



## Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 24 February 2020 in Bardon Mill & Henshaw Village Hall

Present; Councillors J Oliver (Chair), J. Benson, A. Saunders, C Kennedy, M. A. Smith (Clerk).

### 1. Introduction and Welcome.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 2. Apologies for Absence.

Councillors S. Armstrong, P. Robbie, V. Gibson. County Councillor A. Sharp.

### 3. Declarations of Interest.

None received.

### 4. Public Questions.

None received.

### 5. Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 27 January 2020.

5.1 These were read and approved.

### 6. Matters arising and actions from previous minutes.

6.1 All matters were covered in the meeting.

### 7. General Amenities (Footpaths, Access, Seating and Lighting).

7.1 The overgrown ivy/planting blocking footpaths in Towhouse has still not been attended to. Clerk to take this up with the County Council.

7.2 The grassed area at Broadacres continues to be an issue. Previous discussions regarding widening the road to allow easier access for vehicles seemed positive but to date no further action has been taken by either Karbon Homes or the County Council. Clerk and Cllr Sharp to follow up.

7.3 The Council seat near Brockalee is still to be repaired. Clerk to follow up.

7.4 Bardon Mill and Henshaw Parish Council's are providing a commemorative seat next to the War Memorial as part of VE Day. A letter has been sent to local businesses and organisations and donations have been received. Full details to be presented to the next meeting.

7.5 A local resident had submitted a request for a new bus shelter on the north side of the road at Towhouse which had been endorsed by Members at the January meeting. The Clerk advised that he had consulted the suppliers and the County Council but unfortunately the location is too close to the road junction and would interfere with sightlines. It would be possible to have the shelter with the glass panel at the rear but it was considered this would provide very little protection and would look out of place with the shelter opposite being the other way around. Agreed the Clerk respond to the resident to advise of the situation and ask if there was an alternative location.

7.6 The Clerk advised that the County Council and Bus Operators are looking into options to finally have the bus timetable installed on the display boards.

### 8. Maintenance Programme.

8.1 Village Greens. The Clerk advised that the quote for 2020/21 was still awaited.

8.2 General maintenance. No further matters were raised.

### 9. Planning Applications.

9.1 The Clerk advised no applications had been received.

### 10. Highway Matters.

10.1 A69 Issues. A letter has been sent to local businesses and organisations to see if they will provide a letter of support to the campaign to improve safety on this increasingly dangerous road. To date there have not been any replies.

10.2 It was reported to the previous meeting that an email had been received asking if a new path could be installed on the north side of the A69 to make access to the new Spar minimarket easier from Henshaw. Clerk to write to Highways England as soon as possible on this.



## 11. Redburn Park.

11.1 The Clerk advised that inspections by the Cemetery Team were being undertaken each month and additional work has been agreed to repair the Pitman's Trail.

11.2 Some of the play equipment is still in need repair or replacement (such as the basketball backboard and hoop). Clerk to action this as soon as possible as the spring/summer approaches.

11.3 The request to erect fencing at the eastern end of the playing field to allow dogs onto the area and through to the Pitman's Trail is outstanding and would be actioned as soon as possible.

## 12. Bardon Mill & Henshaw Village Hall.

12.1 There were no issues raised on this item.

## 13. Northumberland National Park.

13.1 The Chair advised he was looking to arrange a meeting with the Chair of Bardon Mill Parish Council and Tony Gates of the NNPA regarding displays/attractions at the Sill.

13.2 An application is to be made for a 'tourist sign' situated at the Sill junction advising visitors of the availability of local services and the Clerk to discuss further with the Chair and Cllr Sharp on this.

## 14. Henshaw School.

14.1 An update was given on events and activities at the school.

## 15. Report by Clerk on Financial Matters.

15.1 Funds held by the Parish Council were confirmed as follows:

- Current Account £3,289.89
- Easement Account £5,361.92

15.2 Payments approved:

- Haltwhistle & District Joint Burial Committee (Redburn Park Maintenance) £651.00 & £69.40

15.3 Payments to Credit:

- Bardon Mill Parish Council (Shared Facilities Agreement) £297.00.
- Northern Powergrid (Wayleave) £20.91

15.4 Budgets.

- The Clerks report on budgets was considered and approved.

## 16. Members Issues.

16.1 Many of the signs in the area are in poor repair and some have wrong distances on them. Clerk to ask the County Council if this could be looked at.

16.2 The condition of the road leading to the Station is still in very poor repair but this is not owned by Network Rail so they will not carry out repairs. Clerk to make further enquiries on ownership.

## 17. Northumberland County Council Councillor Update.

17.1 Councillor Sharp had sent apologies and the Clerk would liaise direct on any relevant matters.

## 18. General Matters and Correspondence since last meeting.

18.1 The Clerk advised all recent newsletter and information had been circulated by email.

## 19. Any other relevant business.

No additional items were raised.

20. **Date and time of next meeting** to be Monday 23 March 2020 at 7.00pm (*Post meeting note – this meeting was cancelled as a result of the Covid-19 crisis*).

**Signed and Approved at the Meeting held on 24 August 2020.....**

Michael Anthony Smith, Clerk to Henshaw Parish Council

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