

HAZLERIGG PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 27th April 2023 AT HAZLERIGG VILLAGE MEMORIAL HALL

Present: Councillors Locke (Chair), Fairley, Barbour, Young, Garbett.

In attendance: Councillor Avaei (Castle Ward Councillor), 5 local residents & Ali Lamb (Clerk)

AGENDA

| Item | Action |
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| <p>1. Welcome & apologies Cllr Locke welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllr Thorp.</p> | |
| <p>2. Minutes of the meeting held on 30th March 2023 were agreed and signed by Cllr Locke.</p> | |
| <p>3. Matters arising not otherwise on the agenda Cllr Avaei was asked if he had an update on Cllr Campion's enquiries about a safety review on the zebra crossing on Coach Lane. He agreed to chase it up. Parish Councillors would like to be informed when it is happening so they can contribute.</p> | Cllr Avaei |
| <p>4. Issues raised by residents 5G Mast – a resident showed a 'Restore TV' leaflet that has been delivered in the village offering a free service to households that are experiencing interference with their TV reception. The offer comes from a consortium of mobile providers and assumed to be related to the mast.</p> <p>Information about a judicial review in Fishergate, which had led to the relocation of a 5G Mast, has been shared with the Parish Council by a resident. Cllr Avaei confirmed that he would be supporting the Parish Council in their efforts to have the mast relocated on the grounds of visual amenity and the procedural errors that had been made in the planning process.</p> <p>Cllr Locke noted that the public's comments on the retrospective planning application were still not fully shown on the planning portal and that the consultation period had now been extended until 31.5.23. She also noted that there was a 6-week window following the planning decision, in which legal action could be taken to challenge the decision. Any legal action would have to be taken by an individual resident and the costs to that individual are capped at £5k.</p> <p>There was a discussion about whether crowd funding might be successful to raise the funds required, however, given the amount required and the complexity of the process, it would not be pursued by the council.</p> <p>Parish Boundary Review – it was agreed that this will now be a standing item on future agendas. A resident also said they would suggest the same thing to Brunswick PC. The Clerk will write to Electoral Services to ask for clarification on the consultation process and the timescales.</p> | Clerk |
| <p>5. Public Authorities' Duty to Conserve Biodiversity Cllr Locke confirmed that the government were publishing new guidance for public authorities, including Parish Councils, which requires them to protect biodiversity in all</p> | |

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| <p>aspects of their activities. Cllr Locke highlighted work that Hazlerigg Parish Council were involved in / planning including the talks that had been arranged on this topic by the Parish Council, the joint work with Woosington Parish Council on wildlife corridors, a joint meeting of all Parish Councils in September, a meeting with YHN to discuss better approaches in their repairs and maintenance processes and procedures and plans to engage with NCC to explore opportunities for joint work.</p> | |
| <p>6. Police Matters Information provided by PCSO Linda Smith has led to local reported crime statistics being found on the Northumbria Police web site. The most recent records are for February 2023: On or near Ferguson Crescent – 2 reports of criminal damage or arson and 2 reports of violence or sexual offenses. On or near Ryall Avenue – 1 report of a public order offense and 1 report of a violent or sexual offense. On or near Charles Street – 1 report of theft and 1 report of a violent or sexual offense. On or near Lieven Street – 1 report of a violent or sexual offense.</p> <p>Cllr Young said she was surprised that there were no reports of vehicle crimes – there are many anecdotes going around in the village about these type of crimes.</p> | |
| <p>7. Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newcastle Airport’s Annual Corporate Responsibility Report – Cllr Barbour said that the report was a well-presented summary of the Airport’s community activities which are very positive for the city. She also noted the ongoing discussions with the Airport about their possible contribution to addressing litter problems at the Coach Lane end of the runway from people waiting for planes or plane spotting. Residents also commented on a fly tipped sofa behind the bus stop which has been reported. • Weetslade Councillors’ letter about graffiti – North Tyneside’s Highways Maintenance team have inspected the area and confirmed the underpass is the responsibility of National Highways. The graffiti has been reported and the contact details for further reports is: <u>Create a report: National Highways Report a problem</u> or telephone on 0300 123 5000. A resident noted that graffiti is also NCC’s responsibility. Cllr Locke confirmed that NCC will only clean graffiti off NCC property. Litter in the area and the profusion of tagging was also raised. | |
| <p>8. Financial Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bank Mandate – it was agreed that Councillor Fairley is to be added as a signatory. • Current Banking position – to be reported at the next meeting • Payment authorisations – Lavender plants for Ogle Avenue Roundabout - £29.97 CI Accounting - £240 Clerk - £150.16 HMRC - £37.40 | |
| <p>9. Environment, Planning & Highways.</p> <p>5G Mast – previously covered on the agenda</p> | |

Feedback from meeting with NCC Director of Operations –

Issues discussed included litter, graffiti, flooding & glyphosate weedkilling ... a resident asked if the city councillors could help to stop this practise. Cllr Avaei said that it was being gradually phased out and there was a national mandate to ban these chemicals. Their impact on wildlife was noted and Cllr Locke said she had been pursuing this issue since 2017.

The question of whether a petition would be useful was discussed. Given the duty to conserve biodiversity, are there safer ways of managing weeds? Could the timing of spraying be better managed? Can the Parish Council do more to raise awareness of the benefits of weeds and wild flowers? Cllr Garbett noted that North Tyneside Council's wildflower management is very good and provides attractive displays in their verges. She also said that managing weeds was important to keep the village tidy and well presented.

Speeding -

The reconfigured speed bumps on the NCC part of Coach Lane are widely considered to be ineffective. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to NCC's Traffic Management Team and ask for speed surveys to be conducted to find out if they were having any effect on speeds on Coach Lane. The surveys must be conducted outside school holidays. Cllr Young noted that baseline data had been collected during the voluntary speed recording sessions organised by the PCSO's last November.

On the North Tyneside section of Coach Lane, the work has stalled and only 3 of the 5 sets of humps have been installed. The contractors have left site due to a shortage of materials. Cllr Young has secured an agreement with North Tyneside's Highways Officer, to complete the work by the end of May – this will involve removing and reinstalling the 3 completed sets of humps because they are ineffective. They have been incorrectly sited because parked cars prevented access to the correct locations. The Parish Council have been asked to use social media to appeal to residents not to park where the speed humps need to be installed.

Discussing the possibility of crowd funding, for flashing speed signs, it was suggested that residents would not be willing to contribute because they already pay council tax and would expect the local authority to provide them.

It was confirmed that Cllr Thorp now has a date for speed watch training.

A number of other traffic related issues were raised – inconsiderate parking and the possibility of designated parking areas, protecting corners from parking to improve road safety, the safety audit of the zebra crossing and the need for a new crossing over Coach Lane to connect Havannah Park to the new footpath through the nature reserve. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to NCC Traffic Management to request a meeting with the Area Traffic Management officer to discuss these issues.

Fibre Broadband – some residents have had notification that fibre is being installed in the village. The Parish Council have not received any notification of this.

Litter – because of the various bank holidays, the next litter pick has been rearranged for Tuesday 9th May.

The cost of providing additional litter bins in the area is prohibitive for the Parish Council, as the ongoing costs of emptying the bins is the main problem. Cllr Barbour agreed to investigate alternative collection services to find out if costs could be reduced.

Cllr Fairley asked if the Parish Council could write to the Premier Shop and ask them to get a cigarette bin and donate some staff time to litter picking around their shop. Cllr

Clerk

Clerk

Cllr
Barbour

