

HENSHAW PARISH COUNCIL



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Minutes of Meeting held on 28 March 2022 in Bardon Mill & Henshaw Village Hall

Present: Councillors J Oliver (Chair), V. Gibson, A. Saunders, C. Kennedy, J. Benson, S. Armstrong, County Councillor A. Sharp, M. A. Smith (Clerk), 2 Members of the Public.

1. Introduction and Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

Cllr D. Finlayson.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Oliver (Potential land ownership issue re Falcon Grange).

4. Public Questions

The Clerk and Cllr Sharp provided an update on the issues at Falcon Grange and advised that the County Council are still reviewing the position with regards to stopping up orders and maintenance responsibilities. A 'zoom' meeting was soon to be held between the respective parties and details of the discussion would be issued by the Clerk thereafter.

5. Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 28 February 2022

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 An update was given on the outstanding works:

- The gates on the Right of Way between the Roman Hall (Henshaw) and Brockalee were to be replaced but likely this would not be until April/May.
- Additional lighting is needed on the approach to Bardon Mill from Redburn and Cllr Sharp has agreed to fund this from his Member Allowance.
- Drainage works on the road to Scotchcoulthard and repairs to the road in Wark Forest were programmed for late April.

8. Maintenance Programme

8.1 Village Greens. The Clerk had spoken to the complainant regarding the damage to the village greens and advised that the situation would be closely monitored.

8.2 General maintenance. Repairs to the road in Henshaw would be carried out as soon as possible.

9. Planning Applications

9.1 Conversion to Residential Use – Joiners Shop, Castle View Henshaw (22/00716/FUL). There were no objections raised to the application but the Clerk was asked to respond to say that there should be no works, storage of materials, or damage on or to the adjoining village green.

9.2 Change of Use Class – West of Craggside Stables, Bardon Mill (22/00753/VARYCO). Again, no objections were raised but requested that the Clerk respond to say the change of use should be residential only and not for 'holiday let'.

10. Highway Matters

10.1 A69 Issues. A further response was awaited from Guy Opperman MP (following his discussions with the Chief Constable) and a date awaited on the next meeting with National Highways.

10.2 Clerk was asked to check the Speed Warning Sign outside Redburn Park was still working and, if necessary, arrange for a replacement battery.

11. Redburn Park

11.1 The Clerk advised that the monthly inspections were continuing as planned.

11.2 There appeared to be a 'camp' being created to the south of the park with possible access being taken onto the rail line. Cllr Armstrong was to meet with Network Rail and arrange repair and replacement of fencing where necessary.

12. Bardon Mill & Henshaw Village Hall

12.1 The hall continues to be well used with the next Committee meeting on 6 April.

13. Northumberland National Park

13.1 Cllr Gibson and Cllr Saunders provided an update on the Management Plan which is to be issued for consultation shortly. There had been a recent promotional event at Greenlee in respect of the 'farming for nature' project which would see re-wilding of farmland.

14. Henshaw School

14.1 The new Headteacher was due to start at the school shortly.

15. Report by Clerk on Financial Matters

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

- Current Account £3,391.64
- Easement Account £5,361.92

15.2 Income (to be invoiced):

- Bardon Mill Parish Council (Shared Assets Agreement) £55.57

15.3 Payments to approve:

- Haltwhistle & District Joint Burial Committee (Works at Redburn Park and Repair to Henshaw Noticeboard) £170.80
- Clerk (Wages, Expenses and Reimbursements) £1078.85
- HMRC £171.00

15.4 The Clerk advised that following the above transactions the estimated account would be £2,026.59.

16. Members Issues

16.1 The Carnival is being planned for the summer to be held on the Playing Fields.

17. Northumberland County Council Councillor Update

17.1 Cllr Sharp had updated on issues earlier and had left part way through the meeting.

18. General Matters and Correspondence since last meeting

18.1 Bardon Mill Station. Northern Trains had recently sent plans of the proposed improvements (new frontage with 3 small windows and painted interior). The Clerk had discussed these with the TVCRP and it was considered they were 'minimal' at best. Agreed that the Clerk reply to ask for further upgrades such as substantial repair to the shelter, lighting, seating, resurfacing and repair to the access road, and to ask for work to be put on hold until further discussions had been held.

18.2 Bardon Mill Signal Box. The Clerk had contacted Historic England and the County Council regarding the deterioration of the 'listed' Signal Box and was working with the TVCRP to produce a list of visible defects (with supporting photographs) which would be sent to Historic England, Heritage Railway Trust, and the County Council (Conservation) for consideration.

19. Any other relevant business

No additional items were raised.

20. Date and time of next meeting Tuesday 26 April 2022 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

Signed and Approved at the Meeting held on 26 April 2022.....