

**MEETING OF HAYDON PARISH COUNCIL AT 7.30PM ON THE 22nd OF
JANUARY AT HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE.**

Present : Cllrs L. Alderson, B. Howard (Chair), S. Jackson, C. Kendall, A. Kirsopp, A. Sharp
T. Simmonds, and D. Webster; 1 member of the public; C. McGivern (mins.).

- 1. Public participation** – none.
- 2. Apologies** – were received from Cllrs C. Morshead, K. Richardson, A. Suddes, and D. Thornhill.
- 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 said that the planning appeal for the land at West View had gone ahead but no decision had been received yet.
- White lines from Innerhaugh to Hordley Acres and yellow lines on John Martin street should be painted soon.
- A pipe to improve drainage on the green lane near Castle Farm should be installed soon.
- Trees opposite Douglas Gardens have been pruned although Cllr Sharp recognised that Derek Todhunter was not satisfied with this work. Cllr Sharp said that the land did not belong to NCC. There was some concern that if the trees were removed it would make the bank unstable.
- Cllr Kirsopp said that trees at Park Style had been recently pruned.
- Cllr Sharp said that the sweeper had been out around the village. Cllr Webster said that there was a large pile of leaves at the far end of Belmont Gardens.
- Trees in the churchyard will be pruned soon.
- Drains on Ratcliffe Road had been cleaned out.
- Cllr Sharp had looked at the tarmac outside the newsagents. A lip had been created when the new bins were installed at a slightly different location.

6. Highways –

- a) The Clerk said that Glasdon had supplied a quotation for a new metal liner for the bin near the Anchor. It was agreed to order this and ask the Handyman if he could fix the bin more firmly in place.
- b) Cllr Simmonds said that the Northumbrian Jacobite society had approached her with a request. On 24 Feb they would meet at Langley Castle and lay a wreath at

the Jacobite memorial on the Langley bends. Cadwallader Bates erected that Celtic cross monument on the Langley bends to commemorate James and Charles Radcilffe, Earls of Derwentwater and their support to the Jacobite cause. This is now quite a dangerous location to lay a wreath and the Bates estate are supportive of the possibility of re-siting the memorial to the triangle of grass verge at the junction of the A686 and the road towards castle farm. The Jacobite society would cover all costs and do the work with Cllr Morshead's help. The PC had no objections to this going ahead.

7. Lighting –

- a) Branches overhanging a retaining wall are obscuring the light near the Shaftoe Academy and the sign for the nursery. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to them to ask that this is taken in hand.

8. Planning applications – none were received.

9. Accounts – as in the budget.

I Parish Council contracts – Cllr Howard explained that as part of due diligence the PC should review the contracts for grass cutting around the village / cemetery maintenance and maintenance at Innerhaugh Play area periodically. It was agreed that instead of reviewing them all at once, this could be spread over a 3 year period.

It was noted that Mr Batey is incredibly reliable and has made a great difference at the cemetery.

Grass cutting around the village was discussed and it was felt that the PC would like to have no more than 1 metre of verge cut. This might give a saving and would be more in line with Haydon Bridge being a butterfly and bee friendly village. A schedule of work is to be drawn up for discussion at the next meeting, and this can then be put out to tender.

II Playground accounts – Cllr Alderson described the difficulties of changing who has access to this account. This has now been arranged and Cllrs Alderson and Kendall will manage the playground accounts in future.

10. Correspondence –

- a) Derek Todhunter had asked for an update on tree pruning at Lands End Road. Cllr Sharp said that NCC had already dealt with the dangerous trees and would not remove trees that were not dangerous.
- b) A reply to a query about a Design Code consultation was received from NCC saying “Regarding the design code consultation, this ... is for the Northumberland Design Code, which will be a Supplementary Planning Document to the Northumberland Local Plan. It will be used alongside the policies in the Local Plan (2022) and Neighbourhood Plans (in areas where a Neighbourhood Plan has been made). The Design Code will

continue to be used alongside future Local Plans. This does not undermine the Haydon Parish Design Code as this already forms part of the statutory development plan.”

11. Parish projects –

- a) Development Trust – Cllr Simmonds said that there had been no DT meeting since the 18th of December.
- b) Cllr Simmonds said that the Haydon Swift Society had offered the PC some swift boxes if they could find suitable buildings to attach them to. Cllr Howard said that there were lots of regulations about any work carried out above 3 metres in height. He asked who would be responsible for this. The Nature Club might be able to advise on good locations. Swifts are declining and it would encourage them to have more boxes.

12. Any other business –

- a) Cllr Sharp said that the question of a “dropped kerb” close to St. Cuthbert’s Church had now been resolved. It was thought that since parking charges had been implemented at the station car park there were more problems with parking around the village.
- b) Cllrs wondered who was the owner of a sports car which had been parked in this area for months.
- c) Cllr Sharp asked what had happened to the suggestion that the PC meet with the Head of the High School. The Clerk said that Cllr Thornhill and Peter Fletcher were currently talking to the Head about a meeting.
- d) Cllr Jackson said that the gate near the Anchor is now hanging off it’s hinges and the fence is also in a poor state of repair. It was agreed that the Handyman would be asked if this was something he could repair.
- e) Cllr Jackson said that between the new bus shelter and the gate into the estate a path was being made across the grass by people taking the quickest route. She wondered if this could be made into a proper path. Cllr Alderson said that she had seen a query on Facebook asking what else was being considered for the area where the fruit trees have been planted. This is to be discussed at a later date.
- f) It was noted that a lorry is still parking on the verge opposite Innerhaugh Mews. This is against the law. If details of the firm who owns the lorry can be found they will be contacted.
- g) Cllr Kirsopp said that the Flood Warden Group had met the previous day. They had examined the bins containing sand and sand bags to be used in the event of a flood. Some of the locks on the bins have been broken. It was agreed that laminated signs were needed to inform people what the bins contain. The Handyman will be asked if he could possibly repair the locks.