

# Minutes for the Meeting of Embleton Parish Council

Monday 24th July 2017 at 7.00pm

## Creighton Memorial Hall, Embleton

**Chairman:** Terry Howells

**Present:** Georgina Armstrong, Raymond Carss, Adam Moody, Richard Manners, Vickie Fyffe

**Attendees:** County Councillor Wendy Pattison (Northumberland County Council (NCC)), two members of the public, Mark Bridgeman (part)

**Clerk:** Melissa Gilroy

### Public Comments

The meeting opened with the two members of the public (residents of Whinstone View) sharing their concerns over speeding through Embleton village. The speed limit notices have been moved since the Creighton Place build and speeding is perceived to have increased since this action. Other parishioner comments are that the lack of white line on the road has increased speeding despite the AONB assuring Embleton Parish Council (EPC) that this measure is proven to slow traffic. The effectiveness of the traffic calming cobble strips used in Bamburgh were also discussed, Clerk to find out the source and cost of these from Bamburgh PC. A speeding assessment conducted by NCC also to be requested, Clerk to action.

**490. Declaration of interests.** None

**491. Apologies:** Ray Imeson, Monica Cornall

**492. Confirmation of minutes of last meeting**

The Minutes of the 26<sup>th</sup> June 2017 were agreed as a true record.

**493. Matters arising from minutes of last meeting**

- **Christon Bank Stone Planters.** The Chairman has approached the building company AS Construction for a quote. Awaiting
- **Bus Shelter Cleaning.** Cllr Manners offered to provide water from his farm storage tank for refilling the cleaner's on board tank, however this is not practical for the cleaners and a close by tap is required. The Chairman has been offered the used of the indoor tap with a hose extension at no. 7 Turnstone Gardens. Clerk to arrange.
- **Bin outside Embleton Primary School**  
The pavement outside the school running along the B1339 has been assessed and is only 1.25m wide therefore there is not sufficient space to position a bin. The possibility of the moving the dog bin or using the post bin previously on the old bus shelter post was discussed. Chairman to progress.

**494. County Councillor's Report.** County Cllr Pattison provided a report that was circulated to Councillors alongside the meeting summons and agenda. In summary:

- **Joint Meeting with Longhoughton Ward Parish Chairmen.** County Cllr Pattinson has organised an informal meeting with all nine Chairmen of the Parish Councils within the Longhoughton ward taking place on September 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 at the Thrunton Trout Fishery at 6.30pm. Chairman Howells to attend to represent Embleton Parish Council (EPC).

- **Speed Issues Embleton** - Dependent on Parish Council / Resident discussion / approval, a 20mph speed limit for the school will be added to the list of schemes for 2017/18. (see agenda point 505).
  - **Embleton Quarry** - A meeting took place at County Hall on June 26<sup>th</sup> regarding the Embleton Quarry Community Asset Transfer (CAT). Present at the meeting was Chairman Howells, Cllr Fyffe, County Cllr Pattison, Principal Ecologist and AONB Officer, David Feigue, and Graduate Surveyor, Kate Steel. All questions were answered satisfactorily and the transfer is now making progress.
  - **Whinstone View** – A site visit to look at what can be done to improve the frontage at Whinstone View will be held on August 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 at 2.30pm. Those attending will be NCC Officers, County Cllr Pattison and Chairman Howells.
  - **Speed Issue - Christon Bank.** A traffic scheme will be going ahead to reduce the speed limit through the village from 30mph to 20mph, and this should assist with current and concerning speeding problems. The speeding assessment sign was discussed and will require adjustment. Clerk to action.
  - **Northumberland County Council – Core Strategy.** Consideration was given at the Council meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2017 regarding a motion in relation to the Northumberland Local Plan Core Strategy which was submitted to Government for independent examination on 7<sup>th</sup> April, following approval given at the meeting of 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2017. It was proposed at Council to rescind the previous decision to approve it and to formally withdraw the Core Strategy from the independent examination process and to advise the Secretary of State of this decision. To instruct officers to undertake a full review of the housing and employment numbers, and strategic land use allocations, required during the plan period to sustain Country wide and regional economic growth; and, Resolve, to undertake the work to carry out the review and progress any necessary associated work and public consultation to enable the Council to reconsider approval of the Core Strategy for submission to Government as soon as practicable. This was then agreed at Council. Existing local plans such as the Morpeth Local Plan and the Alnwick and Denwick Local Plan, which have recently been adopted via referendum, will retain their existing considerable weight in planning applications when the NCC Core Strategy is rescinded.
  - **North Northumberland Area Councils.** There will now be 5 new Area Councils, North Northumberland, Ashington and Blyth, Tynedale, Castle Morpeth, Cramlington and Bedlington. These meetings replace the former Area Committees. Meetings in North Northumberland will take place at the Northumberland Hall, Alnwick and also at Berwick. The membership is made up of the County Councillors who represent the 13 electoral divisions in the North Northumberland area. NCC will make decisions which affect the whole County whilst local Councils will be responsible for their own areas.
  - **Tour of Britain.** The Ovo Energy Tour of Britain will travel through the heart of Northumberland on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September. The race will start in Kielder Water and Forest Park and head out through Bellingham and Otterburn before heading towards the coast via Elsdon, Rothbury, Alnwick, Eglingham, Chatton, Belford and Bamburgh. It will then pass through the communities of Seahouses, Beadnell, Embleton, Longhoughton, Lesbury, Hipsburn Warkworth and Amble. Full Northumberland route details can be found at [www.nlandtob.com](http://www.nlandtob.com), or for further information about the National Tour, please visit: [tourofbritain.co.uk](http://tourofbritain.co.uk)
- 495. Road Side Trees.** Cllr Carss advised that following an assessment, seven trees are due to be removed when the Cricket season has finished in September 2017. Report required for EPC records.
- 496. Tour of Britain.** Cllr's all agreed to purchase Northumberland coloured flags to decorate the village for the Tour of Britain passing through Embleton on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September. Cllr Armstrong & Fyffe to arrange. A notice to be place in the Whinstone Times and on the noticeboard to request involvement from other local groups. Clerk to action.
- 497. Road Outside Embleton Primary School.** The un-adopted lane adjoining the B1339 and Quakers Row down the side of the school has been reported to the PC by the school as hazardous to children and pedestrians and will continue to deteriorate over

time. The Cllr's discussed the options for the road but as per the email from NCC the actions are limited due to the lack of ownership of the road. Cllr Armstrong & Fyffe to discuss at the next school Governors meeting with the Head Teacher Nicola Threlfall.

- 498. Lamp Post Replacement and Lamp Post Furniture.** No further action to be taken regarding the current lamp posts. NCC are required to replace the lamp post furniture that has not been repositioned. Chairman to action.
- 499. Asset Register Amendment & BDO return.** The Asset Register has been adjusted to include nominal value (gifted land & monuments), proxy values (assets with no record of purchase) and actual values. These figures require updating on the 2016-17 BDO Audit form. All Councillors were sent a copy of the updated Asset Register prior to the meeting to review and all Councillors agreed to adopt the amended version at the meeting. Clerk to adjust the BDO Audit and re-submit the form.
- 500. NALC Policy Checklist.** Chairman, Clerk and Councillors to review the list and discuss at the September PC meeting.
- 501. Neighbourhood Plan.** The Chairman provided an update of the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) working party following the recent meeting to which a consultant for Ludman Planning was in attendance. The committee is now closed with a sufficient number of members. A Parish meeting will be scheduled for September and a survey to residents within the community with a cash prize for completion to be actioned. The grant for the NP will pay for the consultant and EPC shall be reimbursed for consultant costs after this time.
- 502. Creighton Place Development.** The footpath between Whinstone View and Creighton Place has yet to be completed. Residents (including a family with small children) are now living in Creighton Place, the dangerous road and lack of footpath was discussed. Mark Bridgeman was in attendance to update the Cllr's on the current developments at Creighton Place. The delay caused in completing the footpath is due to the positioning on utilities beneath the ground. Chairman to continue chasing with Cussins, Mark Bridgeman advised that Glen Rutherford or Simon Conroy (representatives of Cussins) may assist. Other outstanding infrastructure issues include the positioning of a sewage pipe into the sewage pump at Woodsteads. There will be a road closure of the road connecting to the B1340 whilst this is completed by Northumbrian Water contractors. Finally, the service desk cabin has now been removed from the site and the building of the final 2x2 houses is due to commence. The site is expected to be completed before the end of the year.
- 503. Quarry Development Update.** The solicitor acting on behalf of EPC has advised EPC to consider the setting up of a Ltd company to transfer the Quarry Asset, thus reducing liability to EPC. The Cllr's discussed the options available to the PC and agreed that the Chairman should find out more about actions associated with setting up a Ltd company before progressing. The Cllr's agreed that no further environmental searches were required and the CAT can be progressed to completion in the next few months.
- 504. Condition of bank between B1339 and Whinstone View.** Cllr Armstrong supplied an approximate quote from Billy Armstrong of 10k for the building the dwarf wall. Cllr Pattison advised that a proportion of her Councillor funds for 2017-18 could be made available to help to subsidise the project. The options will be discussed further at the meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> August.
- 505. 20mph Speed Limit through Embleton.** Cllr's all agreed that they would like to adopt a 20mph speed limit throughout Embleton village. County Cllr Pattinson to action.
- 506. Speeding since re-surfacing the B1339.** See agenda point 505 and the public comments section.

507. **Extra lighting for Whinstone View.** To be raised by County Cllr Pattinson and the Chairman at the Whinstone View meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> August.

508. **Meeting Reports.** June 29<sup>th</sup> Area Council Meeting. Cllr Moody agreed to continue attending the Area Council meetings. These will be monthly meetings alternating between Alnwick & Berwick.

509. **Forthcoming Meetings.**

- Parish Chairman Meeting. 1<sup>st</sup> September 6:30pm, Thrunton Trout Fishery.
- Annual Town & Parish Council Conference. 5<sup>th</sup> October. Chairman to attend. Location tbc.

510. **Embleton Joint Burial Committee (EJBC).** Ongoing. Cemetery House remains open to offers with a closing date of 31<sup>st</sup> July. The EJBC have been displeased with the service of the estate agent acting on behalf of Cemetery House i.e. lacking house plan, site plan and a valuation statement on the website. These issues have been raised with the estate agent.

511. **Caravan at Dunstan Steads – Statement for NCC.** Chairman Howells submitted a written witness statement on behalf of EPC to NCC to declare the dates from which the caravan has been present at the site. Awaiting further actions

512. **Emails Received / Correspondence.**

- **NCC – Fire & Rescue Plan Consultation 2017-21.** No action required, no impact upon EPC.
- **Parish Fields – Resident email.** Options to clear up the weeds on the Parish fields were discussed. There is currently no water trough to provide water so is unsuitable for animals grazing. Cllr Armstrong agreed to ask D Moody to spray the field for weeds which Cllr's agreed EPC can be invoiced for. Cllr Armstrong will also progress the longer term plans of the all-weather sports facility on the site. Clerk to advise resident of the actions.
- **NALC Led Housing Survey.** Chairman to respond on behalf of EPC.
- **NALC Growing a Rural Community Survey.** Chairman to respond on behalf of EPC
- **Dovecote Close – Resident email.** A resident of Dovecote Close has requested that EPC advise who owns the land beyond their garden, overgrowing weeds are growing. The resident has been directed towards the church warden contacts (Jan Applegarth & Christine Hunter) as this is currently partly owned by the Diocese of Newcastle & Durham and partly by K Seymore Walker.
- **NALC VAT & Guide to Transparency email.** Clerk has assessed and responded to NALC. No further action is required by EPC.

513. **Financial Matters.**

- Account Balance £24,629.98 27/06/2017

Spent & Received since 26/06/17

- NCC Refund 2017-18 to EJBC -£86.88
- Clerk Wages & Expenses -£320.59 (May 17)
- Methodist Church Room Hire -£10.00
- Parish Rooms – NCC Your'e Welcome Payment +£208.33

Cheques required

- Clerk Wages & Expenses -£213.22 (June 17)
- Creighton Hall – Meeting Room Hire -£13.75
- Chairman T Howells - Expenses -£125.79
- Parish Rooms – NCC Your'e Welcome Payment -£208.33

**514. Planning Matters - Update**

- 17/01924/FUL. Proposed rear single storey lounge extension and front entrance porch. 27 Woodsteads Embleton NE66 3XY. Ian Saunders.  
GRANTED.
- 16/03492/FUL. Change of use from agricultural to golfing use in conjunction with adjoining Dunstanburgh Castle Golf Course. Construction of practice area comprising tees, greens and bunkers. Dunstanburgh Castle Golf Club, NE66 3XQ. Peter Gilbert.  
GRANTED.
- 17/01997/FUL. Proposed upgrade of external fabric of dwelling with addition of extra thermal insulation, brick external leaf, new roof covering and new double glazed windows and doors. 14 Greyfield Estate, Embleton, NE66 3XU. Darren Todd.  
GRANTED
- 17/01924/FUL. Proposed rear single storey lounge extension and front entrance porch. 27 Woodsteads, Embleton, NE66 3XY. Mr Ian Dorothy.  
GRANTED.
- 17/01767/CLEXIS. Change of use from one dwelling house to two rental dwelling houses. The Croft East Farm Embleton Main Street Embleton NE66 3XB. Ailsa Macdonald.  
GRANTED

**515. Agenda Items for Next Meeting.**

- NALC Policy Checklist
- LTP Priorities 2018-19

**516. Time, Date and Venue of next meeting**

Proposed that the meeting should be held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at 7:00pm in Christon Bank Methodist Church Meeting Room