

EMBLETON PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH
MEETING MINUTES

Monday 21st May 2018 at 7.30pm, Creighton Hall, Embleton.

Chairman: Terry Howells

Present: Raymond Carss, Richard Manners, Adam Moody, Vickie Fyffe, David Cooper, Monica Cornall

Clerk: Melissa Gilroy

Attendance: Cllr Wendy Pattison, one member of the public

Apologies: Ray Imeson, Georgina Armstrong, Andrew Chillingsworth

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

- 1. Welcome by the Parish Council Chairman**
- 2. Minutes of the last Annual Meeting of the Parish**

The Minutes from 22rd May 2017 were agreed as a true record.

Proposer: Cllr Carss

Seconder: Cllr Cornall

- 3. Report from the Parish Council Chairman of the work of the Council over the past 12 months:**

The Council has been involved in several major projects during this year plus numerous other items which have required its attention. Those worthy of special mention are: -

3.1 Christon Bank Stone Planters

It was finally agreed by the Parish Council not to proceed with this project. The only roadside verge large enough to contain the planters was that on the road between Embleton and Christon Bank and because of the imminent building of houses next to Horsley Place and the introduction of 20mph speed limit it was impossible to define a satisfactory location.

3.2 Embleton Stone Bus Shelter

The shelter was completed and is in use and the northern route shelter was power washed

3.3 Christon Bank Flooding

The perennial flooding at Christon Bank has led to several meetings between the Parish Council, NCC and Northumbrian Water. Northumbria Water are currently investigating means of removing some surface water from Mount View in an attempt to overcome the problem.

3.4 Co- option of Parish Councillors

Following the elections in May the Parish Council consisted of only six elected members. The procedure for adding co-opted members was followed and four more Councillors were elected including two from Christon Bank and one from Dunstan Steads.

3.5 Creighton Place Development

The Council has been involved with several complaints from parishioners regarding the actions of the builder Cussins. These include out of hours working, traffic congestion, new sewers, lack of pavements on the B1339 and noise and dirt. The site is now complete except for tree planting but there appears to be more than forecast homes that are not permanently occupied.

3.6 Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan (NP) committee has worked with the consultant to prepare a vision statement and objectives. The proposed settlement boundaries for Embleton and Christon Bank have been put out for public comment. This is considered to be the second consultation. Land owners and parishioners attended the last NP meeting to express their views and the written responses to the consultation are being analysed ahead of next Wednesdays meeting. The committee will then review the proposed boundaries and if thought necessary modify them. It is still hoped to have the Plan at a stage where it will be considered as effective for all planning applications by the end of this year.

3.7 Embleton Quarry

The quarry was finally transferred from Northumberland County Council (NCC) ownership to the Parish Council together with a grant of £25,000 towards implementation of the management plan. The quarry committee has started work to lay down a programme of actions to be taken in the quarry. As would be expected there are many different ideas as to how the quarry should be changed and it is going to be difficult to reach agreement. There would appear to be several possibilities of obtaining grants towards the cost of developments.

3.8 Bank between B1339 and Whinstone View

After a site visit NCC agreed to replant the bank and tidy it up. This was carried out and the results are now awaited as the plants develop.

3.9 Embleton Joint Burial Committee

The burial committee has spent most of its time trying to obtain a grant from NCC to renovate Cemetery House as an affordable home. The money was made available from central government over a year ago but constant revision of the application requirements by NCC means that to date little progress has been made. An architectural draughtsman has been retained to produce a schedule of work and it is hoped to go out for three tenders in the coming weeks. A new contractor has been appointed to carry out cemetery maintenance.

3.10 20mph Speed Limit Christon Bank & Embleton

Councillors decided to progress the 20mph speed limit in Christon Bank despite suggestions that some parishioners were unhappy with the proposal. A compromise was reached by accepting that the installation was a one year trial. Despite promises and firm dates the project is still a shambles. No rumble strips have yet been installed, 30mph signs are partially covered with plastic bags and 20mph signs are not installed. The proposal to impose a 20mph scheme throughout Embleton has not been accepted by NCC and a new scheme just limiting the speed in the area of the school is awaited.

3.11 Various other items in which the Council have been involved include:-

Caravan at Dunstan Steads Farm, Road side trees, Tour of Britain, Road at side of school, Lighting at Whinstone View, Dog fouling of playing field, Cherry tree on village green, Baby clinic, Life saving equipment on beach and Christon Bank defibrillator. The new data protection laws are to be applied to PC records

Close to the Annual Meeting of the Parish at 7:40pm

Chairman _____

Date _____