trying to get the bollards replaced. Cllr Robson wondered whether it would be possible to have a layby in front of the Co-op as the pavement is quite wide at that point. Cllr Charlton said that sales at the Co-op are down due to parking problems. Some people are shopping in Hexham instead. Cllr Faulks said that the Chair of Bardon Mill Parish Council had received nine letters of complaint about this issue. Outlying farms come to Haydon Bridge to do their shopping, and they cannot park on Church Street. Cllr Thornhill asked whether it would be better to have marked bays on Ratcliffe Road to make better use of this space, as the PC want to encourage businesses in the village. It was felt that double yellow lines were not needed from the Co-op to the entrance of Hordley Acres. Cllr Richardson expressed concern that drivers had clear lines of sight when emerging from Church Street onto Ratcliffe Road. Cllr Sharp will ask an engineer to come to visit the site. Cllr Charlton said that the grass is not being cut at the riverside picnic area. NCC had cut this area in the past but now refused to do so, although they have cut the grass at the old cemetery.

7. Highways –

- a) A complaint had been received from Katharine Styles regarding two delivery vans in front of Claire's shop. They had blocked the road completely. It was felt that this was a rare occurrence and the delay would not have been for long. Cllr Snowdon had looked at the parking of delivery vehicles at 6.45am and found this did not normally happen. The deliveries are needed for businesses in the village and businesses try to schedule them first thing in the morning.
- b) It was noted that the bin by the Anchor car park would be emptied. The metal inner is missing. The Clerk will seek a price for replacing this.
- c) NCC had to an email about parking at the end of the old bridge to say that no tickets had been issued, as people were allowed to stop on yellow lines to load/unload. Cllr Thornhill suggested that there should be a sign stating at which time the restriction applies.

8. Lighting –

- a) It was noted that the scheme to replace street lighting is behind schedule.
- b) A street light at Greenwich Gardens is still going off and on, but it won't be replaced until the new scheme goes ahead.

9. Planning applications –

17/01820/VARYCO Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) pursuant to planning permission 16/01330/FUL in order to substitute the construction management plan.

Land west of the Showfield, Haydon Bridge – no objections.

17/01849/LBC Internal alterations to first floor and new roof light to north elevation at Harsondale Farm – no objections.

17/01848/LBC Internal alterations to ground floor at Harsondale Farm – no objections.

17/01798/COU Change of use from agricultural building to holiday let at Chesterwood Villa – no objections.

17/01856/FUL Proposal for new single dwelling house to replace existing planning permission (15/03886/FUL) Land east of Maresfield, North Bank – no objections.

10. Accounts – as in budget.

11. Correspondence –

- a) David English (NCC) had been in touch to ask whether the PC wished to proceed with a Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Faulks said that Peter Fletcher would be happy to advise, and Cllrs D. Thornhill and J. Thompson said they would be happy to be involved. It was agreed that volunteers for a committee to take this forward would be sought. The Clerk will reply to David English to inform him of this.
- b) Ray Harvard had contacted the Parish Council to offer to replace the plastic planters either side of the seat in front of the library. This offer had been gratefully accepted.
- c) Tim Fish had replied to a request for a step to get over the flood wall at Brigwood saying that this was up to the EA.
- d) Haydon Bridge and Allen Valleys Medical Centre had responded to concerns about the waiting times for appointments, saying that this was not due to the merger with the Allendale surgery, but to the cuts to central funding of the NHS.
- e) Cllr J. Thompson brought a letter to the meeting which had been put through her letterbox. This complained of noise outside the pub in the evening and bad parking on Ratcliffe Road. It was decided that there was nothing the PC could do about this.
- f) A footpath diversion order was received from NCC.

12. Parish projects –

- a) **Bridge/Development Trust** – The Haydon Hundred had not been as successful as last year. This was due to bad weather and because other cycle races had been held on the same day. Despite this, around £2,500 had been raised. Northumberland Day had been a big success. Many people had come to ask about the library and had since visited. Walks leaflets and books had been sold.

- b) **Flooding** – Cllr Robson said that Thompsons would begin work on gravel removal from the river on the 26th of June. There had been no news about the removal of trees at Lipwood to allow the gravel there to move, and Cllr Robson will chase this up. Funding is in place for this work.
- c) **Lions Centennial grant** – Tim Fish had suggested that the necessary path repairs will be carried out by NCC shortly. Cllr Thornhill said that a public footpath sign was needed. The Clerk will request this. It was agreed that a quotation would be requested for an interpretive sign for the riverside picnic area to describe wildlife in the area. The Clerk will also contact Bill Lally to seek his permission for strimming and tree pruning to improve the riverside footpath which begins next to no.1 Ratcliffe Road. It was felt that a stone could be placed next to the flood wall at the Brigwood end to allow people to climb over. Cllr J. Thompson will talk to the nearest residents.
- d) **Cemetery** – A contractor had been out to look at moving a path at the cemetery to allow another row of graves to one side. Mr Doody is happy to do this work for free, but another contractor will be needed to tarmac the new surface.
- e) **Car park at rear of Community Centre** – The PC received more information on what would be required to take this project forward from Brian Bell.

13. Any other business –

- a) Fire Station – The Leader of NCC had replied to say that he would consider the PC's request to re-open the station. He will discuss it with Officers before responding.
- b) Northumberland Day – Cllr J. Thompson said that the Get it Together Society had held a debrief following Northumberland Day. They had £47 that had been made on the day, after costs. The PC agreed that they should hold onto this and that they would make it up to £100 as a pot to begin work for next year.
- c) Haydon News – Dr Ford said that he would continue as Editor until the end of the year, but then a new volunteer would be needed.
- d) Sill Visitor Centre – The Sill opens on the 29th of July. Cllr Sharp said that the PC would be invited to a sneak preview.
- e) Art exhibition – Cllr Charlton said that Parish Cllrs were also invited to a preview of this event from 5-7 pm on the 24th June.