

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HAYDON PARISH COUNCIL AT 7.30PM ON THE
23rd OF MAY 2024, AT HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE.**

Present : Cllrs E. Faulks (Chair), F. Fuller, B. Howard, A. Kirsopp, K. Richardson, D. Robson, A. Sharp, T. Simmonds, A. Suddes and D. Thornhill; C. McGivern (mins.); and members of the public.

1. Public participation –

- a) Stephanie Calf, (Constable Neighbourhood Policing), said that the Police had only received 2 reports of anti-social behaviour in the last 8 weeks. Their Licensing official had made a few visits to the Anchor Hotel and had made some changes. Signage should be going up shortly in relation to a 9.30pm curfew on drinking outside. She explained that the American style food van is a County Council issue rather than Police. She said that the Police needed intelligence from the public. There has been talk of serving under-age customers, outfits worn and drugs. The Police have not found evidence of this. Members of the public can report concerns anonymously via Crimestoppers. If someone wishes to make a report and does not mind their name being attached then they can call 101. If an urgent response is needed call 999. Cllr Sharp said he had met with Inspector Kate Benson. The issue of cars doing wheelies in the car park in the early hours were discussed. A member of the public also raised concerns over anti-social behaviour behind the Community Centre. Steph Calf said that they had been to a school assembly to talk to the kids and she hoped to do patrols, identifying kids involved and talk to their parents. Speeding on Shaftoe Street and the Showfield were also discussed, as well as broken glass at play areas. Cllr Sharp asked if the Police could do more regular patrols as a presence would help. SC said she hadn't had an answer to this request yet, and repeated that the main message she wanted to get across was that issues need to be reported as this helps to build a bigger picture. A member of the public requested the licensed hours of the Anchor and this information will be sent to the Clerk. SC said that she would be happy to attend PC meetings when she was able and the Chair said that the PC was grateful for this.
- b) Lee Southren said that he had ordered materials to fill the potholes in the lane behind the Community Centre. Cllr Sharp gave him a donation toward the cost of this.
- c) A member of the public asked about a flashing speed sign on John Martin Street/Shaftoe Street. He said that there had been no monitoring of the 20mph speed limit to see if it had been effective. The Chair suggested that the only way to slow traffic would be to have large speed humps. Cllr Thornhill suggested that the first thing to do was to ask for speed monitoring and then see what traffic calming measures were recommended.

2. **Apologies** – were received from Cllrs J. Keyte and J. Thompson.

3. **Declarations of interest** – none were received.

4. **Minutes of previous meeting** – having been circulated were agreed and signed with the following amendments –

Apologies had been received from Cllr Fuller. Cllr Robson had been aware of the location of a pipe at Brigwood, but not the manhole.

5. Report from Northumberland County Council -

Cllr Sharp had met with Andy Olive from NCC and looked at all of the issues in Haydon Bridge which had been reported to him. The re-surfacing of the road from Innerhaugh to Hordley Acres is programmed to be done August/September 2024. They inspected the problems with drains at Lipwood, the potholes around Standalone and the drainage issues around Peelwell and the houses below. The drains on Church Street and the dropped kerbs which were mentioned by a local resident at our previous meeting were also discussed.

The requests at New Alston were discussed and NCC has no problems with wheelie bins being installed at each end of the road, or a new bench being installed close to the start of the Green Lane. However, this land is not owned by NCC.

Cllr Sharp had been in contact with David Hunt to discuss issues as follows –

- Regarding litter on the A686 Mr Hunt said “We'll carry out the necessary operations when resources allow, the road from the top of the cemetery road up to the turn for Langley looks reasonable at the moment but the bottom end nearer the A69 could do with some attention.”
- Cllr Sharp had requested that the litter bins be emptied more regularly as there has been a lot of litter in the two car parks beside East Wharmley Farm and Mr Hunt said “We've been having some mechanical issues with our caged pick up with bin lifts over the last month or so, we've had to make some ad hoc arrangements while we deal with these breakdowns which perhaps haven't been as effective as the normal service, once we have our vehicles serviceable again I would expect this issue to be resolved.”
- Similarly, the litter bin just below the entrance to Threepwood had not been emptied and there is litter all over the car park which urgently needed to be tidied up. This has now been sorted out.
- Signs at the A69/A686 junction at Haydon Bridge were covered in graffiti as well as another sign nearby. Mr Hunt said he would discuss this with a colleague and then confirm action to be taken.

Northern Rail had replied to Cllr Sharp regarding the implementation of parking charges at Haydon Bridge station, and they are going to proceed with the charges despite objections from Cllr Sharp and the PC. This will commence on the 28th of May.

Cllr Sharp has still not received the results of the traffic survey regarding the Traffic Calming Scheme around Shaftoe Academy.

The Langley brickworks planning application has been refused due to the objection of the Public Protection team.

The planning application regarding the conversion of the agricultural barn to a dwelling on land west of High Meadows has been refused.

The Strategic Property Asset Management have agreed that in principle they will proceed with the Hadrian Learning Trust's proposal for use of Haydon Lodge instead of selling the property,

this is subject to finalising the arrangements with our education team which is taking place over the next couple of weeks.

Cllr Sharp had not yet had a reply from Tim Fish regarding the Haydon Spa footpath.

Cllr Sharp said that signs for the Haydon Bridge Festival had been removed at the request of NCC. After discussing the matter further with NCC agreed for the signs could be re-erected for this year's event. Planning permission may be required for the signs for the festival in the future.

6. Highways –

- a) The Clerk had reported problems with ditches between the road and property boundary walls at Heugh House Lane to NCC. Steve Ford had confirmed that this problem has not been resolved.
- b) Cllr Kirsopp said that there was water coming out of the black gate at Shaftoe Academy and onto the road. The Clerk will contact Shaftoe Academy.

7. Lighting –

- a) The Clerk had reported a faulty light on the old bridge, it was unclear whether this had been sorted out.

8. Planning applications –

24/01553/FUL Erection of one steel portal frame building for the purpose of agriculture at Lipwood Well Farm – NO OBJECTIONS.

9. Accounts – as in budget.

Forms to make the Clerk the Corporate Administrator for the purposes of digital banking were approved and signed.

10. Correspondence –

- a) The EA have replied to a letter serving notice that the PC were applying for a right of way outlining the reasons why they did not want to install a stile over the flood defence. Cllr Robson said that Ida Burrows had confirmed that there had been discussion of a stile at a past meeting with the EA. More witness statements for the right of way application have been received.
- b) An email from Jacobs requested comments regarding work they intended to carry out on behalf of National Highways to a former railway bridge between Langley and Bearsbridge. It was agreed that the PC would request that work to remove vegetation should be carried out outside the nesting season.
- c) An email from Guy Opperman's office raised the issue of dog fouling at Belmont. While the PC were sympathetic there is a bin nearby and it was felt there was not much more that could be done.

11. Parish projects –

- a) **Development Trust** – Cllr Faulks said that the Haydon Hundred would take place on the 8th June, the same day as the Festival. The normal number of pre-event day entries had been received. Many entrants now wait to see what the weather will do. The gardening group had made £281 from their plant stall. It was also noted how nice the new planting at the station looks.
- b) **Northumberland Day** – Karbon Homes had been asked to cut the grass for this event, which had been difficult in the wet conditions. Cllr Sharp will check whether the organisers have received sufficient funding.
- c) **Play equipment repairs at Shaftoe Green** – Repair work had been ordered following damage to the lookout tower, however when an engineer from Playdale had visited the site he had realised that further work was required. An order has been placed to complete all of the repairs.
- d) Cllr Suddes said that the Tyne Rivers Trust were planning to carry out some balsalm bashing with the Beavers. They sought approval from the PC which was given.

12. Any other business -

- a) Cllr Robson said that following the recent high river two tree trunks were wedged against the bridge. He will contact the EA to request that they are removed.