

**MINUTES OF A ZOOM MEETING OF HAYDON PARISH COUNCIL
AT 7.30PM ON THE 24th OF SEPTEMBER 2020.**

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

1. Public participation –

Peter Fletcher had contacted the PC to say that the government has issued a consultation on a new planning framework for England, which might have implications for the future of Neighbourhood Plans. The Planning Consultant supporting the development of the Neighbourhood Plan has advised that the PC should respond to the government consultation. This was agreed.

2. Apologies – were received from Cllrs I. Burrow.

3. Declarations of interest – none were received.

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

5. Report from Northumberland County Council – Cllr Sharp -

Shaftoe First School - The resurfacing of the approach road has now been completed. Further work from Cllr Sharp's Members Allowance has been partly completed, but the green surface dressing has still not been put on the road where pedestrians cross; and the kerb work will be carried out over the half-term break. Hopefully the parking at school times has been improved with the new road markings. The new road signs for the school are also being installed. A new street sign for Tynedale Cottages has been installed.

Two new signs at the entrance to the Showfield have also been installed, as well as a new sign at Hordley Acres. The signage at New Alston has now been completed and SLOW markings have also been painted on the road. Some road signage at the junction has been replaced to tidy things up.

CCTV work was carried out, to investigate drainage at the Elrington junction. As a result of this the matter was passed to the flood team who have contacted the landowner to have the ditches on their land reinstated. Hopefully this will alleviate issues at the junction, but as yet no work has been done by the landowner. The flood team are chasing this issue up again.

Regarding the loading bay on Church Street a traffic regulation order will be made in the next week, and the work should be carried out before the October meeting.

The resurfacing works have now been carried out at Castle Farm.

B6319. East and West accesses into the village off the A69 - The resurfacing of both these areas has now been completed and the road markings have also been done.

The new 30mph signs coming from the west into the village have been installed and the 20mph signs have also been installed. The old speed restriction sign has still not been amended to show 20mph and Cllr Sharp is chasing this up.

Ratcliffe Road scheme – the designer has received the skid test report in the last week. Cllr Sharp hoped that work would begin before the next meeting.

The road sweeper has been out in the village and they have sprayed the weeds in the kerb sides in the village and the estates. The team will come back again to do further sweeping work, and to make sure that all of the weeds have been dealt with.

Some re-surfacing work has been carried out to the road from the A69 to Lowgate.

Regarding a suggestion for a re-cycling bin for Church Street, Cllr Sharp said that NCC were willing to try this and he asked what the PC thought. During discussion Cllrs said that experience at the cemetery had shown that public recycling bins are not used correctly, there have been similar experiences elsewhere in the parish. It was agreed not to go ahead at the moment. While the PC supports recycling they were concerned that the bin would not be used correctly and sorting rubbish would be very problematic in the current situation.

Cllr Sharp had received several reports of gullies in the village that need attention and he had reported all of these to NCC.

Outstanding orange street lights which need to be replaced with LED lights at Belmont Garden and Crook Hill have been reported once again.

Issues regarding the footpath and signage for the sports hall beside the High School are still to be addressed. Cllr Sharp will meet with Cllr Keyte to discuss this.

Another three or four 20 mph signs should be installed at the Showfield, as well as two more slow signs before the play area.

The hedge at Whittis Hill will be cut. Fly-tipping at Willow Gap is being dealt with, and perhaps vehicle access needs to be blocked.

Cllr Sharp said that he had attended many meetings recently dealing with Covid. There have been 318 cases in the county in the last seven days. This was a doubling of the cases in the previous seven days. These cases were mainly in the South East of the County and heading up the coast. There is huge concern over the rise in cases across the North East. There have been 31 cases of affected schools in the area. More testing sites are needed and it is hoped that there will be a proper test site in Hexham shortly.

6. Highways –

- a) The Parish Council had received a number of letters from residents of John Martin Street regarding speeding and noisy vehicles – these matters were discussed. Cllrs agreed that some youngsters with noisy exhausts were annoying for residents. It was felt that due to parked cars on both sides of the street, most drivers were courteous. Cllr Snowdon provided details of a scheme where Police are using speed camera vans to tackle such issues. He suggested that this was raised on the Facebook page so that local people could follow this up. 30mph signs have been installed and the only other action that could be taken would be to install speed humps. However due to the number of parked vehicles and the noise nuisance this would cause for residents this was not thought to be a suitable option.
- b) Cllr Bates said the road surface on a section of road from Vauce Farm to Lough Green was dreadful. Cllr Sharp will sort this out.
- c) Cllr Charlton said that alongside the cottage on the corner at West Deanraw the white lines seem to be in the wrong place. Some people are mistakenly driving straight on toward the farm. Cllr Bates said that in theory the markings were correct, but perhaps

the priority system on this section of road needs to be looked at. Cllr Sharp will meet with Cllr Bates on site.

- d) Cllr Faulks had carried out a survey of all bins in the parish. He had assessed them as good/moderate or damaged. There is 1 bin at the picnic area that needs to be removed; one at Martin's Close bus stop that needs to be replaced; and 1 at the war memorial that needs to be replaced. It was agreed that this should be discussed at the budget meeting, and a decision taken on how much to budget for this work next year.
- e) A damaged supporting pole for the swings at Langley Gardens had been reported to Karbon Homes.
- f) A replacement bin for the playground at Innerhaugh has been delivered.

7. Lighting – nothing to report.

8. Planning applications –

20/02593/FUL – Proposed new entrance porch at Holmlea, Alexandra Tce – no objections.

20/02599/FUL – Proposed rear entrance porch at Sunnybrae, Alexandra Tce – no objections.

20/0593/FUL – Proposed conservatory to front at Bothy Cottage, North Bank – no objections.

9. Accounts – as in budget.

Cllr Thornhill explained that NCC had now removed the floodlights from the old bridge, with a view to install them at St. Cuthbert's Church. They are now stored at the church, but no further progress had been made due to the lockdown. The PC needs to decide whether they wanted to ask the Parochial Church Council for a contribution to this project. During lockdown older floodlights had been found, which may have been used to floodlight the church at the millennium. These have not been checked yet.

10. Correspondence –

- a) Definitive Map Modification Order (No 14) 2018 no.s 68-70 – Cllr Charlton said that she did not oppose the linking of these paths, and said that the new path would prove popular, but she was concerned that the time taken to sort this out had held up repair work at the Spa Well. Cllr Charlton went on to say that a lot of people had been upset by the closing of a footpath at Greenwich Gardens, without the necessary notices.

11. Parish projects –

- a) Development Trust – there had been no meeting recently. Cllr Charlton said that the library volunteers keep making plans on how they could open the library safely, only to find that the rules change again. NCC is moving their library management

system back from google to Microsoft 365 and have suggested training, however Cllr Charlton was concerned that if the volunteers are trained, but then still unable to open the library, they may forget the training by the time they are allowed back into the building.

- b) Hanging baskets – Cllr Kirsopp said that the baskets looked lovely and everyone had been very happy with them. She suggested that the PC sticks with the same supplier next year.
- c) PC meeting with Northumbrian Water to be updated on the survey – Cllr Snowdon thanked the Clerk for the minutes of this meeting. Loren Jennings had been drafted in to replace Elaine Smith, who was ill. Cllr Snowdon agreed with the Chair it was very frustrating to still be awaiting a report 5 years on from
- d) Cllrs thanked Cllrs Richardson and Thornhill for their sterling work on the Haydon Bridge Matters Facebook page.
- e) Right of way from Lands End Road to Park Style – David Robson had contacted the PC to say that a lot of visitors look at this right of way and are puzzled as to it's purpose. A meeting had been arranged with Ceri Gibson of the Tyne Rivers Trust to see what could be done to improve things. Mr Robson had suggested steps to the river. Unfortunately, Ceri Gibson said that installing steps would need considerable engineering and be too costly. Cllr Charlton said that this was not a safe part of the river to draw people toward, although she confirmed it had an interesting history. At one time a pulley at this point had been used to draw a raft across which could be used to transport items across the river. She said it would be nice to have an information board to explain this.

12. Any other business –

- a) A letter had been circulated regarding the development at Greenwich Gardens, which is due to be handed back to Karbon Homes from the developer shortly. It was agreed that this should be sent to the Highways Dept and Planning Dept and copied to Karbon Homes.