

ZOOM MEETING OF HAYDON PARISH COUNCIL ON THURSDAY

25th MARCH 2021.

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

- 1. Apologies were received from** – Cllrs Burrows and Keyte.
- 2. Declarations of interest** – none were received.
- 3. Minutes of previous meeting** – having been circulated were agreed and signed.
- 4. Report from Northumberland County Council** –

Road markings at Elrington junction have now been done and the work is complete. With regards to the work on the Ratcliffe Road/Church Street scheme, Cllr Sharp said that permission has now been received from Network Rail regarding the three way traffic control lights. Cllr Sharp was pleased that NCC had provided an apology to both the Parish Council and himself for not obtaining the necessary permissions from Network Rail earlier. NCC will be re-commencing the work on Monday 29 March 2021 and the traffic lights will be being installed then too. The traffic lights will be removed for the Easter weekend as this should be beneficial to the residents. It is expected that all of the work will be completed by the end of April.

Cllr Sharp said that he would like to thank the residents of Haydon Bridge for their patience and understanding in this matter and the work should now be completed very soon.

The potholes have been attended to on the road from Standalone down to the A69 and ditching work down the side of the road has also been done. The County Council are going to do further ditching works on the road to Whinnetly and to the Haresby Road. The drainage work at West Rattenraw has been completed.

The road to Threepwood will be attended to in April when new funding is in place.

Litter picking on the A686 road was completed at the end of February.

Cllr Sharp has agreed to contribute from his Member's Allowance Scheme towards the purchase of a new grass cutting machine for Haydon Bridge Cricket Club.

Both the Parish Council and Cllr Sharp had been in touch with NCC to request that the proposed cycleway from Haydon Bridge to Hexham alongside the A69 be put forward in the Local Transport Plan as a priority. Cllr Sharp supports the scheme and said he would be willing to provide some financial assistance from his Member's Allowance Scheme.

NCC have been asked if they will take over the responsibility of the maintenance of Staward station bridge in the future. NCC are going to write to Highways England to ask them about the financial contribution that they are prepared to make to them for taking over the bridge and until this information is known they cannot progress the matter.

The Planning Dept gave permission for permitted development at this site but as there is now some doubt about how urgent work is Cllr Sharp has asked the planning department to look into this matter further. He will provide a further update as soon as he receives a reply from the Director of Planning.

Cllr Sharp had also spoken to Karbon Homes about the play area at Langley Gardens and they have sent a further letter to the Parish Council which confirms that they no obligation to take on the ownership and responsibility for maintaining the park. The maintenance and the replacing of any equipment will be the responsibility of Karbon Homes. It would be a good idea to have a meeting with them to discuss the improvement of the park.

Cllr Sharp is also talking to Karbon Homes about installing tree seats around the trees in Strother's Close, and they have also agreed to replace the fence around the rear of the Community Centre.

The new grit bin at the bottom of Shaftoe School bank, just outside the Club, has now been installed.

5. Highways –

- a) A contact at Northern Rail had been in touch with Network Rail and said that “since the underpass [on Station Road] is a public footpath this does not fall within Network Rail remit/responsibility as it not within their lease area.” The Clerk had then taken the issue up again with the Footpaths Officer at NCC and he has confirmed that this will be put into their scheme of work for 2021-22.
- b) The Clerk had contacted Network Rail regarding water in the station car park, and they had replied saying that this was Northern Rail's responsibility. Cllr Sharp is going to provide a named contact at Northern.
- c) A member of the public had written to raise concerns about Temple Houses lane being used as a cycle track. It was agreed that the Parish Council does not have powers to deal with this. It would be a Police matter to enforce laws regarding cycling on paths.
- d) A member of the public had written to say that rubbish had been dumped on the green behind Community Centre and that the adjacent lane was being used as a cycle track. The Parish Council said that they have been trying to find a use for this piece of land for some time, and they continue to do so. Cllr Sharp has been in contact with Karbon Homes about replacing the fence around this area.

6. Lighting – nothing to report.

7. Planning applications –

21/00725/FUL - Extension to front of Bothy Cottage, North Bank – no objections.

21/00713/FUL -Construction of ground floor side extension across the front of the existing attached garage and dormer extension to existing house front and rear, above attached garage at Innerhaugh House – no objections.

21/00172/FUL – Single storey extension to the side of Derwent Cottage – no objections.

21/00905/FUL – **Proposed conservatory to front of Holmlea, Alexandra Tce** – no objections.

8. Accounts – as in budget.

9. Correspondence –

- a) Siobhan Stephenson had written, on behalf of the DT, to request that the PC support the Local Electricity Bill. It was agreed that the PC would support this.
- b) A request was received from Ciaran Doherty for facilities for older children, perhaps a skate park. It was agreed that the PC supported the need for a skate park, however a suitable location was needed. Suggestions for suitable sites would be welcomed.
- c) A reply was received from Karbon Homes re the request last year to erect seats under the trees on Strother Close. They said “Unfortunately, Karbon Homes are unable to provide permission for structures to be erected upon communal land. On this occasion the request to erect a seating area has been declined.” Cllr Sharp has taken this matter up at a higher level.

10. Parish projects –

- a) The Bridge – Cllr Charlton said that the library would remain closed until the volunteers had received both doses of the vaccine. They would then look at phased reopening. The Haydon Hundred cycle race will go ahead on the 12th of June, probably with staggered starts to allow social distancing. Cllr Faulks said that over 100 entries had already been received which would allow it to go ahead with a small profit. Profits from the event help fund the running of the library.

11. Any other business –

- a) Cllr Thompson asked if the PC wanted to have hanging baskets again this year. This was agreed. Cllr Charlton asked for pots to be planted instead for the library to make watering easier. She will provide the pots for planting up. Cllr Kirsopp asked who had organised the planted wellies in previous years as these had really cheered the village up. Cllr Richardson it had been started by the Shaftoe School and everyone had been responsible for their own display. Cllr Charlton suggested a competition with prizes for the best displays.
- b) Cllr Howard had taken a look at the dog bin on the way to the Showfield and said that it needed to be removed. The Clerk said that a bin was also needed on North

Bank at the Peelwell turning. It was agreed that the Clerk would get prices for removing the dog bin and installing a wheelie bin at Peelwell.

- c) Cllr Faulks said that Peter Fletcher had been in touch to say that the Neighbourhood Plan is now in draft form. It will go to NCC so that their experts can look at it first, then hopefully it will come to the PC at the June meeting. At that point the PC will need to take responsibility for actions that arise from the document. Cllr Charlton said that at this stage there will be a public consultation to let people scrutinise it.