

# **Broomley and Stocksfield Parish Council.**

## **Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 3rd July 2006**

Present: Councillors Sayce, Barwick-Bell, Chainey, Drew, Hedley, Martin, Porter, Wade, Warhurst-Walker.  
Mrs M Williams, Clerk

Also present: District Councillor Anne Dale, Helen Compson, Hexham Courant

**Apologies:** Councillors Hall, Davison, Wade. District Councillor Mike Collins, County Councillor Ray Thompson.

Mrs Sayce opened the meeting by stating that Councillor Ian Hall would be absent for the next few meetings due to ill health. It was agreed to send him a get well gift.

Mrs Drew proposed that until September, when the matter be reviewed, a vice Chair be elected to assist the Chair with her duties over the summer break.

Mr Porter proposed and Mrs Sayce seconded and it was agreed that Mrs Drew be appointed acting-vice chair until September.

### **06/28 Declarations of Interest - None**

**06/29 Minutes - The Minutes of the meeting held on 5th June were agreed as a true record.**

### **06/30 Matters Arising**

The planting of the planter at the Hedley Road End is to be reviewed by the Footpaths & Environment Group.

It was agreed that in future Planning & Highways matters will be moved further up the agenda.

There were no further matters arising.

### **06/31 Public Participation - None**

### **06/32 Correspondence**

The correspondence received since the June meeting had been listed on the agenda and was noted:

A copy of a letter from Mrs J Scott to the County Council had been received. This concerned access onto Painshawfield Road from behind Dale View Terrace. A discussion ensued and it was agreed to write to the County Council supporting Mrs Scott's concerns and requesting that a representative of the Parish Council be present when a site visit is made.

A letter had been received from Land Factor in response to a letter from the Parish Council advising that Allendale Estates would prefer not to see sponsors boards around the Football pitches.

NFPA - it was agreed to express an interest in sending the Handyman on a play area inspection course.

CPRE - it was agreed to return the form on Charting the Landscape, and that the Environment Group, as part of the Parish Plan, would be asked to look at this.

### **06/33 Finance**

The accounts for June were noted and accepted.

The Annual Audit Return was approved and signed.

### **06/34 Brief Reports from Advisory Groups and Council Representatives**

a) General Purposes Group

Introduction of Bye-laws at Kate's Plain and Branch End - following the presentation and subsequent discussion at the June meeting the General Purposes Group had considered the options and made the following recommendations:

1. to compile a record of all occasions on which residents report disturbances by behaviour in or associated with the play areas at Kate's Plain and Branch End, with details of date, time, duration, numbers involved, nature of the disturbance, and any other relevant information.
2. to ask the Clerk to assemble a retrospective record of disturbances during the previous 5 years with as much detail as possible, from Minutes, council correspondence, e-mails etc.
3. to explain to residents the importance of reporting all incidents to the Police, so that the incidents are officially 'logged' and suggest that they use the new 101 non emergency telephone line
4. to request the Police to provide the Parish Council with regular information on the actions they have taken in response to reported incidents.
5. to make a formal request to Prudhoe Community High School and the Prudhoe Youth Service for further discussion of the 'Code of Conduct' as agreed at the meeting of the Kate's Plain Working Group on 19th January 2006.

The meeting endorsed the proposals of the General Purposes Group and agreed that at the present time they should not pursue the introduction of bye-laws.

Councillors were then advised that over the previous weekend (30th June - 2nd July) there had been considerable disturbance and nuisance at Kate's Plain and that on Saturday morning there was evidence of alcohol consumption and a great deal of litter which was subsequently cleared. It was stressed that residents need to report instances of anti-social behaviour to the police and to record the incident and the log number. It was suggested that the new 101 non emergency number would be useful. It was also noted that the fence has been damaged further and it was agreed to report this to the police and get it mended.

Youth Club - A report on the activities of the Youth Service in Stocksfield over the previous months had been received. It was noted that an extra night had been requested and Mrs Sayce and Mr Chainey are to discuss the options with the Chairman of SICA. It was also reported that over the same weekend there had been a fire lit with newspapers under the tyre swing at Branch End.

#### b) Parish Plan

All those residents who are already involved with the Parish Plan were thanked for their efforts to date.

It was agreed that in Ian Hall's absence there was a need to progress this project and to arrange a meeting of the Steering Group.

#### c) Footpaths & Environment Group

The Group had not met.

Mr Chainey advised that he had been in touch with Tim Fish (NCC) who had advised that the work on FP13 should be started shortly.

It was reported that the hedge at Bright Cottage is growing over the road. Mr Chainey is to check this.

Scaur Steps as nothing had been heard from the owners of the adjacent property it was agreed to ask the handyman to clear the area from the handrail to the fence line and to advise the owners of this action.

Electricity Substation - Apperley Road - concern was raised about who was responsible for the care of the approach to this substation and it was agreed to write to NEDL to ask them to clear this area.

Hedge at top of Apperley Road - it was agreed to write to the County Council to ask them to cut back this hedge.

#### d) Play Facilities Group

In Mrs Davison's absence it was agreed to go ahead with the ordering of the equipment for the Toddler area. The Parish Council to order this equipment from Kompan. It was not felt that the whole field should be levelled. It was felt that if and when Stage 2 of the project be progressed then the field levels would have to be considered.

BEPA Self-closing gate - it was felt that this was still not satisfactory and a further meeting is to be arranged with the contractor.

#### e) Sports Facilities Group

MUGA - nothing had been heard from the FA in relation to the application for grant.

It was noted that Tynedale Council had advised verbally that the multisports area was still suitable for use. It was agreed to ask the Handyman to fix the fence. It was agreed to seek quotations for the stabilisation of the long western wall and that Mrs Sayce and Mrs Drew had the authority to make decisions on its repair should the quotations be less than £1000.

#### f) Planning & Highways

The Planning Report had been circulated.

The Planning Group had met and produced a paper which is attached to these Minutes.

From this paper it was agreed to:

Write to the County Council and ask why none of the items discussed and requested in October 2002 appeared to have been actioned or put forward for action and to request a further meeting with County officers.

Speed signs - it was agreed to push for the introduction of speed display signs at the entrances to the village.

It was agreed to make enquiries about the provision of a speed camera on the A695 in Stocksfield

The number of heavy vehicles using New Ridley Road was also discussed. It was felt that in order to keep their driving times down in accordance with EU regulations drivers were using New Ridley Road to access the A695 from Consett and north Durham, rather than taking the longer route down the A68. It was recognised that by using the A68/A695 route then a hazard might be created past the school. It was also felt that New Ridley Road was not built to carry the heavy vehicles currently using it. It was felt that this problem should be taken to the Road Safety Partnership. It was agreed to request a meeting with the County Council on this topic.

Parking on New Ridley Road - continued to raise concerns.

The Planning & Highways Group are to produce an article for the next issue of NE43 News.

#### g) Communication

NE43 News - the group reviewing the newsletter is to meet on 12th July

Website - concern was expressed that the site is giving rise to SPAM and Mr Porter agreed to look into the provision of a spam filter.

#### h) Council Representatives

Nothing to report.

Eastern Parishes Forum -no one from Broomley & Stocksfield had attended the last meeting of the Forum. Mr Chainey advised that he would be able to attend the next meeting. Mrs Barwick-Bell expressed an interest in attending.

Tyne Valley Community Rail Partnership - next meeting 13th July.

Hexham Hospital - a meeting is to be held in Prudhoe on 26th July to consult about unplanned orthopaedic surgery

**06/35 Other business**

It was agreed that over the summer break the Chair and acting Vice-Chair had authority to sign cheques and to take appropriate action.

**05/36 Date of Next Meeting**

4th September 2006

The meeting closed at 10.00 p.m