

MEETING OF HAYDON PARISH COUNCIL AT 7.30PM ON 25th OF JUNE

AT HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE.

Present : Cllrs L. Alderson, A. Kirsopp, A. Sharp, T. Simmonds, A. Suddes and D. Thornhill;
C. McGivern (mins.).

- 1. Public participation** – none.
- 2. Apologies for absence** – were received from Cllrs B. Howard, S. Jackson, C. Kendall, C. Morshead, K. Richardson and D. Webster.
- 3. Declaration of interest in items on the agenda** – none were received.
- 4. To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting** – having been circulated, were agreed and signed with one amendment – Cllr Alderson noted that her suggestion of a cheaper printer for the Haydon Newsletter had been missed. Details were passed to Cllr Simmonds.
- 5. Northumberland County Council -**
 - The planning application for Langley Brickworks had been refused permission. Cllr Sharp said that Cllr Morshead had spoken well representing the PC at the committee meeting.
 - An electric supply will be installed at the Shaftoe Street end of the old bridge for the Christmas lights, and a heavy-duty cable will run from there to each tree. Cllr Sharp will make a contribution of £2,500 toward the cost. The group who are now arranging the installation of the trees & lights will run a fundraising event each year to cover the cost of new bulbs and future maintenance.
 - All the drains have been reopened between Tofts and the corner of Heugh House Lane, where water had previously been running down the road. A new pipe will be installed near to the junction and the drains will be tested to make sure everything is working.
 - A camera survey revealed that a blocked drain near Orchard House needed to be repaired. This will be done and drains will be cleared at Chesterwood. Between Standalone Cottage and Lipwood the road has been patched and the drains need to be cleared. Cllr Suddes queried why NCC did not have a rolling programme of clearing the drains to avoid bigger repairs.
 - Cllr Sharp wants more work to be done at Cruel Syke and on the Haydon Fell to Newbrough lane. He had been told that drains had all been cleared on Ratcliffe Road, but this does not seem to be the case.
 - The extension of the yellow line on John Martin Street should be completed in the next week.
 - Regarding the “pull-in” on Ratcliffe Road, Cllr Sharp had now been told that this would require a Traffic Regulation Order and may take another 3 months.
 - Trees in the churchyard and near the library will be pruned after the nesting season.
 - Cllr Simmonds said that the beech hedge near the church needed to be reduced in height. Cllr Sharp will ask if NCC will do this work.
 - Road surfacing work has begun at Langley..

- On the 8th of July Cllr Sharp will meet with the new head of the High School. He is keen to help the school, and he will visit the Shaftoe Academy too..
- Cllr Kirsopp said that Carole Price and the gardening group had encouraged volunteers from the schools to help with their projects. As there is a catering unit at the school, there are also plans to get them involved with the Lunch Club too.
- Four trees near Woodhall Mill will need to be cut down as they are dangerous. The road will need to be closed to do this work.
- There was a good turnout for the recent event at the Nurture Project. They hope to tarmac all of their paths to allow wheelchair access.
- The Smith Trust will be meeting on the 14th of July and they have five applications from Haydon Bridge to consider.
- Cllr Alderson asked who was responsible for a large tree near the new bus shelter, as lower branches were blocking the view of the shelter and the drivers could not see people waiting for the bus.

6. Highways –

- a) Cllr Kirsopp asked if the PC could “provide a small litter bin for the west facing bus stop by the topiary?” This was agreed. The Clerk will order a bin and ask if the Handyman could install it.
- b) In response to a request to remove a listing for the riverside picnic area from their website Park4night said “Thank you for informing us about this. The listing of the place has been removed from our database.”
- c) Details of the approved three-year Local Transport programme for 2026-29 were received from NCC.
- d) It was noted that a lorry had been parking on the verge opposite Innerhaugh Mews once more. A suggestion had been made that large rocks on the verge would stop this. This would need NCC to agree that this was a suitable solution. It was agreed that the situation would be monitored for the next month and discussed again at the next meeting.

7. Lighting – nothing to report.

8. Planning applications –

26/02073/FUL Retrospective - Demolish outbuilding and erect new outbuilding at Staward Station House Whitfield - **Object** - Haydon Parish Council objects to this application. The plans for the proposed new building seem to be contradictory on size. One part of the document suggests that it is under "25 square metres". On studying the plans it seems that it is larger than this and therefore should have a Biodiversity Net Gain assessment.

9. Accounts – as in the budget.

Grants to village groups were discussed and it was agreed that although the PC were willing to give money to help with running costs, they would prefer not to get involved with any capital costs and separate funding should be sought for this.

10. Correspondence –

- a) Chris Armstrong had emailed to raise the issue of speeding vehicles on John Martin/Shaftoe Street. It was agreed that the Clerk would report this to the Neighbourhood Policing Team.
- b) A letter had been received from Alan Batey regarding the maintenance of the Woodland Burial area. The PC thanked Mr Batey for raising the issue. Cllrs were not aware of dogwalkers using this area and it was agreed that Cllrs would make enquiries and report back at the next meeting.
- c) Cllr Sharp said he had received a report that it wasn't possible to see traffic coming down the hill from the cemetery to the Showfield due to overhanging trees on both sides of the road.
- d) Details of a 10 year Woodland Management Plan for Warden Estate's Sewingshields Woodland had been received. Cllrs will consider this and send comments to the Clerk before the consultation deadline on the 15th of July.

11. Parish Projects –

- a) **Development Trust** – Cllr Simmonds reported that there had been around 180 entries to the Haydon Hundred and the event had been more successful than last year. She also said that putting the John Martin pictures in the church had been considered. Two interpretive panels will probably be put in the foyer, but the walls in the church are too damp for the paintings. Cllr Thornhill said that as Cllr Sharp was meeting with the new Head of the High School, perhaps he could mention that representatives of the PC, DT and Shaftoe Academy had met with David Nisbet, and his replacement might like to meet with the three parties who are all keen to work together.
- b) **Parish representation with the GITS** was discussed. Cllr Alderson had gone along to the Northumberland Day event and said that it was well attended.

12. Any other business –

- a) Cllr Kendall had raised the issue of Parish Council representation on social media. Cllr Thornhill explained that the Haydon Bridge Matters site had been set up by the PC following Storm Desmond by Laura Thompson to help provide people with information and it now has over 6,500 people signed up from all around the world. Perhaps there could be a revamp of the existing page, and with younger Cllrs taking it on. This will be discussed at the next meeting.
- b) Cllr Kirsopp said that there was to be a meeting at Hexham library to discuss problems with the 685 bus service.
- c) Cllr Kirsopp said that a sofa had been dumped in the car park at Old Foundry Court. The Clerk will report this to Karbon Homes.
- d) A white van parked on the highways, despite not being taxed or insured was reported. Cllr Sharp will report this.
- e) Cllr Sharp will also look at what is happening about dropped kerbs for the Showfield.
- f) Cllr Alderson said that the top rail has been removed from the fence at the footpath from the Anchor. The Handyman will be asked if he could repair it.

- g) Cllr Alderson said that recently the grass had been very long on the verge opposite Innerhaugh Mews. The PC will keep an eye on this.
- h) The Chair said that he and the Vice-chair had been approached by a developer who is looking at a site in Haydon Bridge. This is thought to be at Esp Hill between the A69 and Shaftoe Green and over toward Geeswood.