

# Minutes for the Meeting of Embleton Parish Council

Monday 27th February 2017 at 7.00pm

## Creighton Hall, Embleton

**Chairman:** Terry Howells

**Present:** Raymond Carss, Neville Fawcett, Adam Moody, Ray Imeson, Georgina Armstrong, Richard Manners

**Attendance:** Wendy Pattinson, PC Kevin Simpson

**Clerk:** Melissa Gilroy

**383. Declaration of interests:**

- Cllr Armstrong interest in agenda item 398 Planning Matters - 17/00213/FUL.
- Cllr Carss interest in agenda item 391 Sport & Play Facility Fund on behalf of the Embleton Cricket Club.

**384. Apologies:** Gordon Coxon, David Morgan, John Young, Cllr Kate Cairns

**385. Confirmation of minutes of last meeting**

The Minutes of the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017 were agreed as a true record.

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

- **Christon Bank Stone Planters.** Chairman has received a quote from the Stonemason Stephen Pringle for £680 to build the first Christon Bank planter on the B6347 verge approaching the village. All councillors agreed to accept the quote and progress the work on the condition that Cllr Young was still willing to supply the stone. Chairman & Clerk to action.
- **Local Footpath Guide - Ongoing**
- **Parish Notice Board – Christon Bank.** Cllr Moody will approach D Moody to look at the board for repair. Cllr Moody to action.
- **Unauthorised Obstructions Guidance 2016.** Following the January Parish Council (PC) Meeting. The local businesses within the Embleton Parish were written to bringing their attention to the new guidance issued by Northumberland County Council (NCC).
- **The Pensions Regulator.** The Chairman updated the PC that law on workplace pensions is due to change. No further actions are required by EPC at this time.

**387. County Councillor's Report.** Cllr Kate Cairns circulated her monthly report to the Chairman, Councillors and Clerk prior to the meeting. The report was summarised at the meeting:

- **Embleton Bus Stop.** Concerns have been raised that the existing lamp post hasn't been removed yet. Ian Stanners at NCC has said that he understands that this lamp post is not redundant while the existing bus shelter is in place and its removal will be timed to coincide with the works to construct the new shelter.
- **Horsley Place Planning Application – Christon Bank.** Cllr Cairns spoke again to the Planning Officer on 21st February. He has received additional information on the ecology, and on public protection with respect to noise nuisance and on highways. There is a new layout, which allows more space between the development and

existing buildings. The officer has also been in touch with adjacent residents to explain the revised proposals. There is an outstanding matter of flooding and this has been passed to NLW and officers are awaiting their response.

- **Falldon Drainage Improvements**

Work will start in Falldon on Monday 13th of March. Cllr Cairns has arranged a site visit on Friday 3rd March with the landowner and farmers. The works should last approximately three weeks and will involve a full road closure. Some people may think this is an inconvenience, however, full CDM regulations apply and the health and safety of site workers and the general public is extremely important.

- **Sewer at Christon Bank**

Cllr Cairns has raised concerns with NCC about the capacity issue at Christon Bank and the localised flooding here after recent storms. A report on this has been sent from NCC to Northumbrian Water, who have investigated the sewer and found a dip in the line which will have to be addressed. Cllr Cairns will inform the PC when he has further information on what work needs to be done and timescales for work to be carried out.

- **Northern Area Committee**

The next NAC meeting will be held on 13th March, 6pm, Hindmarsh Hall, Alnmouth. This is an opportunity for members of the public to attend and ask questions of local members and officers of the council directly as well as hear discussion of other agenda issues. Agendas are circulated to PC Clerks in advance and are available on the NCC website.

- **Road safety at schools**

NCC have produced a video to highlight how the parking behaviours of parents and carers impact on the safety of children at school drop off and pick up times. This Go Smarter initiative is aimed at helping parents understand the benefits of parking responsibly in order to help keep children safe. You can access the video using the following link [https://youtube/\\_rj5dW4khSQ](https://youtube/_rj5dW4khSQ). It will be promoted through the Go Smarter team and through social media channels.

**388. Transparency Fund Application 2016-17.** Applications for the current financial year are open. The Clerk has applied for funds on behalf of the PC to purchase the annual subscription for Microsoft Office software, Virus protection and five hours setting up costs for the new EPC website.

**389. Speeding in Christon Bank & Traffic Calming.** The speeding assessment within Christon Bank began in February and is due to run for several weeks. The speed wires along the B1340 on the north entry to the village had not been installed. The Clerk reported this to NCC who have assured the PC that these were going up in the coming week. PC Kevin Simpson reported to Councillors that he had been out in the village with his speed gun along the B6347 and would visit the village again in the coming months and report back the PC.

Post Minute Note – Results of the first two speeding assessments have been sent to the PC. The results do not meet the criteria required by the Northumbria Safety Roads Initiative (formerly Camera Partnership) for consideration of additional enforcement measures. The PC are awaiting the final set of results.

**390. Neighbourhood Plan.** Following the short article in the Whinstone Times several community members have contacted the PC expressing an interest in being involved in the NP working party group to begin the process of compiling a plan for the Embleton Parish. Chairman & Clerk to put a notice on the village noticeboards to request further interest before scheduling a meeting with the interested members.

**391. Creighton Place Development - Sport & Play Facility Funding.** At the January PC meeting the Councillors agreed to assist in the purchase of goods should any of the community groups (Cricket, Football & Playpark) had insufficient funds to pay up front for their resources. The funds from NCC would then be transferred directly back to the PC. The Cricket club have requested £2300 to allow them to purchase

necessary equipment. The Councillors all agreed to the amount and funds will be transferred back to the PC as soon as NCC have issued the cheque to the Cricket Club.

**392. Quarry Site.** The Chairman received an email from John Marshall (Senior Surveyor at NCC) regarding the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) for the Quarry site. The proposed CAT cleared the first hurdle with the Community Asset Transfer Working Group agreeing to the transfer of Embleton Quarry, pending approval of the Council and Head of Strategic Estates. Following Council approval, the Legal Services Department will then deal with the legal transfer. EPC are required to have a solicitor for the process. Chairman to approach two local contacts to see if they are able to work on behalf of the PC for a nominal fee. The funding for the management of the Quarry also needs to be secured by NCC. Northumberland Wildlife Trust prepared and costed the management plan and the Council's Principal Ecologist and AONB Officer, David Feige, has advised it would be best if either NCC or the Parish sign a service level agreement with NWT to do a specified series of actions from it to the value of the funding.

**393. Meeting Reports - England Coast Path.** Cllr Morgan attended the session in Bamburgh on 15<sup>th</sup> February on behalf of EPC. Cllr Morgan to report at the March PC Meeting.

**394. Forthcoming Meetings.**

- Area North Committee meeting will be held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017, 6pm at Hindmarsh Hall, Alnmouth. Cllr Moody & Cllr Morgan to attend.
- 30<sup>th</sup> March Town & Parish Council Meeting. Chairman to attend.

**395. Embleton Joint Burial Committee (EJBC).** Since the EJBC meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> February, the tenants of Cemetery House have given notice on their tenancy agreement. The house will become vacant from the end of March, but will still be subject to Council Tax. The views of EPC regarding the sale of the house were shared with the EJBC. The Councillors remain in agreement about the sale of the house assuming the definitive requirements as agreed at the January 2017 PC meeting are adhered to.

**396. Emails Received / Correspondence.**

- **Pot hole fund 2017.** Ann Marie Trevelyan sent around a note regarding additional funding for pot holes within Northumberland. EPC have no comments to add.
- **NCC & Active Northumberland – Playing Pitch Strategy.** NCC conducted a routine inspection of the Embleton playing field and reported back to Cllr Carss that the field is well kept and no further actions were required.
- **Dog Control Order.** A letter sent by local resident V Fyffe to Cllr Cairns regarding the proposed order for the control of dogs was summarised by the Chairman. The concerns of V Fyffe included the perception that the local area was dog friendly and the fear of detracting visitors with dogs from visiting Embleton Bay. Cllr Cairns has advised that a consultation is due to be issued by NCC. Chairman & Clerk to requested further details from Cllr Cairns.

**397. Financial Matters.**

- Account Balance £18,004.43 @  
31/01/2017
- Spent & Received since 24/01/17
  - T J Howells (Dog Bin Installation) -£40.00
  - Clerk Wages & Expenses (November 2016) -£237.78
  - Clerk Wages & Expenses (December 2016) -£80.29
  - Christon Bank Meeting Room Hire -£10.00
  - Creighton Memorial Hall (16<sup>th</sup> Jan) -£22.00
  - D.S.A Builders -£950.00

- Cheques required
  - Clerk Wages & Expenses (January 2017) -£252.46
  - Creighton Memorial Hall -£13.75
  - Parish Church Rooms -£45.00
  - Mr D Moody (Annual Grass Cutting) -£855.00

**398. Planning Matters - Update**

- 16/03510/FUL. Erection of 13 dwellings. Land North of Horsley Place, Christon Bank, Alnwick, Northumberland. Mr G Grahamslaw. See agenda item 387. The PC are awaiting further information on revisions to the planning application before any further discussions take place.
- 17/00094/FUL. Single storey front and rear extensions. 1 Christon Bank Farm Cottages Christon Bank Alnwick Northumberland NE66 3EZ. Mr R Jefferies  
Expiry for Comment - 15th February 2017. No Comment
- 17/00206/TREECA. Trees in a Conservation Area: Fell to ground level 3no. sycamore trees. Dunstanburgh Cottage Embleton Alnwick Northumberland NE66 3UN. Mrs Judith Ann Robson.  
Expiry for Comment - 14th February 2017. No Comment
- 17/00294/FUL. Proposed upgrade of external fabric of dwelling with addition of extra thermal insulation, brick external leaf, new roof covering new double glazed windows and doors. 46 Greyfield Estate, Embleton, NE66 3XU. Mr David Jones  
Expiry for Comment - 27th February 2017. No Comment
- 17/00213/FUL. Proposed 1.5 Storey, 4 bed room dwelling house with integral garage, Roof lights to roof space bedrooms. 8 Creighton Place, Embleton, NE66 3FA. Mr & Mrs W Armstrong  
Expiry for Comment - 28th February 2017. No Comment
- 16/04039/FUL. Proposed sub division of existing dwelling into two holiday units with a linked door. Rosedale Station Cottages, Christon Bank, NE66 3EX. Mr P Bulloch  
Expiry for Comment - 2nd March 2017.

The PC received two emails in February expressing concerns over planning application 16/04039/FUL. Planning issue concerns identified by local residents included the provision for parking, the current sewage and drainage provisions. Other concerns expressed by local residents included the application for retrospective planning after the work has been complete and the differing appearance to the neighbouring houses. Councillors also raised the concern about adherence to building regulations in the creation of two holiday lets from one property. Chairman to draft the collective PC view and send to the Clerk to make comment on the NCC planning portal.

**399. Agenda Items for Next Meeting.** None

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

Proposed that the meeting should be held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at **7:00pm** in Methodist Church Meeting Room, Christon Bank. Vice Chairman to chair the meeting.