

# **Broomley and Stocksfield Parish Council.**

## **Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 2nd October 2006**

Present: Councillors Sayce, Chainey, Drew, Davison, Hall, Martin, Porter, Wade, Warhurst-Walker, Mrs M Williams, Clerk

Also present: District Councillor Dale, County Councillor Thompson, Helen Compson, Hexham Courant

**Apologies:** Councillors Hedley, Barwick-Bell, District Councillor Mike Collins.

### **06/46 Declarations of Interest - None**

### **06/47 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4th September were agreed as a true record, subject to the following amendment. In Para. 06/40 Mrs Dale suggested that the numbers of the house referred to should be changed to 29-40 and this was agreed. She also suggested that the comment about the developer going out of business was inaccurate and it was agreed to remove this phrase. Under 06/43 Kate's Plain - "goal" had been misspelled and was corrected.

### **06/48 Matters Arising - None**

### **06/49 Public Participation**

County Councillor Thompson advised that agreement had been reached to install a dropped kerb in Cross Street. He said that he hoped to get Cross Street re-surfaced. He advised that he is discussing with the County Engineers possible changes to the layout of Cross Street.

He advised that he had received a letter from Shaping Health who are setting up a commission for patient involvement and are looking for volunteers to join the Northumberland Primary Care PPI Forum. Anyone interested should contact Councillor Thompson direct.

Councillor Thompson advised that he had requested that the drain at Batt House Road/Well Road be dug out and that the bracket at Well Road be cut back. He said that a complete survey of New Ridley, Cade Hill, Meadowfield, Apperley and Painshawfield Roads was to be carried out. It was noted that the pavement at the lower part of New Ridley Road was in particularly bad condition. Complaints had been received about the overgrown hedges at the narrow point of the pavement below North View on the Main Road and Councillor Thompson is to look into this. Complaints had also been made about hedges encroaching onto the pavement on New Ridley Road and this is to be investigated further.

Councillor Thompson advised that the recommendation for double yellow lines to be installed on Birches Nook Road will be carried out this financial year, subject to planning permission.

### **06/50 Correspondence**

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

A letter had been received from the Healthy Walking Group expressing gratitude for the repairs to the Burnside footpath.

Correspondence had been received from Allendale Estates regarding unauthorised activities in Broomley Woods. This was referred to the forthcoming meeting of the Footpaths Group to which a representative of Allendale Estates was invited.

An invitation had been received to attend the NALC AGM. No one from the Parish Council is able to attend.

### **06/51 Finance**

The Accounts for September had been circulated and were approved.

Additional cheques were also approved as follows:

Northumberland Playing Fields Association (Play Area Inspection Course - M Stewart)	£60.00
Soccertackle.com (Football Club grant for goals)	£289.94

The Report from the Auditors on the 05/06 accounts was received. No matters had been raised and the Clerk was thanked for her efforts.

A proposal to review the banking arrangements was tabled and it was agreed that:

1. That all the accounts are combined into one (the Bank of Ireland).
2. That the General Purposes Group review the current banking arrangements and consider whether or not the Parish Council account be transferred to a different bank.

It was also agreed that it would be necessary to review the current cheque signatories in the light of the fact that some parish councillors would not be standing for re-election in May.

## **06/52 Brief Reports from Advisory Groups and Council Representatives**

### **a) General Purposes Group**

Code of Conduct Kate's Plain - It was agreed to make a formal request to Prudhoe Community High School and the Youth Service to progress this matter. It was noted that there had been a fair amount of disturbance recently in the Station Car Park and it was felt that a General Code of Behaviour should be drawn up and discussed with the students and youth clubs. It was stressed that it was important that all parties, both residents and young people should try to see things from each others points of view. It was also stressed that not all young people in the parish attended local schools or the youth clubs.

Christmas Trees - it was agreed that Christmas Trees would be provided for Broomley School and the Dr Syntax as previously and that the trees in the Branch End garden would be decorated with lights.

### **b) Planning & Highways**

The Planning & Highways Report had been circulated.

Complaints had been received about levels of car parking on New Ridley Road and Painshawfield Road and these matters are to be brought up at the forthcoming meeting with Alan Bawn (NCC). It was also suggested that consideration be given to providing additional parking on the grassed area at the entrance to Birkdene. It was not felt that parking on New Ridley Road slowed down the traffic but did annoy drivers.

Proposal re Traffic through Stocksfield - A paper had been circulated suggesting ways to reduce the level of traffic through Stocksfield. After some discussion, it was agreed that it would be unrealistic to pursue the provision of a by-pass for Stocksfield but that the Parish Council should push for the provision of a river crossing to replace Ovingham Bridge. It was felt that a crossing in an appropriate situation should alleviate the level and weight of traffic using the A695. It was agreed that Planning & Highways would look at the paper and draw up a coherent proposal to put to the Eastern Parishes Forum. It was noted that the County Highways budget had been reduced in order to fund other areas of County expenditure.

Meeting with Alan Bawn - This meeting had been arranged for 10th October. Mrs Sayce, Mrs Drew, Mr Porter and Mrs Walker-Warhurst and Mrs Wade will attend.

SCA - Correspondence had been received from representatives of SCA regarding setting up a Community Consultation Forum - it was agreed to ask Mrs Barwick-Bell if she would be able to attend meetings of this Forum.

Correspondence regarding NECTAR had been circulated to the Planning & Highways and parish Plan Groups.

No 12 Batt House Road - Tynedale Planning Committee are to hold a site meeting to look at the planning application for this site.

Broomley Village - Mrs Warhurst-Walker raised concerns at the lack of response from staff at Tynedale Planning to queries regarding the most recent planning application for Broomley Village.

#### c) Parish Plan

Mrs Sayce advised that a productive meeting had been held with student representatives from Prudhoe Community High School. The students are to compile a questionnaire to be circulated to students at the High School and Ovingham Middle School.

Mrs Martin is gathering information from senior residents of the Parish. She advised that generally residents appear to be happy with the services and facilities on offer.

Mrs Davison is also talking to the Secretary at the Middle School who had suggested that they were keen to be involved with the local community.

#### d) Footpaths & Environment Group

The next meeting of the Footpaths Group will be held on 13th October. Councillors were requested to let Mr Chainey know of any concerns and in particular their thoughts on the possible provision of a fence where the footpath has been repaired by the Guesburn.

Mr Chainey also advised that there are still some outstanding issues with regard to the earlier problems with BOATS. This will be brought up at the Footpaths Group meeting.

Planters - The Youth Service had advised that they were unable to provide these and it was suggested that quotes be obtained from Dilston Daybreak and the Prison Service.

It was noted that the Salt Bin at the bottom of Birches Nook Road still had to be replaced.

#### e) Play Facilities Group

The Play Facilities Report was circulated at the meeting.

Kates Plain - it was noted that the central pole in the Teen Shelter at Kate's Plain had been damaged - it was however agreed that no action should be taken to repair this but that the condition of the shelter be monitored.

It was agreed that a sign should be put on back board of the basket ball net - saying it was not safe to swing on the ring.

The handyman is to be asked to move the litter bin nearer to the seats.

Branch End Play Area - It was noted that Kompan had under-estimated the cost of earth moving but that no additional charge had been made for this.

The official opening of the new facility would be on 21st October. Councillors were asked to volunteer with the refreshments.

The handyman to be asked to fence the gap in the hedge.

It was noted that a scale drawing of BEPA was needed in order that the site of the Phase II equipment, the new entrance and the Sensory Garden can be planned.

#### f) Sensory Garden

It was agreed that Mrs Martin would be the Parish Council representative on the Sensory Garden Project. It was felt that it was important to know who is leading this project. A committee needs to be appointed to raise funds.

#### g) Sports Facilities Group

The Sportsfield Management Group is still discussing rental levels and responsibilities with the users of the Sportsfields. Mrs Sayce advised that the Football Club are looking to attaining a Club Charter Mark which is something required by the FA if they are to be eligible for grants and training courses, etc.

MUGA - a community fund raising effort is being planned for immediately after Christmas. Anyone with ideas for this should see Julia.

#### h) Communication

Website - Dave Porter advised that he relies on residents to advise him of items to go on the website. The Surgery is to be asked to e-mail Mr Porter the text of their Surgery Newsletter to include on the website.

NE43 News - It was agreed to continue with the current format but to possibly try a tri-fold issue in the spring. D Porter is to look at other possibilities. The possibility of taking advertising was briefly discussed but it was agreed not to pursue this.

It was agreed that the Christmas issue should be in full colour.

#### i) Council Representatives

Eastern Parishes Forum - The Minutes of the most recent meeting had been circulated. The next meeting will be on 21st November at Stamfordham. Mr Chainey is unable to attend, but Mrs Sayce will try to be there.

#### **06/53 Other business - None**

#### **05/54 Date of Next Meeting**

6th November 2006

The meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.