

**Cresswell Parish Council  
Meeting Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2018**

**Cresswell Village Hall 7PM**

**Draft Minutes of the Meeting**

**18.01. Present**

**Councillors:** M. Wright (Chair), C. Tyrie, T. Steele, L. Wright, D Laing, G Phillips

**In attendance:**

I. Robson (clerk)  
K. MacDonald (NCC)

and five members of the public

**18.02. Apologies:**

Cllr S. Haywood

**18.03. Presentation - Ken Macdonald, Gypsy, Romany, Traveller Liaison Officer, NCC**

Mr MacDonald gave a presentation to the Parish Council about the garden plots. He explained his role was to manage unauthorised encampments across the County. He reminded Cllrs that Gypsies, Romany and Travellers are a protected minority group by law. His main points were;

- The garden plots are privately owned
- There is no record of significant crime or anti-social behaviour associated with the plots
- NCC report no environmental issues associated with the plots
- In respect of planning, the parking and use of touring caravans by plot owners is permitted.
- Only a few of the plots are regularly used

Mr MacDonald suggested that the Parish Council should work with the plot owners to secure and maintain the garden plots. If plot owners were unwilling to work with the Parish Council then the Council could take action to secure the plots.

Cllr M. Wright thanked Mr MacDonald for his time

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Initials

**Agreed:** To discuss Mr MacDonald's recommendations at the next meeting.

#### **18.04. Declaration of Interests, and grant of any dispensations**

Cllr M Wright – Village Hall and Pele Tower (Item 13 and 14)

Cllr L Wright – Village Hall (Item 13)

#### **18.05 Election of Chair**

Cllr M Wright was nominated by Cllr Laing, this was seconded by Cllr Tyrie and was elected as the Chairman for the forthcoming municipal year.

#### **18.06 Election of Vice-Chair**

Cllr Laing was nominated by Cllr Tyrie, this was seconded by Cllr L. Wright and was elected as the Vice-Chair for the forthcoming municipal year.

#### **18.07 Questions from the public**

18.07.1 – A member of the public asked why the brambles and shrubs had been cut down along the wall east of St Bartholomews Close. The Cllrs weren't aware this had been done.

**Agreed:** The Clerk write to NCC to ask why this had been done

(20:15 Cllr Tyrie left the meeting)

18.07.2 – A member of the public asked about signs to discourage littering of the beach.

**Agreed:** To investigate signs

18.07.3 – Village Hall Extension. A member of the public asked whether the ramp at the front entrance of the Village Hall would be re-instated on the completion of the work. Cllr M. Wright informed that there was no room to accommodate the ramp and this had been agreed by building control as there is ramped access at the side of the hall.

#### **18.08 Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2018 were agreed as a true and accurate record and were signed and dated by the Chair.

#### **18.09. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

<https://northumberlandparishes.uk/cresswell>



Initials

18.09.1 (17.46.2) Path link to car park – The Clerk informed that NCC were progressing with plans for the path link.

18.09.2 (17.46.4) 20mph scheme – The scheme was now in place and Cllrs thought it had reduced speed in the village.

18.09.3 – (17.50) Harworth Estates – Cllr Wright informed there had been no further progress.

## **18.10 Financial Report**

The Chair tabled the financial report for the financial year end which had been audited by M. Dance. The accounts were agreed and the Chair thanked M. Dance for her work.

The Chair reported that in line with recommendations in the auditors report for 2016/17, the Clerk would be the Responsible Financial Officer from May 2018.

## **18.11 Correspondence**

18.11.1 - NCC Weed Control – Noted

18.11.2 – NCC town centre parking. Cllr Wright informed that he'd written to Cllr Glen Sanderson at NCC about parking in Cresswell

18.11.3 – CAN News – Noted

18.11.4 Email from Gary and Michelle Wild re: planting of the green with wildflowers and horses in their garden.

The issue of horses in the garden was discussed and it was agreed that this was a one-off issue and the Parish Council would not pursue it. With regard to wildflowers on the green, the Chair agreed to check the status of the village green outside the Wilds' property and report back, however it was felt that any fencing on the green would be inappropriate.

18.11.5 (Additional item not on agenda) – NCC – Surface dressing of Cresswell Road

NCC had written to inform that the C122 would be surface-dressed before July between Highthorn Estate and the Crows Nest – Noted.

## **18.12. Planning**

17.38.1 Applications

Only one application was considered:

<https://northumberlandparishes.uk/cresswell>

Initials

18/01353/FUL – Proposed sub-division of unit 10 Dovecote Mews, Cresswell Hone Farm.

The Clerk noted that this was a resubmission.

**Resolved:** There were no objections and the clerk should record provide a 'no comment' response.

### **18.13 Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for 2017/18**

The clerk explained the AGAR process for 2017/18.

18.13.1 - To consider and agree any actions arising from the report of the internal auditor

There were no actions arising and the report of the internal auditor was agreed.

18.13.2 - To approve the Annual Governance Statement

The annual governance statement was circulated and approved. It was signed by the Chair and the Clerk/RFO.

18.13.3 - To approve the draft annual accounts for 2017/2018

The draft accounts were agreed.

18.13.4 - To approve the Accounting Statement and Explanation of Variances

The accounting statement was circulated and agreed. It was signed by the Chair and Clerk/RFO. The Chair circulated an explanation of variances which was agreed.

18.13.5 - To confirm and approve the Certification of Exemption

This was circulated and it was agreed that the Clerk/RFO should submit it to the external auditors. It was duly signed by the Chair and Clerk/RFO.

### **18.14 Village Hall Update**

The Chair reported that progress with the extension and building work was on-track and will be largely complete by the end of the month.

**Noted**

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Initials

**18.15. Pele Tower Update**

The Pele Tower team had met with HLF NorthEast and the Chair reported tha the meeting had gone well. A decision will be made by HLF on 8<sup>th</sup> June for the Stage 2 application.

**18.16. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**

The clerk explained the new GDPR legislation. As the Parish Council don't retain personal information about anyone other than the employees and the Parish Councillors there should be little or no impact on the Parish Council. The clerk stated that there were policies from National NALC that could be adopted and he would look into this. NALC had informed that it would be unlikely that Parish Council would need to have a specific Data Officer but this was subject to a law being passed in parliament.

**18.17 Beach Cleaning**

Cllr Tyrie asked that a poster from British Divers Marine Life Rescue (BDMLR) be displayed. It was suggested that the noticeboard could be used but that the noticeboard was in a poor state of repair.

**Resolved:** The Clerk should seek prices for replacement a noticeboard.

**17.41 Dates of next meetings**

- 8<sup>th</sup> August
- 7<sup>th</sup> November
- 6<sup>th</sup> February

The meeting closed at 20:50

**Signed**..... Cllr Michael Wright (Chair) **Date**.....