

**MEETING OF HAYDON PARISH COUNCIL AT 7.30PM ON THE 24th of JULY 2025
AT HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE.**

Present : Cllrs L. Alderson, B. Howard, S. Jackson, C. Kendall, A. Kirsopp, K. Richardson, A. Sharp, T. Simmonds, D. Thornhill (Chair), and D. Webster; Mr Scantlebury and C. McGivern (mins.).

1. Public participation –

- a) Graham Scantlebury had written to the PC regarding his planning application for retrospective permission to have a caravan west of High View. He explained that when he took over the site the farm building was full of rubbish and there was anti-social behaviour on site. He said that since he had taken over the site he had cleaned it up and people were now happy to walk past in the evening. He said that neighbours were happy that he had cleaned the area up. The Chair explained that the PC would discuss this application later in the meeting.

2. Apologies – were received from Cllrs C. Morshead and A. Suddes.

3. Declarations of interest – none were received.

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

5. Report from Northumberland County Council –

Cllr Sharp said that letters had gone out to residents in the area of John Martin Street where double yellow lines were proposed. 3 or 4 letters of support had been received. It was noted that a vehicle had been left in this area for around 8 weeks, and this had almost caused an accident in the last week. Letters had also gone out to residents of the Showfield regarding double yellow lines in the area, and 3 objections had been received. On the 4th of August work will start on Ratcliffe Road, including doming the roundabout and hopefully the problematic camber of the road near the war memorial will be sorted out at the same time.

The area coned off at East Lands End is due to the drain being washed away. This needs to be replaced. The cones further to the west, on the green lane, need to be removed. Loose chippings on the road need to be swept away. Cllr Sharp had been told that water was discharging down the road due to an area of concrete which had been installed further up. This meant that the pipes were partly obstructed.

There is to be a site meeting to look at slowing down traffic at Hordley Acres on the 1st of August. At the last meeting Cllr Morshead had asked about the road from Lands End to Deanraw, this is an adopted road, and it will be looked at.

Trees blocking the streetlight near the Showfield will be pruned. The trees at the churchyard will be pruned soon.

The planning application for Marshall's Yard is progressing.

Cllr Sharp is pushing for the necessary work to be done to the Spa Well footpath.

The issue of trees overhanging the road on Lands End road was discussed. The trees opposite Douglas Gardens were done a couple of years ago. The wall is the boundary,

so the trees are on private land. NCC will serve notice on the landowner that the work must be done within 21 days.

Cllr Sharp praised the work of the Haydon Bridge Scouts group and the Football Club with young people.

6. Highways –

- a) Cllr Jackson had sent details of a damaged railing at Geeswood and the Clerk had reported this to the Footpaths Officer, who planned to repair the railing shortly.
- b) Cllr Kirsopp raised the issue of a sign pointing in the wrong direction for the football field. Cllr Sharp is looking into this.
- c) Cllr Kirsopp reminded Cllrs of a damaged streetlight at the rear of Belmont Gardens. This belonged to the school, but they were reluctant to pay for repairs.
- d) Cllr Kirsopp said that a gentleman who used a mobility scooter to get from the Showfield to the centre of the village, was having to ride on the road, due to the lack of a dropped kerb. Cllr Sharp will deal with this.
- e) It was noted that there were lorries parked up opposite Innerhaugh Mews every night. It was agreed that letters should be sent to the haulage firms seeking their co-operation to stop this.
- f) Cllr Howard said that large numbers of poo bags were being taken from the dispenser on the old bridge and it was impossible to keep up with this. He suggested that the bags are distributed to local businesses, with signs in their windows indicating where they can be collected from. This was agreed.
- g) Mr Batey had reported a tree with a dead section at the riverside picnic area. This has been passed on to Savills for the landowner's attention.
- h) Cllr Jackson said that on the footpath from the Anchor to the riverside the gate and the railing were damaged. The Clerk will report this to the Footpaths Officer.

7. Lighting – nothing further to report.

8. Planning applications –

25/02413/LBC Listed building consent for the proposed conversion of existing building used as kitchen design studio, display area and storage to a self-contained residential unit to be used as ancillary accommodation to Esp Hill Farmhouse – NO OBJECTIONS.

25/02412/FUL Proposed conversion of existing building used as kitchen design studio, display area and storage to a self contained residential unit to be used as ancillary accommodation to Esp Hill Farmhouse. 25/02399/ADE Advertisement Consent: Digital display screen positioned inside the store 4 Ratcliffe Road – NO OBJECTIONS.

25/02370/FUL Retrospective: Siting of a caravan on a temporary basis (5 years) for use as a rural workers dwelling at land West of High View – OBJECT FOR THE SAME REASONS AS BEFORE.

25/02349/FUL Erection of porch 2.8m wide x 1.6m deep, with matching materials and matching pitched gable roof at 63 The Showfield - NO OBJECTIONS.

9. Accounts – as in budget.

- I. Playgrounds funds sub-committee – Cllrs Alderson and Kendall volunteered to join the committee.

10. Correspondence –

- a) Cllr Jackson had passed on a message from a local resident who was concerned about campervans stopping overnight at the picnic area. Cllr Thornhill said that this had come up a short time ago and the feeling had been the PC should not interfere, unless a problem is being caused. The Handyman had said that he had seen vans there, but he was not aware of any problems arising from this. It was noted that some people felt uncomfortable walking past the vans in the evening. It was agreed that the PC would wait to see if there were any issues arose, and review the situation again over the winter.
- b) Details of a Corporate Performance Report were received from NCC.
- c) The Environment Agency had sent a reply in response to questions raised by the PC regarding proposals for improvements to the riverside behind Ratcliffe Road. It was agreed that the PC was content with the responses, but the Clerk will email the EA to make sure they have verified ownership of the land in question.

11. Parish Projects

- a) Development Trust – Cllr Thornhill said that Peter Fletcher and Mark Ianson of the DT wanted to reach out to the PC. They were meeting initially with the Chair and Vice-chair, but they hope to come along to a PC meeting after the summer break.
- b) Bus shelter opposite Innerhaugh Mews – The quotations were circulated and discussed and it was agreed that the PC would prefer a simpler model with one opening at the front. The Clerk will request a quotation for this, to be considered in September. Cllr Sharp has offered to contribute £2,500 toward the cost of this.
- c) Waste bins – The bins on Shaftoe Green were discussed and it was agreed that the one in the worst condition, closest to the cemetery road, should be replaced. There had also been a request to replace the bin next to the gate into the estate from the B6319. This will be replaced as soon as possible too.
- d) A call for land for development had been received from NCC. The Northumberland Local Plan should run until 2036 as does the Neighbourhood Plan. However due to changing political priorities NCC is having to increase targets for housebuilding. Through the DT the Chair and Vice-chair had been approached by Advance Northumberland, an arm's length development wing of the County Council. They are enquiring about a site to the south and east of Shaftoe Green. A small part of the green would have to be taken to allow access to the site if it were to go ahead. This covers the field between Shaftoe Green and the A69, another field which runs down to the woodland at Geeswood and the field that borders Smith's Terrace. Advance Nuland and the landowners, the Langley Estate, think that this land could be

identified for development. It is outside the current settlement boundary, and as such would be in conflict with the Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Sharp said that Haydon Bridge has already exceeded the housing targets.

Currently the central section of Shaftoe Green, which was formerly maintained by the Shaftoe Academy, is not being mown. There is some uncertainty about the lease. There was some discussion about whether the PC should get it mown, with the person who did this taking the hay as forage. Cllr Thornhill said that if they were to take over a significant area of mowing, there would have to be a plan for this.

- e) The mowing of the wildflower meadow at the woodland burial area was also discussed and Cllr Howard will look into this.

12. Any other business –

- a) Cllr Kirsopp once again raised the issue of the unreliability of the 685 bus service. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Stagecoach and to Joe Morris MP to raise this issue.
- b) Cllr Kirsopp said that the Nurture Project was having an open day on the 10th of August and they would love parish Cllrs to attend.
- c) Cllr Jackson said that she had attended a meeting of the Get it Together Society (GITS) and they were working toward a fund-raising target for the fireworks. The dog show has had to be rescheduled.