

Minutes for the Meeting of Embleton Parish Council

Monday 26th September 2016 at 7.30pm

Creighton Memorial Hall, Embleton

Chairman: Terry Howells

Present: Raymond Carss, Neville Fawcett, Gordon Coxon, Adam Moody, David Morgan, Ray Imeson, John Young, Georgina Armstrong

Clerk: Melissa Gilroy

Attendance: Peter Rutherford – Northumberland County Council (NCC), one member of the public.

305. Declaration of interests: None.

306. Apologies: Councillor (Cllr) Kate Cairns
Absent: Richard Manners

307. Confirmation of minutes of last meeting
The Minutes of the 25th July 2016 were agreed as a true record.

308. Peter Rutherford (Planning Officer - NCC). Peter provided Councillors with a presentation on the introduction of a Neighbourhood Plan within a Parish Council (PC). The presentation covered government objectives in neighbourhood planning, who can produce a plan and the thematic areas, outcomes and referendum process involved in producing a plan. Peter Rutherford highlighted that £8k of funding was available to PC's from the Locality Agency for the appointment of an external agency to help develop and compile a plan. Councillors to discuss Neighbourhood Plan at the October 2016 PC Meeting.

309. Matters arising from minutes of last meeting

- **Christon Bank Stone Planters.** The PC have been awaiting James Cockburn's availability to start the building of the planters, Chairman to chase up or source alternative builder.
- **Village Signs.** 'No Overnight Parking' and 'Toilets' signs were installed at the agreed locations at Embleton and Dunstan Steads in September 2016.
- **Local Footpath Guide.** Ongoing. Cllr Young contacted NCC for a map of the footpaths within the Parish. Due to publication restrictions the use of an Ordnance Survey (OS) map on the leaflet is not permitted. Clerk & Chairman to source alternative map for Cllr Young.
- **Bus Service – North Area Review of Supported Services.** Clerk has obtained assurance from Mark Cusack (Passenger Transport Manager – NCC) that the bus route taken by children from within the Embleton Parish has not affected by the building of the new Duchess's High School, no bus station changeover is required.
- **Bolton Terrace.** The reported rat issue at the former toilet site on Bolton Terrace has been investigated and treated by Northumbrian Water on two separate site visits in August & September. The sewer system has been cleansed, a camera has been used to assess for any internal drain damage, the internal drains have been 'capped off' and further baiting has been positioned around the site. The transfer process and change

of usage has been completed with NCC and is currently with Land Registry. Councillors to discuss and agree the future of the site as a sale or long term rental at the October 2016 PC meeting.

310. **County Councillor's Report.** Cllr Kate Cairns sent her apologies to the meeting. No items to report.
311. **Replacement / Repair to Dog Bins.** At the July PC meeting it was agreed that the three damaged dog bins would be replaced at the approximate cost of £170 per unit. Chairman to assess the fixtures and fittings for the bins before the order is placed.
312. **Parish Noticeboard – Christon Bank.** Cllr Young requested that the noticeboard was replaced. Clerk to research a range of options and costs for a new freestanding board and report back at the next PC meeting.
313. **BDO Annual Audit Certificate – PC Approval.** The 2015-16 Annual Audit Certificate was agreed by Councillors.
Proposer: Cllr Fawcett
Seconder: Cllr Morgan
Unanimous
314. **Creighton Place Development**
 - **Sport & Play Facility Funding.** The PC was disappointed to learn that the monies allocated to the Parish as part of the planning permission for Creighton Place (some £7800) were not under their control to distribute but would be allocated by NCC. This they felt destroyed the whole point of the grant. After discussion it was agreed to ask the four applicants for money from this fund to restrict their requests to NCC to £2300 each for Embleton football and cricket clubs and the play park and £900 for Embleton Women's Club. The various clubs are required to place an application with NCC to receive funding, the next round of application is in December 2016. Clerk to circulate the application form and contact details at NCC to the interested community groups.
 - **Footpath to Housing Development.** Chairman has been assured by NCC that work to the footpath is due to commence.
 - **Station Road Access.** The dispute is ongoing between the PC, Cussins and NCC regarding the works access to the new development at Creighton Place. NCC has informed EPC that the use of the temporary entrance to the Creighton Place site off Station Road has been granted approval for three months from mid - September. The PC expressed concern that despite its representations regarding the safety aspects surrounding the use of this access the builders had been allowed to continue using it for this period, despite the fact that from July to September they worked without apparently discharging conditions of their planning approval. It was felt that without the intervention of the PC this 'temporary' access would have remained in use throughout the build period. The Chairman has been advised that the Station Road access will be closed by the end of December 2016 when access along the B1339 will be opened up.
315. **Asset Register.** Clerk has completed the Asset Register for the PC. The two village picnic tables to be removed as these are the property of the Greys Inn. It was agreed that current value costs for the assets should be estimated rather than incurring the costs of a land agent, Clerk & Chairman to action. Clerk to contact the War Memorial Trust regarding Insurance requirements of the War Memorial.
316. **Parking / Driving on Village Green.** Ongoing. Cllr Imeson awaiting confirmation on the offer of plastic matting.
317. **Quarry Development.** Following the article in the Whinstone Times requesting Parish feedback on the future use of the Quarry site, the Chairman received four responses.

The site has been withdrawn from sale on the Bradley Hall website whilst a survey to assess gassing on site is conducted. ANOB to be contacted to gather opinion on the Quarry usage. Clerk to action.

- 318. Sea Lane Accident – Footpath Surface.** The incident in which a pedestrian sustained minor injuries from falling down on the footpath on Sea Lane was reported to NCC. The footpath is uneven and crumbling in parts and requires resurfacing. No feedback has been received from NCC.
- 319. Overnight Parking Prevention – Dunstan Steads.** In August PC Ken Mouat contacted the PC to report numerous resident complaints to the Police regarding overnight parking at Dunstan Steads. PC Mouat advised that the Police have no powers over the issue and are unable to assist the residents. Following this e mail the Clerk contacted NALC (National Association of Local Councils) and NCC for advice on what actions could be taken by the County Council or PC to prevent parking. NALC advised that the road and roadside at Dunstan Steads were both classified as public highway and were therefore the responsibility of NCC. NCC then advised that they could possibly apply a Traffic Regulation Order to restrict parking, however should this be applied it would little effect due to lack of resource for enforcement. 'No Overnight Parking' have been placed down at Dunstan Steads in the hope that they will have the desired effect in deterring vehicles.
- 320. Meeting Reports.** None to report
- 321. Emails Received.**
- **PC Liz Wilson.** Confirmed attendance at the EPC Meetings in October & November 2016
 - **Historic England – Embleton War Memorial.** Awarded Listed Building Status in August 2016.
 - **Coast Care Project – Volunteering on the Coast.** It was agreed amongst Councillors to express support to NCC in favour of the Coast Care Project funded by a Heritage Lottery Fund. Clerk to action
 - **NCC – Consultation of Guidance on controlling obstructions on the Highway.** Councillors agreed that the consultation does not impact upon any signage in Embleton village. No comments required.
 - **Town & Parish Council Conference – 13th October (2pm or 6pm) County Hall.** Chairman to attend at 2pm. Clerk to confirm place.
 - **NALC AGM 1st October (10:15am Stakeford and Bomarsund Social Welfare Centre).** No attendees from EPC.
 - **Speeding in Christon Bank & Traffic Calming.** The letter received from a Christon Bank resident regarding speeding through Christon Bank village was read to Councillors. The effectiveness of various traffic calming measures were discussed and it was agreed to report the issue back to NCC for guidance.
 - **Cyclist Complaint – Road Surface through Embleton Village.** A letter was received from a cyclist that recently visited the area expressing their concern about the damage to the roads around Embleton village. Clerk to feedback to NCC.
 - **Housing Survey – NALC.** Northumberland PC's have been contacted by NALC to gather opinions regarding the availability of affordable housing and second home ownership within each Parish area. Chairman & Clerk to complete the survey on behalf of EPC.

- **Memorial Seat – Dr Keith Brown.** Mrs Anne Brown has requested to replace the Memorial Seat for Dr Keith Brown located at the top of Sea Lane. Agreed by Councillors. Clerk to confirm to Mrs Anne Brown.
- **My Street Northumberland App.** NCC has launched a new app that can be used, from a mobile phone, to report issues and incidents to Northumberland County Council. The mobile app can supply information on a number of problems such as anti-social behaviour, noise, litter, street lighting and roads all in one place. App users can access advice or report specific incidents to the council who will work with services and partners to support residents. The app is free to download onto iPhone, Android, Windows and Blackberry devices by searching 'MyStreet Northumberland' in the app store.
- **Whinstone View.** Street sign has not been installed for Whinstone View. Clerk to contact NCC to report.

322. Financial Matters.

- Account Balance £14,720.52 @ 19/08/2016
- Spent & Received since 25/07/16
 - Clerk Wages & Expenses -£288.38 (June 16)
 - Clerk – NCC Payment Rodent Control -£50.00
 - Christon Bank – Room Hire -£10.00
 - Northumberland County Council (B Terrace) -£320.00
 - Northern Powergrid Rent +£50.00
 - Northumberland County Council (Bus Shelter) +2000.00
 - Northumberland County Council (Sept Precept) +8150.00
- Cheques required
 - Clerk Wages & Expenses -£243.71 (July 16)
 - Clerk Wages & Expenses -£213.61 (August 16)
 - Creighton Hall – Room Hire -£12.50
 - BDO LLP (Annual Audit fee) -£120.00
 - D Moody (Parish field spraying) -£100.00

323. Planning Matters

- 15/03626/FUL. Proposal for construction of 4 no. new dwellings with associated garages and accesses. Land North East of Wesley Way, Christon Bank, Alnwick, Northumberland.
<https://publicaccess.northumberland.gov.uk/online-applications>
(GRANTED)
- 14/03988/LBC. Listed building consent for proposed internal and external works to grade 2 listed building. Christon Bank Farmhouse, Christon Bank, Alnwick, Northumberland, NE66 3EZ
<https://publicaccess.northumberland.gov.uk/online-applications>
(GRANTED)

324. Agenda Items for Next Meeting.

- Neighbourhood Plan
- Village Bonfire

325. Time, Date and Venue of next meeting

- The next meeting will be held on Monday 24th October 2016 at **7:00pm** in Methodist Church, Christon Bank.
- The new meeting time of 7:00pm for future PC meetings was agreed.