



Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 28 June 2021 in Bardon Mill & Henshaw Village Hall

Present; Councillors J Oliver (Chair), V Gibson, A. Saunders, D. Finlayson, J. Benson, S. Armstrong, County Councillor A. Sharp, M. A. Smith (Clerk).

1. Introduction and Welcome.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence.

Cllr C. Kennedy.

3. Declarations of Interest.

None received.

4. Public Questions.

None Received.

5. Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 24 May 2021.

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 footpaths from Henshaw School to Bardon Mill are now scheduled for repair in early July.

7.2 The streetlight on the Henshaw junction from the A69 still needs the tree branches cutting back as do the ones on the road from Redburn to Bardon Mill.

7.3 The Councils owned seat/benches are scheduled to be inspected in July.

7.4 Two of the kissing gates in the fields past the Roman Hall are still broken and in need of repair.

7.5 There are numerous overgrown hedges at near to Broadacres making the footpaths unusable and the County Council should be contacting the owners or arranging rechargeable works.

7.6 The verge alongside the footpath from Riverdale to Bardon Mill needs strimming.

8. Maintenance Programme.

8.1 Village Greens and Grassed Areas are being maintained satisfactorily although there are numerous grassed areas and verges which are overgrown and unsightly.

8.2 General maintenance. The roadside verges leading up from Henshaw/Bardon Mill to the National Park had been cut recently but would soon be need to be done again. The issue of the jointly owned Parish Council verge cutter was raised with disappointment expressed that this was not giving value for money and would be expensive if it was used to cut all of the verges.

9. Planning Applications.

9.1 There were no applications to report.

10. Highway Matters.

10.1 A69 Issues. An update on the forthcoming works had been circulated. There is a speed survey underway and new safety barriers would be installed adjacent to Falcon Grange in August. Despite numerous requests from the Parish Council, Roadlink/Highways England refuse to repair the footpath alongside the A69, and in particular the section opposite Henshaw Garage. The Clerk was pursuing this further with the County Council and local MP.

10.2 Work to widen/clear the road (Redburn to Bardon Mill) has still not been done.

10.3 The Bardon Mill village sign needs cleaning as it is now so dirty it is unreadable.

10.5 The road near Craggside needs signage and markings such as 'Slow' and 'Narrow Road'.

10.6 Access Road at Broadacres. This is a long standing issue and Members were of the opinion that as agreement between Karbon Homes and the County Council had been reached that work to widen the road by taking up a small corner of the grassed area would be carried out. This to be raised again with the County Council.

11. Redburn Park.

11.1 The Clerk advised that the monthly inspections were continuing as programmed and the annual inspection by RoSPA had been completed in June and circulated to Members.



11.2 A number of issues were raised such as repairs/replacement of picnic benches, maintenance of the Pitman's Trail, and repairs to the basketball net. The Clerk advised these issues, and any repairs recommended by the RoSPA report, would be assessed and actioned as soon as possible.

12. Bardon Mill & Henshaw Village Hall.

12.1 The hall re-opened in May with classes and events gradually coming back on stream.

12.2 There was a need to seek new representatives on the Committee and volunteers and Cllr Finlayson would be issuing posts on the local Facebook page and website for expressions of interest.

13. Northumberland National Park.

13.1 An update on developments in the National Park was given by Cllr Saunders and this included an outline of proposals to manage/improve land and the funding that was now available.

13.2 Cllrs Gibson and Saunders have been re-elected as Parish Representatives on the NNPA board.

14. Henshaw School.

14.1 A detailed update on activities and events at the school was given by Cllr Finlayson.

14.2 The school is seeking donations for outside equipment such as picnic benches and tables. It was agreed that if a formal request is submitted to the Parish Council this could be considered.

15. Report by Clerk on Financial Matters.

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

- Current Account £6,405.40
- Easement Account £5,361.92

15.2 Payments approved:

- Playsafety Limited (RoSPA Report for Redburn Park) £141.00
- Haltwhistle & District Joint Burial Committee (Redburn Park Works) £176.20
- Haltwhistle Town Council (Supply of Dog Bags) £109.00
- PPH Hire & Supplies (Supply of Materials) £24.00
- Wages £639.12
- HMRC £159.60
- Expenses £122.30

16. Members Issues.

16.1 The Signal Box at Bardon Mill is falling into disrepair. As this was recently listed then it was considered it should be maintained properly. Clerk to follow this up.

16.2 The bankside is gradually eroding away adjacent to the Sewage Treatment Works. It was considered that Northumbrian Water should be looking into this before the situation gets worse and the treatment works are affected. Agreed the Clerk would write to NWA on this matter.

17. Northumberland County Council Councillor Update.

17.1 Councillor Sharp had provided updates on various matters but as many of the issues raised regarded work that should be done by the County Council he would arrange a site meeting with the relevant Officers. Cllr Armstrong agreed to attend to discuss the issues and work needed.

18. General Matters and Correspondence since last meeting.

18.1 The Clerk advised all correspondence had been circulated but advised that there is to be a resurvey of the Station to assess the need for improvements and that a draft agreement for the use of the Quoits pitches on Bardon Mill Village Green had been prepared for consideration.

19. Any other relevant business.

No additional items were raised.

20. Date and time of next meeting Monday 26 July 2021 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

Signed and Approved at the Meeting held on 26 July 2021

Michael Anthony Smith, Clerk to Henshaw Parish Council

c/o 1 Wilsons Cottages, Henshaw, Hexham, Northumberland, NE47 7EN. Tel: 01434 344647

Email: henshawparishclerk@outlook.com Web: <https://northumberlandparishes.uk/henshaw>