

BYWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Monday 20th January 2020 at Newton & Bywell Community Hall at 7.00pm

Present: Cllrs Wright (in the Chair), Scott and Richardson. Also in attendance - Monica Anderton, Clerk, and County Cllr Quinn.

1. **Apologies received:** Cllrs Gillespie and Capadose.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None
3. **Minutes from meeting of 18th November 2019:** These were agreed as a true record.
4. **Matters arising:** ~ The planters on the bridge: this had been agreed with the County Council and they should go when a convenient time appears. The Clerk will send a reminder;
~ Bollards on Stelling road – these have not yet been removed. The acting Chair believes that planning permission can be given but nothing has come forward: the position would be clarified with the County Council;
~ Cllr Thompson had very kindly done some repair work on the bus shelters and the old bench in Newton Village near Edges Green. The Council is very grateful for this and awaits an invoice for materials so he can be reimbursed;
5. **Reports:** a) Chair's report: The acting Chair had nothing to report other than what appears later in item 9 – and the comments above relating to the bollards;
b) Cllr Quinn: There was little to report. Cllr Quinn took note of the state of the road near Meadows Nursery (see Item 9); in response to a query about the black gravel piles put around the village – it appears this is to aid roads in bad weather.
6. **Planning:** 19/04577/FUL – Conversion Westside Gallery to residence: the Parish Council had no objections to this;
19/02271/VARYCO – To amend condition 2 at Tofts cottages houses with respect to pillars and lighting: this was granted permission.
7. **Correspondence:** the list of correspondence received was noted; The Clerk, Clerks and Councils Direct – January; CPRE National, winter.
8. **Finance:** a) The Balance at 31st December 2019 was £2072.29
b) The following payments were authorised:

Clerk, Salary, December 2019	£291.72
Clerk, Salary, January 2020	£291.72
Clerk, Expenses (to date)	£52.34
NBCT, Room	£19.00
SLCC – ann. Subs for 2020	£109.00
CPRE – ann. Sub 2020	£36.00

Donations requests for Life Span, Northumberland Theatre company and another part of Tynedale Hospice at Home were refused.

c) Precept: Following discussion, (and some comments received from absent Cllrs); and looking at the estimates both to the end of the current financial year and for 20/21; it was agreed to increase the precept by a further £1000 to £9500. Expenditure will be very tight up to March 2020 this year; and it was also agreed to ask that the grass be cut once every 4 weeks this coming year in order to make some savings. It is also expected there **may** be some legal costs incurred if the A69 works go ahead.

9. **AOB:** ~ The broken bridge on Footpath 14 had been reported and will be repaired;

~ There are still problems with finding someone to run the website. It is thought that Anne Moyle has kindly agreed to look after it on a month by month basis in the meantime. It is hoped she will also provide a detailed document of what is needed for another person to take over;

~ The poor state of the road to Stamfordham at the bend by Meadows Nursery has been reported to the Highways authority and Cllr Quinn has also made a note to follow up on this;

~ There was nearly a serious accident, again, at the back entrance to Mowden Hall School; the Parish Council has requested white lines and/or speed bumps in the past but will ask again, that in the interests of safety, this be done speedily. It is a private road and the School's responsibility;

~ details of the start of work at the Hexham roundabout have been circulated.

10. **Date of next meeting:** Monday 16th March 2020 at 7.00pm

Chair:

Date: