

Broomley and Stocksfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 3 October 2016 at Stocksfield Community Centre

Present: Ms M Hunt (Chair), Mr J Davison, Mr P Newman, Mr D Parke, Mr M Parker, Mrs K Pollock, Dr P Vickers.

Mr N Spencer (Clerk to the Council).

Apologies: Mrs J Furniss, Mrs J Robson, Mr J Roy, Professor R Thompson.

Also present: Mrs A Dale (County Councillor), Ms A Hawes (resident).

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed those present.

16/108 Declarations of Interest

The following declarations of interest were made: Chair, Dr Vickers, Mr Parker - Stocksfield Community Association; Mrs Pollock – Stocksfield Cricket Club, Mr Davison – Stocksfield Golf Club.

16/109 Public Participation

Birches Nook Cottages

Ms Hawes updated members on the developments in respect of the water ingress to her property and a series of meetings with Northumbrian Water (NWL) and Northumberland County Council (NCC). Work at the location had been undertaken on a number of days in September and members discussed some options available to Ms Hawes. Mrs Dale said that a report from NCC is awaited, together with a second report from NWL and undertook to arrange a meeting with Ms Hawes upon their receipt to identify anything missing. The Chair expressed concerns of members about the impact of the situation on Ms Hawes and potentially other residents. Ms Hawes said she would contact her insurers to investigate the possible instruction of surveyors and report further to the Council in due course.

16/110 County Councillor Update

Mrs Dale updated members in respect of prospective tenancies at Stobarts Field, New Ridley who were expected to move in during mid October. Eleven have been offered, all of which are connected to Stocksfield - five by current residence, two by employment and four by existing family residence. The New Ridley gateways are now in place but the design for the 20mph limit on the A695 will not be ready until the end of this financial year. Plans for the proposed 30mph limit in Hindley are now available. Mrs Dale has met with NCC's road safety officer at various sites including the A695 at Birches Nook, New Ridley Road and New Ridley village and will bring any reports to a future meeting. The volume, weights and speed of vehicles at various locations will also be monitored.

16/111 Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 September 2016

It was AGREED that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2016 were a true and accurate record (proposed Dr Vickers, seconded Mr Parke).

16/112 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

16/113 Finance

a) Approval of September Payments

It was AGREED that the payments for September be approved as detailed in the previously circulated schedule (proposed Mr Parke, seconded Mrs Pollock) and the summary of receipts and payments was noted.

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b) Budget monitoring to 30 September 2016

Members noted the previously circulated budget report.

16/114 Proposed Vehicle Activated Traffic Calming Sign (VATCS) at New Ridley

Mrs Dale referred to a previously circulated paper and asked if the Council is prepared in principle to assume ownership of a proposed VATCS at New Ridley and for its ongoing maintenance. The purchase of the device would be from the County Councillor's Small Scheme. The Chair reported that after the expiry of any warranty period, the annual cost would be in the region of £140 at today's prices. It was clarified that only one resident from New Ridley has approached the Council and made reference to VATCS. After discussion it was AGREED to await the results of NCC's assessment of vehicle speed and for the Chair to write to residents of New Ridley to identify their views.

Action: Chair

16/115 Advisory Groups

a) General Governance Advisory Group (GGAG)

i) Notes of GGAG meeting 19/09/16

Members noted the previously circulated notes.

ii) Local Transport Plan (LTP) Programme 2017-18

The Chair reported that the Council's requests for minor improvements had been notified to NCC. With reference to the request for the creation of a footpath in New Ridley village, NCC has pointed out that it is unlikely to attract funding as its main purpose is for leisure with few pedestrians. NCC has requested further information in respect of the parking problems on New Ridley Road. After discussion it was AGREED that

- The request for a footpath at New Ridley should remain in the Council's priorities and
- The key safety concerns on New Ridley Road in relation to parking on both sides of the road were a general unwillingness of many drivers to give way to oncoming traffic, vehicles being driven on the pavement to avoid having to give way, and cars being fully parked on and completely blocking the pavement in an attempt to avoid the parked vehicles on the road.

The Clerk was asked to notify NCC accordingly.

Action: Clerk

iii) External Audit for the year ended March 2016

Members approved and accepted the previously circulated audit certificate and asked that the minutes note their thanks to the Clerk for his work.

DISCHARGED

iv) Enforcement of unauthorised obstructions on the highway

The Chair referred to a previously circulated consultation from NCC about the above and after discussion it was AGREED to support the proposal.

Action: Clerk DISCHARGED

v) Proposed 30mph speed limit - Hindley

The Chair referred to the previously circulated proposal from NCC to implement a 30mph speed limit through Hindley and after discussion it was AGREED to support the proposal.

Action: Clerk DISCHARGED

vi) Northumberland LED street light project

Members noted the comments of residents in response to this matter and AGREED the specific issues raised should be reported to NCC.

Action: Clerk DISCHARGED

vi) Proposed 20mph speed limit A695 at Broomley School

Members considered the thirteen responses to the Council's request in the last NE43 News and noted that the proposed scheme for the A695 has yet to be determined by NCC. After discussion it was AGREED

- that there is no support for a 20mph speed limit on the A695 throughout Stocksfield
- that any 20mph limit needs to be kept to a reasonable length to ensure there is a realistic opportunity for the limit to be complied with and
- to await receipt of the proposed scheme from NCC in due course.

Action: Clerk

vii) Stocksfield Sports Field – Storage Container

The Chair referred to a previous decision of the Council to allow Stocksfield FC (SFC) to place a storage container no longer than twenty feet on the eastern field and its subsequent approval by Lord Allendale. The container that has been installed measures 27 feet. After

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discussion it was AGREED to require SFC to remove the existing container within 30 days and to replace it with a container of no more than twenty feet. **Action: Clerk DISCHARGED**
viii) NCC – future budgets

The Chair referred to a letter from the Chief Executive of the Northumberland Association of Local Councils which indicated the need for NCC to make cumulative revenue savings of £20M in the years 2018-19 and 2019-20. The matter will be subject of discussions at the forthcoming Town and Parish Councils' conference on 13 October 2016 and it is hoped further information will be available after then. Members noted her comments.

b) Planning Advisory Group (PAG)

Planning report

Members noted the previously circulated planning report and the delegated powers used as outlined below:

16/02928/FUL Ridley Mill House Ridley Mill Road Stocksfield	Proposed construction of additional timber stable to match existing.	No comment
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c) Rights of Way and Environment Advisory Group

This item was deferred until November's meeting due to the absence of Mr Roy.

16/116 Parish Council Representatives

Stocksfield Community Association Trading Arm (SCATA) Strategy Meeting

Dr Vickers had attended the above meeting on 20 September 2016 and updated members about discussions. He reminded members that SCATA was developed out of the Council's 2009 Parish Plan and explained the potential links with the developing Parish Council Plan. SCATA needs to identify what its future activities should involve and is interested in undertaking a village survey to assist in this process. There is potential for the Council to make use of such a survey to inform the Parish Council Plan. Members expressed approval in principle to a joint Council/SCATA survey, subject to consideration of a future detailed proposal. After discussion it was AGREED that Dr Vickers should be nominated as a Council representative to the SCATA Board. **Action: Clerk DISCHARGED**

16/117 Village Gateways

The Clerk reported that he had made contact with NCC in relation to the gateways at New Ridley. He had also looked at Stocksfield's three gateways with the Groundsman and is looking to establish greater consistency in the planting across the three sites. Members noted the update. **Action: Clerk DISCHARGED**

16/118 Any Other Urgent Business

Telephone Boxes

The Clerk referred to receipt today of proposals by BT to remove the three remaining telephone boxes from the parish, namely those located at A695 Birches Nook, A695 opposite the railway station and at Broomley village. In view of the 21 day period to respond, it was AGREED that the matter should be considered by the PAG and any views of members should be forwarded to Mr Parker. **Action: Mr Parker**

Letter of thanks – Community Action Northumberland (CAN)

The Chair reported receipt of a letter of thanks from CAN in response to the Council's recent donation.

16/119 Date of Next Meeting

Monday 7 November 2016

The meeting closed at 9.26pm.