

Broomley and Stocksfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 2 October 2017 at Stocksfield Community Centre

Present: Ms M Hunt (Chair), Mrs J Furniss, Mr C Liddle, Mr D Parke, Mr M Parker, Mrs J Robson, Dr P Vickers.

Mr N Spencer (Clerk to the Council).

Apologies: 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.

17/104 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

17/105 Public Participation

Birches Nook Cottages

Ms Hawes said that staff from Northumberland County Council (NCC) and Northumbrian Water had not attended the planned meeting on 11 September 2017. After discussion Ms Hawes agreed to provide Mrs Dale with a few dates in March 2018 so that a further site meeting can be arranged. Ms Hawes will update the Council in due course.

Bus shelter Branch End

Mr Liddle has been approached by a resident who said that elderly and/or disabled users of the shelter are unable to see approaching buses whilst sitting on the bench in the shelter. The Clerk was asked to look at the issue.

Action: Clerk

17/106 County Councillor Update

Mrs Dale updated members on her submissions to the Local Transport Plan Programme 2018/19.

17/107 Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 September 2017

It was AGREED that the minutes of the meeting held on 4 September 2017 were a true and accurate record (proposed Mrs Furniss, seconded Dr Vickers).

17/108 Matters Arising

Christmas trees and lights

The Clerk updated that the trees had been ordered but the likely cost of replacement low voltage lighting was significant. He AGREED to provide details to a future meeting.

Action: Clerk

17/109 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 Furniss) and the summary of receipts and payments was noted.

b) Budget monitoring report to 30/09/17

Members received and noted the budget monitoring report of the Clerk. **DISCHARGED**

17/110 Parish Council Representatives

Community Transport

Dr Vickers updated members on a visit he had made to Bell View Care at Belford with board members of Stocksfield Community Association. Amongst other things Bell View Care provides community transport for local residents.

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17/111 Advisory Groups

a) General Governance Advisory Group (GGAG)

i) Notes of GGAG meeting 18/09/17

Members noted the previously circulated notes.

ii) Sports Field overspill car park – Public Works Loan Board

The Chair referred to a previously circulated report by the Clerk and the guidance documents from the Department for Communities and Local Government. Members noted that the estimated costs of the project are in the region of £50,000 but the final costs are not yet known. After discussion, it was AGREED (proposed Mr Parke, seconded Mrs Furniss) to seek the Secretary of State's approval to borrow £60,000 repayable over 20 years, recognising that although the Council has yet to set its budget and precept for 2018/19, the repayments for any such loan can be made without an increase in the precept from the current financial year.

Action: Clerk

iii) Dogs on Sports Fields: Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO)

Members considered a previously circulated report outlining the legal advice from the National Association of Local Councils and after discussion it was AGREED to ask NCC to reconsider their decision not to impose a PSPO banning dogs from the sports fields, on the grounds that this area is a de facto playing field for Broomley First School and is therefore a special case, given the fact that NCC has a duty of care to pupils at the school; to include further reference in this request to the Colchester PSPO which creates a precedent. **Action: Clerk**

iv) Play Area Inspections 2017

Members noted a previously circulated report from the Clerk which identified the remedial work undertaken or planned to address the matters raised in the most recent inspection by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents as well as other ancillary matters.

Action: Clerk DISCHARGED

v) Sports Field User Group (SFUG)

Members noted the previously circulated notes of the meeting held on 31/07/17 and the Chair explained the relationship between the Parish Council, the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) Committee and the SFUG. After discussion it was AGREED to amend the SFUG Terms of Reference to allow for a MUGA Committee meeting to take place within, but at the end of, SFUG meetings and to ask the Clerk to liaise with members of the MUGA Committee to propose amendments to its constitution which reflect working practices whilst retaining effective accountability.

Action: Clerk

vi) Donation request – Lifespan Complementary

It was AGREED to donate £100 to Lifespan Complementary from the funds raised at the bonfire event in 2016.

Action: Clerk DISCHARGED

b) Planning Advisory Group (PAG)

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

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| 17/02963/FUL 291 New Ridley Road | Proposed demolition of single storey conservatory at rear, erection of dormer window to front, two storey extension to rear | No comment Note use of delegated authority |
| 17/03405/FUL Cornelia 9 Meadowfield Terr | Proposed rear extension and balcony | No comments Note use of delegated authority |

The Clerk reported that a site visit for members of NCC's Local Area Committee in respect of 17/02440/FUL, Meadsway, New Ridley has been arranged for 11.30am on Monday 9 October. Mr Parker and Dr Vickers agreed to attend on behalf of the Council.

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c) Rights of Way and Environment Advisory Group (RoWEAG)

i) Notes of meeting held on 18/09/17

Members noted the notes of the meeting.

ii) Railway station ambassador

Dr Vickers highlighted the desire of the Tyne Valley Community Rail Partnership to appoint ambassadors from within the community for each station and outlined the role.

iii) Flood planning

The Clerk referred to the updated flood plan which is now available on the Council's website. He also circulated a flood planning leaflet which had been circulated to houses around Stocksfield Burn and a risk assessment for the flood warden role. Members noted the documents accordingly.

17/112 Rural Services Network

After discussion it was AGREED that the Chair will represent the Council in dealings with Rural Services Network and report to the Council as necessary. **Action: Chair DISCHARGED**

17/113 Eastern Sports Field – lease renewal

The Clerk referred to a previously circulated report and outlined the revised legal advice that the 'alienation' clause of the new lease should be amended if possible to allow the Council to sub let with permission of Allendale Estates. An amended clause has been proposed and after discussion it was AGREED (proposed Mr Parke, seconded Mr Parker) to delegate authority to the Clerk to approve an amendment to the previously agreed lease in accordance with the report subject to its approval also by Allendale Estates. **Action: Clerk**

17/114 Any other urgent business

Cycling Time Trial National Hill Climb 29/10/17

Mr Liddle said he is to meet the organiser of the above event on 09/10/17 to discuss the arrangements and Mr Parke also agreed to attend.

Sling Rotator – Branch End Play Area

The Clerk reported that the weekly play area inspections had revealed loosening of bolts on the above newly installed equipment. The Groundsman has made the equipment safe and the suppliers have arranged to make an inspection within a week.

17/115 Date of next meeting

Monday 6 November 2017

The Chair thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.58pm.