

# HEPSCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 16 July 2015

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### 1. Present:

Philip Ashmore (Chair), Philippa Raper, Ken Reed, Fred Dye, David Cowans, Malcolm Paton, Carolyn Reid, County Councillor Glen Sanderson, PC Andrea Teasdale.

### Apologies:

Councillor Ian Lindley, Sylvia Johnson (Clerk)

There were no declarations of interest.

### 2. PC Andrea Teasdale:

PC Teasdale reported that several sheds and 11 cars have had belongings removed in the Stobhill, Barmoor and Coalburn area. There have been no signs of break-ins, and so they must not have been locked. She urged everyone to keep cars and sheds locked, and to report anything suspicious.

A notice will be displayed on the Parish Council Noticeboards saying "Thieves have operated in this area, please lock your vehicles, homes and sheds."

Action

PA

### 3. Minutes of the meeting and the AGM held on Thursday 21 May 2015 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

#### Matters Arising:

a. PA has written to the WI to thank them for their tree.

b. FD was thanked for undertaking several speed deployments in the village and on the A196. He was asked to carry out speed checks on the A192 and especially at Barmoor Bank.

Mrs Dye is being trained as a CSW volunteer.

There has been a good response from residents.

c. SIDS signs (solar powered signs to flash your actual speed). HPC is very concerned about the speed of vehicles, not only in the village but also along the A192. It is dangerous to pedestrians as well as vehicles pulling out of entrances and onto the A192. There are also concerns about noise.

PA had previously circulated the NCC map which showed the options for sites for the signs. Option 2 North, and Option 2 South were agreed. HPC bank details to be given to NCC so that payment can be made and HPC will liaise with NCC to get the signs installed.

PA/SJ

PA thanked GS for his funding and overall support of this matter.

#### 4. Update from County Councillor Glen Sanderson:

- a. **GS** has been assured by NCC that the Core Strategy is on track for adoption by Autumn of 2016.
- b. The new Planning System is underway, and some concerns still remain.
- c. There are some issues outstanding regarding the location of the proposed move of County Hall.
- d. Locally, concerns have been expressed about the danger of overgrown verges, particularly near road junctions, as a result of budget savings.
- e. **GS** has attended a site meeting regarding the extension of the 40 mph speed limit on A192 to Stobhill roundabout, but it was felt that as there was no housing on that stretch of road, there were no grounds. The speed of vehicles will be monitored.
- f. **DC** raised concerns about the condition of footpaths in the village. (The matter has been raised with NCC previously, and they have said that there are insufficient funds, but he would like to know when the funds will be allocated from the budget.)

**GS** offered a site meeting on 21 July - **DC**, **PA**, and **FD** will attend.

**PA/DC/FD**

#### 5. Barratt/Stobhill update:

Thanks to Ken Reed and Malcolm Paton for the work they had done. It has proved difficult to get representatives from Barratts to attend HPC meetings, and NCC Planning website is not yet up to date. The number of affordable houses seemed unchanged but the house types (nos of bedrooms) were still being clarified, and the "discharge of conditions" was clearly not going to occur in time for a July start. NCC were arranging a further meeting soon with Barratt to which **PA** would be invited.

#### 6. Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan and NCC Core Strategy Update:

MNP has been submitted for independent examination, and interested parties are asked to submit their views during the 6 weeks up to 3 August. If the examiner wants a hearing we will know by mid-August. Hopefully his report would be received at the end of August 2015.

MNP is now part of planning considerations; it carries some "weight". It continues to gain weight if it passes public examination and becomes of "significant weight" if approved by an Oct/Nov referendum. It has been confirmed that some canvassing will be allowed before a referendum.

#### 7. Planning Applications

- a. **Land west of Dunces Houses** - Construction of 3 detached dwellings/garages

*Delayed due to queries over MNP, green belt implications and NCC taking legal advice.*

- b. **Westgarth** - Demolition of existing house with replacement dwelling and additional new build house

*Lots of local concerns re 2 very large houses right on the village main street and surface water.*

- c. **5 Dunces Houses** - Construction of single detached dwelling/associated garaging and parking area/alterations

*As a)*

- d. **Land east of Stobhill roundabout** - Erection of 2 site advertising panels (2<sup>nd</sup> application)  
*Has been approved by NCC.*
- e. **Ashcroft, Shadfen** - Extension to single storey bungalow, consisting of new garage, utility room and kitchen area.  
*Has been approved by NCC*
- f. **Land East of Turner Square** - Outline application for 10 affordable apartments  
*Legal advice is being sought by NCC, as it is designated protected open space under the emerging MNP.*
- g. **3a Hepscott Manor** - Erection of greenhouse.  
*Under consideration by NCC*
- h. **Shadfen Park Drift** - Variation to condition 2 (importation of material) of application 11/00178/CCM)  
*Under consideration by NCC*
- i. **Braegate 4 Stoneleigh Hepscott** - Single storey extension to existing dwelling  
*HPC has no objections*
- j. **Land east of Stobhill Roundabout** - Discharge of conditions from application 13/02416/FUL  
*HPC has written to NCC – see item 5.*
- k. **Land east of Stobhill roundabout** - Variation of condition 2 from application 13/02416/FUL (Development of 396 houses, access, landscaping and associated infrastructure)  
*See item 5*
- l. **Maple Lodge Hepscott** - TPO to fell 5 pine trees and replant with different species  
*HPC has objected. Awaiting consideration*
- m. **Langdale** – Currently with Planning Inspectorate  
*Planning Inspector has visited but did not inform HPC. Awaiting consideration*
- n. **3 Field House Close** – Demolition of existing house and construction of new detached house with integral garage  
*This application has increased the height of the building. FD produced objective data to show how much this will overshadow the neighbouring property especially between November and March. This comment will be incorporated into HPC's objection.*

## 8. Hepscott Parish Hall (KR):

- a. Bookings are up, but actual numbers of people using the Hall are down.
- b. The car park is working well. **KR** would like to know of any problems. It was felt that signage was needed to make people aware of the extra parking and to ensure that the entrance was not blocked.
- c. The lottery grant request (re an extension) has been refused, but the planning permission will remain for 3 years, so other funding sources are being explored.
- d. The Minutes of meetings are on the Parish Hall website.

**KR**

**9. Financial Matters (PA in absence of SJ):**

Accounts for period 1 April to 10 July 2015 noted. All expenditure in excess of £100 was approved (NALC subs, clerk's salary, bins etc, grass cutting).

**10. Website (KR):**

KR is not getting figures showing the number of hits directly from Mike Henson.  
PA to email him to ask for KR to be on circulation list.

PA

**11. Correspondence (PA):**

No significant incoming correspondence.

KR has written to NCC re overgrown hedges on Fieldhouse Lane.

KR

SJ is trying to find out who is responsible for the overgrown hedge near the Stobhill play area.

SJ

**12. Meetings and Training attended:**

FD and SJ attended Planning Training

KR attended CAN re funding (Village Hall), and is attending Network event re funding on 20 August.

DC attended joint meeting of local Parish Councils at Whalton (in response to Deloitte's report to NCC) and the Arriva meeting re new bus timetables.

PA thanked the Parish Councillors for attending.

**13. Any Other Business:**

PA has a copy of MNP (May 2015 Submission Plan currently being Examined) which councillors have access to. Its maps show the protected open spaces around the village and the village settlement boundary.

**14. Date and time of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 17 September 2015 at 6.30pm.

**Minutes taken and prepared by Philippa Raper, Parish Councillor**

**Minutes edited by Sylvia Johnson, Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer**

**28 July 2015**

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