

## HEPSCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 17 January 2019

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1. **Present:** Philip Ashmore (Chair), David Cowans (Vice Chair), Malcolm Paton, Fred Dye County Councillor Glen Sanderson, Sylvia Johnson (Clerk)

**Apologies:** Anne Colver, Carolyn Reid, John Sadler, PC Andrea Teasdale

**In attendance:** Two members of the public attended the meeting to discuss items 6 and 10.

**Declarations of interest:** None

#### 2. Report from Neighbourhood Policing Team

PC Teasdale submitted an email report, the main points of which were as follows:

Door-to-door sellers are back in the area again. If there are any issues with them please contact the police on 101.

There have been reports of poachers in the Morpeth area and there have been extra patrols on to address this. Please do not confront them but try and get a registration number of any vehicles and forward to Andrea.

#### 3. Minutes of the meeting held on 15 November 2018 and matters arising

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

**Matters arising:**

DC will contact Mr S regarding setting up the drop in group at the Parish Hall.

#### 4. Update from County Councillors:

GS reported that:

- Renovation at County Hall was moving on.
- Advance Northumberland has replaced Arch.
- The Local Plan has gone to the next stage.
- NCC is in the final stages of setting the budget and is hoping to avoid frontline cuts.
- Car parking spaces in Northumberland are being increased, with negotiations taking place in Amble and Alnwick. A site has been purchased in Hexham. Once vacated Goosehill school site in Morpeth will become a new car park. After a consultation, a decision had been made to charge for parking on NCC land at Morpeth Railway Station; town centre sites will remain free.
- Local Transport Plan – details of works to be undertaken will be announced in the next couple of weeks. GS to ensure we receive a response to our submissions.
- £100k has been invested in local safety schemes.
- £150k has been set aside for white lining roads.
- The interactive speed sign at Stobhill has been repaired.

**Action**

**DC**

**5. Planning Applications/NCC Draft Local Plan:**

**Current Planning Application update:** See document sent out with Agenda. Discussion took place regarding Westfield.

**NCC Draft Local Plan:** The Plan has gone through Committee and will shortly be submitted for public scrutiny. The Consultation period is 30 January to 13 March. There will be 23 drop in events for the public to attend; Morpeth is on 25 February between 2pm and 7pm. It was noted that the housing numbers have been reduced by 26% from the original Core Strategy and affordable housing will be a requirement on all large developments.

**6. Flood Alleviation Sub Group:**

JL attended the meeting to give information about a letter he had received from NCC regarding the flood risk assessment, and a visit from Consultants MMB. Unfortunately the Flood Group were not told of the visit. It will be May before the outcome is known.

MP took HPC through his notes from the last sub group meeting (copy attached).

JL left the meeting.

**7. Financial Matters:**

- Statement of Finances: Monthly financial statements had been circulated to Councillors with the agenda and were approved. There were 2 items above £100 and these were approved.
- Precept: As NCC had now confirmed the tax base it was agreed that HPC would not request an increase in their precept from the previous year, ie, to remain at £11,500.00. SJ to forward precept form to NCC

SJ

**8. South Fields/Stobhill Manor update:**

PA advised that Morpeth Town Council's F&GP committee had met on 5 December. It is confirmed that their minutes should read "Hepscott Parish Council does not want any further engagement in the process."

**9. Speeding and Parking Issues:**

FD reported that he gets summaries every 2 months now. A Hepscott resident (PM) had recently asked about becoming a Speed Watch Volunteer and had spent some time with FD on deployment on 11 December. One resident had mentioned to FD that traffic is still going too fast through the village. Ongoing monitoring will continue and it was felt that an improvement had been made by reducing the speed limit to 20mph.

FD

Parking has improved slightly, with no more complaints from residents, however one car still creates a nuisance for other residents. FD will continue to monitor.

FD

Action

**10. Hepscoth Parish Hall:**

- A new carpet is needed. KMcD asked HPC if they could help with this. PA/SJ agreed to look into this. We had received relevant communication from Stephen Rickitt of NALC and PA agreed to contact SR for clarification and get back to KMcD. KMcD left the meeting
- A Facebook page is to be created for the parish hall by a Hepscoth resident.
- A film night will be held on 18 January
- AC is taking over the administration of the 100 Club from Mrs Cowans.

PA

**11. Correspondence/Meetings and training attended**

- DC/AC had attended a seminar on disabled toilets
- MP attended the Flood Wardens meeting on the 9th October 2018, Barratt Site visit and SUDS inspection 24th November 2018 and the Flood Sub Group meeting on the 9th January 2019
- PBA had attended the Barratt Liaison meeting (16 November) and the Flood Group (9 January).

Councillors were asked to inform the Clerk of any other training/meetings attended.

**12. Any other business**

- **Standing Orders:** PA/SJ will meet to discuss this before the March HPC meeting and circulate proposals.
- **Fly tipping:** PA proposed asking AC to look into this issue.

PA/SJ

AC

**13. Date and Time of next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 21 March in the Parish Hall at 6:30 pm.

**Minutes taken and prepared by:**

**Sylvia Johnson, Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer**

**Signed as a true copy: .....**

## **HEPSCOTT PARISH COUNCIL**

### **FLOOD SUB GROUP REPORT**

17<sup>th</sup> January 2019

#### **1. Meetings:**

- a. The last HPC Sub Group meeting was held on the 9<sup>th</sup> January
- b. The last Flood Wardens meeting was held on the 9<sup>th</sup> October 2018
- c. Next Flood Wardens meeting is to be held on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January at East Hartford Fire Station where the Flood Emergency Centre is housed.
- d. Next HPC Sub Group meeting is to be held on the 13<sup>th</sup> March.

#### **2. NCC Position Statement:**

- a. The last statement was issued in September 2018
- b. It was recorded that silt and gravel build up under the bridge is stable and is not adding to flood risk in Crofts Park. MP questions this as we have identified that there is between 150mm and 225mm of gravel / silt collected under the bridge. If that was removed it would provide 150 to 225mm more free space under the bridge. This would allow for the equivalent additional flood water pass before it was backed up by the bridge structure.
- c. Gully Cleansing in the village. Gullies were cleaned on the 27<sup>th</sup> July. Additionally we understand that the Gully Cleansing Waggon has been in the village recently.
- d. Flood water storage in 8 Crofts Park has been satisfactorily completed.
- e. The next Position Statement is due this month.

#### **3. Joint Flood Study:**

- a. MMB (consultant) working with NCC and NWA investigating flooding risk visited some properties in Crofts Park and The Orchard on the 10<sup>th</sup> January to look at river and flood risk. HPC Flood Group were not informed or invited.
- b. Report of findings put back to March 2019. If the study identifies a need for flood management work it would be scheduled for 2022 and 2023.

4. HPC have requested a meeting with Martin Kings team to discuss their forward gully cleansing regime, request has not been responded to.

#### **5. Hepscott Flood Plan:**

- a. Flood Plan has been updated by Andrew Youngs (Lead Flood Warden) and reissued.
- b. One EA dedicated telephone now in place.
- c. EA ability to identify a flood potential in Hepscott is still a problem.

6. HPC Freedom of information request to EA has had a response, some of the information provided is irrelevant but they have provided original drainage layouts from pond three which we did not have.
7. We have inspected the Barratt site SUDS work. All looked to be in order and well advanced.
8. Network Rail being contacted regarding Redhouse Burn.
9. Annual inspection of Flood Assets scheduled for 29<sup>th</sup> January and 4<sup>th</sup> February.
10. Discussions with Private Consultant about flood risk reduction in Hepscott still to be progressed.