

Minutes for the Meeting of Embleton Parish Council

Monday 26th October 2015 at 7.30pm

Creighton Hall, Embleton

Chairman: Terry Howells

Present: David Morgan, Raymond Carss, Adam Moody, Gordon Coxon, John Young

Clerk: Melissa Gilroy

Attendance: Peter Mitchell (Homes for Northumberland)

96. Declaration of interests: None

97. Apologies: Georgina Armstrong, Ray Imeson, Neville Fawcett, Richard Manners,
Cllr Kate Cairns (NCC)

98. Confirmation of minutes of last meeting

The Minutes of the 28th September 2015 were agreed and signed as a true record.

Proposer: Terry Howells

Secunder: Gordon Coxon

Unanimous

99. Matters arising from minutes of last meeting

Overnight parking at Dunstan Steads. AONB have proposed that the plethora of signs at Dunstan Steads and the Golf club could be combined onto a single board at each site. The board at Dunstan Steads would include a notice to warn visitors against overnight parking. Embleton Parish Council are required to send a letter in favour of the proposal. Parish Councillors suggested that the letter also requests the removal of the broken telephone from the Dunstan Steads site. Chairman to action.

100. Homes from Northumberland Peter Mitchell

- **Stone Bus Shelter.** Proposed plans shown at meeting. Quote for £10,700 received for the building of bus shelter. Quote deemed excessive for the work required. Awaiting Surgo's quote before discussion on contribution levels from the Parish Council / Surgo commence. Billy Armstrong to assess the plans and give a realistic estimate of what the work should cost, Georgina Armstrong to action. Timescale for finishing work is 4th December, currently 2 weeks behind schedule. Chairman to send bus shelter plans to John Young.

- **Quarry Housing Development.** Current building work plans shown at meeting. Concerns expressed by Councillors over site location of bungalows, apartments and houses when viewed from Greyfield. Peter Mitchell explained reasoning given by Architect for the sitings of the dwellings including elderly access and the requirement for communal areas. E mail copies of the landscape plans to be sent to Clerk and circulated once available. Allocation of housing remains the same system. Residents must be registered with Homefinder and must apply within the 4 day window once the houses become available. Peter Mitchell to advise when the houses will be advertised and the applications open. NCC currently changing system from Social Rents to Affordable Rents, awaiting final cabinet approval. The following proposed rents were awaiting Cabinet confirmation:
 - 1 bed flat - £340pcm
 - 2 bed bungalow £480pcm
 - 2 bed terrace £440pcm
 - 3 bed house £520pcm.

Peter Mitchell to show Councillors completed properties in early December, current plans are to house new residents before Christmas 2015. Concerns expressed over access to Quarry House. Peter Mitchell will relay to his line manager the Councillors concerns over security and the potentially hazardous area to children.

101.

Apologies were sent from Cllr Kate Cairns (NCC) but an update of County matters was circulated prior to the meeting. See attached report for more details. In summary:

- Repairs to the wall on Sunnybrae. Repointing of the wall now fully completed by NCC.
- Swedish Timber Framed Houses. Homes for Northumberland (HfN) have assured Cllr Kate Cairns that there will be significant investment to improve insulation and living conditions of the 3 Swedish Timber Clad council properties in Embleton during this financial year. HfN, who subsequently carried out several inspections and surveys on the houses, and allocated the funding.
- Youth elections. Young people aged 13-19 in Northumberland can put themselves forward over the next month to represent their peers in the Youth Parliament and Youth Cabinet elections. Candidate nominations are open until 23rd October and polling day will be 9th December. For more information contact Andrew Elliot on 01670 620 320 or email YouthCabinet@Northumberland.gov.uk.

- Walk on Wednesdays Initiative. From 8 October the Walk on Wednesdays initiative begins where children in Northumberland are encouraged to walk, cycle or scoot to school on Wednesdays. The initiative will run throughout the school year.
- SAFE week. A programme of events is being organised across Northumberland, North Tyneside and Newcastle local authorities between adult safeguarding and community safety in the first week of November 2015. An information session is being led by Northumberland Safeguarding Adults and Community Safety Services on Wednesday 4th November 2015 from 2.00pm to 3.00pm in County Hall, Morpeth
- Blyth Crematorium Redevelopment Update. Difficulties in replacing the new mains electricity supply resulted in a slight delay to the repair programme. Re-building works are now well advanced. It is now envisaged that final testing, commissioning and staff training on the operation of the new plant and equipment will be completed by the end of November 2015 with the Crematorium re-opening for services on 7th December 2015.
- NCC Phone Number. To contact the council, residents can call a local number based on their local exchange. The council's previous telephone number was 0845 600 6400. The new number is 0345 600 6400.

102. Parish Council & Conservation Area

Embleton village is mostly within a conservation area. Parishioners have raised questions regarding changes which have been carried out possibly without Conservation Officer consent. The Councillors agreed that when such occurrences are noted within the Parish they should be reported back to NCC accordingly.

103. The Future of Embleton Parish Council

For the past few months Craster Parish Council have been considering the future for small Parish Councils such as themselves. They foresee increasing difficulty in recruiting active parish councillors. To combat this they have prepared a list of possible actions one of which is to merge with a neighbouring parish. Embleton have been asked to consider their reaction if approached as a possible partner. The Embleton Parish Councillors discussed and noted the possibility of merging to create a larger 'Dunstanburgh' area Parish.

104. Meeting Reports

- Embleton Joint Burial Board (EJBB). Gordon Coxon provided an update. In summary, the recent audit conducted by a Craster Parish Council was deemed unnecessary. Actions remain outstanding on the dangerous headstones and the ceiling of the bathroom in Cemetery House. Terms of

reference agreed across the PC's over 12 months ago not being implemented.

- Training. John Young to attend the Councillor training on 4th Nov. Clerk to arrange.
- Rural Parishes Meetings. Requested that AM attends as a representative of EPC on 23rd November at Rennington Village Hall. AM to confirm attendance to MG.

105. Alnwick Schools Partnership Consultation Update

- Consultation closed. Cllr Robert Arckless sent a written letter of acknowledgment regarding EPC's consultation response.

106. Christon Bank Reported Issues

- Kerb damage. West end to Blink Bonny pub. Clerk to report to NCC.
- Traffic calming actions. Chairman to prepare a letter insert for the Whinstone Times regarding off street parking for residents and visitors.
- Springfield Park street light. Issue resolved.
- Missing road signs for Horsley Place & B6347. Chairman to write to Horsley Place resident and John Young to contact local resident regarding B6347 sign.
- Stone planters for entrance to village. Embleton planters were erected as part of an NCC Youth project. Clerk to contact NCC to see if there are any similar schemes available for planters in Christon Bank. John Young has offered sandstone for building these.

107. Risk Assessment

Draft circulated. Subcommittee to be established to review the proposed document. Chairman, Gordon Coxon and Raymond Carss to form the committee and arrange to meet.

Proposer: David Morgan
Secunder: Adam Moody
Unanimous

108. Chair / Vice Chair Job Description

Draft circulated and agreed.

Proposer: David Morgan
Secunder: Gordon Coxon
Unanimous

109. E-Mails Received

- Local Plan Core Strategy pre submission draft available to view online, Clerk has a hard copy for Councillors to review if requested. Briefing meeting to be held in Alnwick on 31st October 10-3pm, St James Community Hall.
- Clerk to respond to 'rough sleeper' email and homeless strategy with nil returns / no comment.

110. Maintenance Issues

- Play Park Wall Repair – Georgina Armstrong to report at the November meeting.
- Bin repair/replacement near Embleton Village Shop. Clerk to action.

111. Financial Matters

- Current Account Balance £10,823.10 @ 30/09/2015
 - a) Spent & Received since 28/09/15
 - Clerk Wages & Expenses - £ 150.67
 - HMRC PAYE - £ 36.80
 - Church Hall - £ 10.00
 - BDO External Auditor - £120.00
 - Embleton Parish Rooms (Toilet) - £140.00
 - b) Clerk/HMRC wages & expenses (Sept) - £175.25
 - c) Cheques required
 - Bonfire Donation - £100
 - Clerk - £209.99 (GN)
 - HMRC - £47.60 (GN)
 - Playpark Insurance - £963.00
 - Creighton Hall - £12.50

112. Planning Matters

- a) 14/00372/OUT – Outline application for development of approximately 36 residential dwellings and associated infrastructure (all matters reserved). Land North of Woodsteads U3010 Station Road to Embleton Moor Junction.
GRANTED
- b) 15/03414/DISCON - Discharge of conditions 10 (landscape management plan) and 11(ecological management plan) relating to planning permission

- c) 15/03288/REM - Reserved matters application relating to planning application 13/02978/OUT - (Details of layout, scale, appearance, means of access and landscaping as per condition 1 of the approval.).
Springfield 27 Christon Bank Alnwick Northumberland NE66 3ET.
Consultation expiry date – 29th October 2015
No access gate shown into field beside development. Clerk to report.

113. Correspondence

Review of Public Conveniences – “You’re welcome Scheme” Update on grant for the Parish Church Rooms. Chairman to action.

114. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- Asset Register
- Energy Grants available and possibility of CAN representative attending PC Meeting.

115. Time, Date and Venue of next meeting

Proposed that the meeting should be held on Monday 23rd November 2015 at 7:30pm in Church Hall, Christon Bank.