

Broomley and Stocksfield Parish Council.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 4th July 201

Present: Councillors Julia Sayce (in the Chair), Pete Duncan, Ian Hall (8.15), Diane Hinchcliffe, Maggi Hunt, Norman Hooks, Melna Martin, Helen Morris, Keith Woods. Mrs M Williams, Clerk

Also present: - County Councillor Anne Dale - Karen Kirkland, PC Joanne Tennant

Apologies: - Pete Barrass, John Davison, Alan Verheyden

11/27 Mrs Sayce opened the meeting and welcomed PC Joanne Tennant, Neighbourhood Police Officer to the meeting.

PC Tennant said that the Police were aware of the problems on New Ridley Road and asked councillors to contact her if they had any further information.

Cycling on the pavements - concerns were raised about young people cycling on the pavements without apparent awareness of pedestrians and the hazards caused by driveways. It was acknowledged that for the children that this was probably safer than riding on the road. Again, PC Tennant asked to be made aware of who the offenders might be. She suggested that she might go into the schools to highlight the problem with the children.

Concerns were raised about vehicles parking on the pavement at the brow of the hill at the junction of New Ridley Road and Batt House Road.

Parking on the pavements in all areas of the parish continues to be a problem. Mrs Kirkland highlighted problems of vehicles crossing the pavement and parking on the grass in The Pastures. It was alleged that the drivers of the vehicles had verbally abused the residents. It was suggested that on occasion the grass in The Pastures had not been cut because of parked cars. Mrs Dale offered to bring this problem to the attention of the school governors.

Mrs Hunt commented that at every recent meeting of the Parish Council the question of cars being parked on the pavements had been raised as a problem.

Mrs Sayce thanked PC Tennant for attending the meeting.

11/28 - Declarations of Interest

Norman Hooks declared an interest in topics relating to the Community Association/Centre and the proposal for a Parish Office.

11/29 - Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th June

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th June 2011 were agreed

11/30 - Matters Arising -

Double yellow lines at Branch End. - The County Officer is to look at this issue and also the question of parking at Branch End.

Prudhoe Community High School is to let the Clerk have a list of meetings of the Community Liaison group Children's Heart Unit - Mrs Sayce, as Chairman, had responded to this consultation.

Focus on Youth - there was no progress to report at present

Burnside development site - the Enforcement Officer is away at present but Mrs Dale is to meet him to discuss this topic.

11/31 - Public Participation

This had been covered in the discussions with PC Tennant.

No other items were raised.

11/32 - Correspondence

Correspondence received since the June meeting had been listed on the Agenda and was noted.

The Clerk had been in correspondence with Ken Lord of the Whittonstall Action Group (Hoodsclouse Opencast) and it had been agreed that a leaflet from the Action Group would be included in NE43 News. Members of the Action Group will help with the distribution of the next issue of NE43 News. It was noted that if the County Council approves a planning application then there is no recourse to an appeal against the decision. If an application is refused planning permission then only the applicants can appeal against the decision. The Clerk was congratulated on the way she had responded to Mr Lord.

There had also been correspondence with a resident regarding parking outside Branch End Play Area.

It was agreed not to comment on the Review of Polling Stations issued by the County Council.

11/33 - Finance

The Accounts for June 2011 had been circulated, and were accepted.

The Bank Reconciliation for May 2011 was noted.

Expenditure for May was approved.

The documentation for opening the new account with the Co-operative Bank will be completed shortly.

Spend v Budget - the summary was noted. The F&GP Group is to consider the detail.

Internal Audit Review - had been circulated and was noted. The F&GP group had raised concerns that the internal auditor had written to the Clerk regarding her salary review and not to the Chairman.

Additional Cheques - were approved as follows:

Ashdale Nurseries	£214.50
Society of Local Council Clerks	£30.80
Play Safety Ltd	£201.60

11/34 - Advisory Groups & Council Representatives

a) - Finance & General Purposes Group

The F&GP group had not met in June.

Arrangements for authorisation during the summer break

Cheques: - Chair & Vice Chair up to £500 plus a larger amount to cover the Clerk's salary

Asset Transfer - if the paperwork comes through, then the Chair and Vice Chair have the authority to progress the matter.

Planning - Mr Hall to make arrangements with the Planning Group

Lease between Stocksfield Community Association and the Parish Council for use of the Parish Office - the Chair and Vice Chair have the authority to progress the matter.

Parish Office

Photocopier - details had been set out in the agenda papers and it was agreed to purchase a photocopier.

Telephones: details had been set out in the agenda papers and Maggi Hunt proposed and Pete Duncan seconded and it was agreed to take out an agreement with Plusnet for the supply of a telephone system.

Stationery - it was agreed that Pete Duncan would speak to 2B Graphics about this.

Furniture - The Clerk and the Manager of SCA are to visit County Hall in Morpeth to see what furniture is available.

Correspondence from Leiston-cum-Sizewell re the Sustainable Community Act. Mrs Hunt outlined her thoughts on this topic and it was agreed to support the general principles outlined in paras 21 and 2 of the letter from Leiston.

b) - Sports Facilities -

Sportsfield Parking - Pete Duncan had had an e-mail from the planners suggesting that they are likely to look favourably on the proposal. The Clerk and Pete Duncan had met with the representative from Allendale Estates to discuss the proposals. He is to write to Northumbrian Water regarding the water tank. Three quotations had been received for the work which will enable planning and funding applications to be made..

c) - Transport & Highways

Station Planting - No response had been received from Northern Rail to our letter requesting a meeting. It was noted that the "Station Adopter" (Julian Reisner) had retired. It was felt that the car park areas could be easily adopted. It was suggested that a list should be drawn up of what has to be done, sent to Northern Rail and say if no response we will assume that they agree to the proposals.

Electric Car Charging Points

Previous discussions about this topic had been inconclusive. Pete Duncan felt that the Parish Council could be making a mistake by not considering installing one in Stocksfield. He said that there were thousands being installed across Northumberland. It was noted that Pete Barrass had felt that this was too expensive for the Parish Council to install. It was felt that the Parish Council would take no action but that it was an issue that might be considered by the Community Development Trust.

[Suspension of Standing Orders -it was agreed that Standing Orders should be suspended and the meeting should continue until 10.00 p.m.]

(County Councillor Mrs Dale left at 9.00 p.m.)

d) - Play Facilities

Branch End Play Area

The Clerk had reported that part of the play area had been used as a toilet. It was agreed to erect a suitably worded notice discouraging this practice.

Cracks in footpath - The Clerk has written to the contractor about this.

Tyre Swing - It was agreed to cut out the offending links.

Community Garden - is continuing to be cared for. The volunteers would like another picnic table to be provided.

Kates Plain

It was suggested that the grass was not being cut as regularly as it should be.

Uneven surface - The handyman thinks that rolling the surface might be a waste of time. Preparatory work needs to be carried out following a spell of wet weather. It was agreed to ask the molecatcher for a price for treating moles.

e) - Planning

The Planning Report had been circulated.

It was noted that conditional approval had been granted for the site at 21 Cade Hill Road.

A brief report was given on the recent training even conducted by the County Council.

f) - Community Development -

In response to concerns raised at the June meeting, the following points were made by the Steering Group of the proposed community development trust:

A Development Trust must be 100% in tune with the Parish Council

In Allendale there had been a complete breakdown between the parish council and Sustainable Allendale.

The Development Trust looks at the Parish Plan to see how it works.

The Development Trust needs to up-date the parish council on what it is doing.

The Stocksfield Development Trust has had three meetings which had been well-supported by Social Enterprise Northumberland

The Stocksfield Development Trust has an all day session booked

The Stocksfield Development Trust has held a "visioning" session.

The Stocksfield Development Trust is looking into the mechanism of setting up a CDT

The Stocksfield Development Trust is looking at more easily achievable projects.

The Stocksfield Development Trust will possibly look at the possibility of providing a fish pass on the First Ford

The Stocksfield Development Trust is also looking at the possibility of a hydro electricity scheme - they hope to get The Engineering Business to produce a feasibility study.

2012 - the proposals for an East Tynedale series of summer events to celebrate the 2012 Olympics is now on the agenda for the East Tynedale Forum

Stocksfield Festival - a letter had been received requesting support for this year's event on 10th September. Ian Hall proposed, Maggi Hunt seconded and it was agreed to make a grant of £300 towards the Festival.

g) - Parish Plan Action Group -.progress on the actions highlighted in the Parish Plan need to be reviewed. Pete Duncan is to convene a meeting of at least one person from each advisory group and possibly of all parish councillors, hopefully in September, to discuss the progress made.

h) - Communications -

The proposed timetable for the production of the next issue had been noted and was agreed. Councillors were urged to send items for inclusion to the Clerk as early as possible. It was reported that Dave Porter would like some editorial freedom but it was agreed that the Parish Council needs to say what should be included..

i) - Footpaths Gardens & Environment -

It was reported that the County had advised that the Definitive Map was to be reviewed in relations to the Merryshields Footpath. It was noted that the relevant landowners need to respond to this revision.

Love Northumberland Awards - Stocksfield River Watch Group has been short-listed for an award. There is to be an awards evening at Alwick Garden when the prize winners will be presented with their award. It was asked if the Cubs were still involved with this group and councillors were advised that they were not but that Suzanne Richardson was keen to involve pupils at Broomley School.

j) - Council Representatives -

NCC Scrutiny Committee - Mrs Sayce had been unable to attend this meeting on 21st June.

West Area Committee - Mrs Hunt volunteered to attend the next meeting on 12th July

East Tynedale Forum - Mrs Sayce and Mr Hall to attend the next meeting. It was noted that the Forum had originally been a get together of local councils and that it was then enlarged. It is now going back to its original concept. Mrs Sayce asked Councillors to consider the revised constitution. It was felt that we do not need another layer of bureaucracy and that it was a good idea to revert to the original role.

Hospital Services in Tynedale - Mrs Martin volunteered to attend the meeting on 7th July.

NCC/Parish Councils - there will be a joint meeting of the County Council and Parish Councils on 11th October. Councillors were asked to make a note of this meeting.

k) - Policy Group - nothing to report

11/35 - Any Other Business -

It was agreed to write to Sheila Coulson wishing her well in her retirement as head teacher at Broomley County First School

Parking on Pavements - the wording for a suggested card to be put on cars requesting them not to park on the pavement was agreed.

It was reported that a dead oak tree was hanging over the path adjacent to Woodlands. The owner of the property is to be contacted.

Ian Hall reported that someone had tripped at Birches Nook and fallen against the "gatepost". Ian Hall is to make enquiries as to who owns/is responsible for this post.

Norman Hooks had written to Julia Sayce advising that he will resign from the Parish Council with effect from 6th September because of overwork with SCA and the CDT.

11/36 - Date of Next Meeting - 5th September 2011

Mrs Sayce closed the meeting by wishing everyone a good holiday.

The meeting closed at 9.55 p.m.