

HEPSCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 15 March 2018

1. Present

Philip Ashmore (Chair), David Cowans, Ken Reed, Glen Sanderson (County Councillor)
Anne Colver, Carolyn Reid

Apologies

Fred Dye, Sylvia Johnson (Clerk), Malcolm Paton, John Beynon

Declarations of interest

None

2. Report from Neighbourhood Policing Team

PC Andrea Teasdale attended the meeting.

Andrea highlighted a vehicle and house break-in that had taken place in the village recently. Please be vigilant in locking and securing houses and vehicles.

Chairman requested some feedback from the ongoing speeding issues. Andrea suggested contacting Ashley Gillespie. The Chairman thanked her and she left the meeting.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 18th January 2018 and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a true record.

Matters Arising:

8 Crofts Park: As per the last minutes, a flood risk assessment had been completed, which stated there would be little effect on direction of flow; however there would be a definite effect on flood volume. There is a need for 10 cubic metres of compensatory storage, which the applicant has agreed to do. Mark Ketley of NCC had said that he was expecting to meet with the applicant in the next week.

The Flood risk report had been sent to the Flood group and is available for anyone else if requested.

4. Proposed parish boundary changes and update from County Councillors

Chairman updated the meeting on Morpeth Town Council's proposals to change the Parish boundary to include South Fields and Hepscott Stobhill Manor, commenting that the issue will be taken to the full council. Chair stated that the loss of precept revenue would be about 50%. The 'triangle', supposed to be safeguarded until 2031, was also included in Morpeth's 'land grab'

Action

Update from Glen Sanderson:

GS updated HPC on various issues.

Car Parking: A county-wide study had been made and issues are ongoing. There is a need to police the carparks a little better. Some further capacity in Morpeth may be bought and developed. Car parking charges were being discussed, but not finalised.

Provision of services: GS said he hoped to improve grass cutting services; improvements to country parks were a priority, but it is likely that car parking charges would be introduced. Support was being offered to the Morpeth Floral Clock.

GS also mentioned the response to the recent weather issues and especially the response of local services and farmers to the problems; he was proud of their efforts. Chairman complimented their response and asked GS to reflect this back.

Roads/Potholes – GS was very concerned that further funding be made available for road improvements noting the number of potholes this season.

GS said he understood the Clifton Lane flooding issues were now resolved. GS left the meeting.

5. Planning Applications

- 25 Norham Drive, Stobhill Manor - Proposed single storey front and rear extension including part garage conversion.
Ref: 17/04408/FUL – Permission granted
- Barratt Homes, South Fields, Hepscoth – Re-plan of 271 houses (substitution of house types and addition of 42 houses. A need to discuss further with Barratt.
Ref: 17/04652/FUL – No decision to date – HPC sent letter with objections
- Selworthy, C132 Hepscoth, Hepscoth, NE61 6LH – Extension to side for playroom/sun room in lieu of conservatory.
Ref: 18/00541/FUL – Comments sent to NCC on 9 March 2018 – awaiting decision.
- 1 The Orchard, Hepscoth, NE61 6HT – Construction of single storey conservatory to rear.
Ref: 18/00542/FUL – Comments sent to NCC on 9 March 2018

6. Flood Alleviation Sub Group

Group has met 3 times since the last parish council meeting. Chairman discussed some issues of concern but noted that a dialogue is continuing with NCC, albeit a frustrating one. Chair also noted that recent flooding suggests that there is no evidence that the current ponds (1, 2, 3) on the Red House Burn are actually working.

7. Website

KR stated that the website was used continually on a regular basis. KR mentioned that he would be unlikely to continue in his capacity in the future as he has just changed jobs and will be unlikely to have the time. Chairman thanked him for his work noting that he had agreed to continue until a replacement is found. KR had been a good Parish Councillor since 2013, and his efforts had been much appreciated,

8. Speeding and Parking

It is still early days for the 20 mph scheme but reaction had been very positive. Speeding vehicles were still an issue and our Community Speed Watch Team would be asked to monitor.

9. Finances

Monthly financial statements had been circulated to councillors with the agenda and were approved. There were 4 items above £100 and these were approved.

10. Parish Hall

KR informed the meeting there had just been another successful Highlights show.

11. Correspondence

A request had been received from a resident of South Fields for litter and dog bins for the bus shelters on the A192. Sylvia has costed it and suggested one dog bin and two litter bins to be £255. This was agreed and would be actioned.

12. Meetings and training attended

Planning training was attended by three members. DC attended a meeting with Barratt. Chairman noted he had attended meetings including those concerning Parish Boundaries and Flooding.

13. Any other business

- Stobhill Manor Playpark: Chairman noted that he had visited the playpark with DC to look at the equipment. Items that need to be done would cost about £450 inc VAT and agreed to be within our budget.

SJ

**DC within
4 weeks**

Action

- We have received requests from 4 organisations asking for links on our website. These include: Citizens Advice, Health Watch, The Job Centre and Mitford Parish Council. Meeting discussed the four and asked that they should consider the matter further.

14. Date and Time of next Meeting

The next meeting of HPC will be held on Thursday 17 May 2018 in the Parish Hall, following the AGM at 6.30 pm

**Minutes taken and prepared by:
Kenneth Reed**

Signed as a true copy: