

HEPSCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at 6.30 pm on Thursday 20 March 2014

1. Present

Philip Ashmore (Chair), David Cowans (Vice Chair), Ken Reed, Fred Dye, Merle Heppell, Sylvia Johnson (Parish Clerk), Glen Sanderson (County Councillor)

Apologies

Philippa Raper, Hollie Ross, Ian Lindley (County Councillor)

In attendance

PC Andrea Teasdale, Neighbourhood Beat Manager, Morpeth Neighbourhood Policing Team (for item 2)

Chris Callicott, member of the public (for item 8)

2. PC Andrea Teasdale

PC Teasdale introduced herself to the Council and stated that she would try to attend as many meetings as possible. She gave an update of any issues in Hepscott. She informed the meeting of peddlars selling door to door who had come up from Middlesbrough. She stated that a couple of months previous there had been poachers in the fields. She informed us that the Community Speedwatch project was up and running; Hepscott now has its own speed gun, thanks to Councillor Glen Sanderson. She stated that we have a few volunteers to undertake this but could do with a recruitment drive as more volunteers were needed.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2014 and matters arising from those minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Action by

4. Update from County Councillors

Councillor Glen Sanderson gave an update on council matters. He stated that at the last council meeting he had tabled 3 questions;

- Duelling of the A1, of which there is a genuine possibility of progress.
- Core Strategy, of which he had raised concerns. He stated that responses from public and organisations had been noted but yet to see if taken forward into the next consultation. The housing targets were very ambitious but had enough notice been taken of responses? There has been no consultation on waste/minerals/opencast coal/sand extraction.
- His third question concerned the deployment of mobile speed cameras. GS confirmed that a mobile speed camera had been deployed on the A192 near Fairmoor 9 times in the last 6 months, issuing 2,200 fixed penalty notices, with 93 being issued in just under 2 hours. However, on the A697, a notorious accident blackspot, the camera had not been deployed at all in the last 6 months. He confirmed that he will keep bringing this matter to NCC's attention.

GS confirmed that he had acquired funding from NCC for a mobile speed gun for Hepscott as previously mentioned. Councillors expressed their thanks for this.

GS spoke regarding Barratt's planning application at Stobhill. He stated that he had worked very closely with PA in meeting with planners. He stated that the Inquiry will be held on 22 July and will last for approximately 8 days. He confirmed that the Planning Inspectorate contact is Melanie Dunn.

GS informed the meeting that an e-petition had been raised regarding the sale of County Hall. He mentioned that a short article was published in the Morpeth Herald.

DC asked GS if NCC had a 5 year supply of housing. GS replied that this was an issue under debate and could depend on the Loansdean development and the Core Strategy. He stated that Barratts would of course say no to this question.

5. **Barratt's Stobhill Development and the Loansdean Appeal**

As councillors were aware the Stobhill (Barratt) application has now gone to appeal on the grounds of non-determination by NCC. The application was still heard at NCC's planning meeting in February where they stated that they were minded to refuse the application. The application will now be heard by the Planning Inspectorate who would make a recommendation for decision by the Secretary of State. PA stated that we had to send our objections to the Planning Inspectorate by 31 March. PA will draft this response and circulate to Councillors for approval. PA stated that HPC should think about applying for Rule 6 representation, which will give HPC the status of being a primary objector. GS stated that he thought this was the right way to go.

PA

PA stated that it was now day 3 of the Loansdean (Bellway) planning appeal. He had put Hepscoth's point of view and informed the appeal of previous flooding in Hepscoth by the Catchburn/Hepscoth Burn.

6. **Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan update**

PA updated, stating that the timetable is broadly unchanged, but looked unlikely as we are awaiting the Core Strategy next moves. The Plan Preparation Group is to put the Neighbourhood Plan together. There has been a mapping exercise, draft policies are being written and the aim is to complete draft policies by the end of May, but this is to be confirmed. PA stated that he is helping to write the draft flooding policy. The six week consultation phase is still planned to take place in June/July.

7. **NCC Core Strategy**

There was nothing more to add to what had already been discussed in item 4, county Councillors' Update. The Core Strategy was due to be put out for further consultation in Summer this year, but this seemed unlikely

8. **Planning Applications**

- **Clare House (Mast):** This item was heard at the beginning of the meeting as the applicant, Chris Callicott, was in attendance as a member of the public. The latest update was that the mast was given a 6 month extension in October 2013, until noise reports were completed. On 21 January there was a visit by NCC and Environmental Health who used noise monitoring equipment. Their report has concluded that they could find no evidence of noise emitting from the mast. Application has now been made to renew permission. PA had spoken to Jocelyn Stephenson, who had kept a log of the noise. PA asked if restrictions in place currently could stay in place. However, Chris Callicott stated that this may not be possible. He reiterated that there had been no evidence of noise, and that restrictions were not warranted.

FD stated that when NCC/Environmental Health had visited they went through the whole spectrum of transmissions. KR stated that he has had comments from villagers regarding the size of the mast, which appears to be out of proportion to a residential building in a small village. CC stated that there were other installations in Northumberland far more visible and his mast was well screened.

DC stated his conflict of interest but confirmed that he still has tv interference. He had viewed the mast when this occurred and noted that the mast was moving. He assumed the interference may be caused by the mast.

It was agreed by all that there may be room for discussion. CC confirmed that he is prepared to enter into discussions with HPC and hopefully some solutions may be agreed. C left the meeting.

- **Nedderton Wind turbine:** This application has now been withdrawn by the applicant.
- **3 Fieldhouse Close:** This application was appealed. A site visit was held by the Planning Inspectorate. The Inspector, Mr Cullingford, asked for feedback from those present. He spent a lot of time at the site and visited the house at No 4. He mentioned shadowing and walked down to the bottom of Fieldhouse Close. FD stated that the visit was very encouraging. The decision letter should be out in around 5/6 weeks.
- **Land west of Stonehaven, Dunces Houses:** The original application had been withdrawn by the applicants. A new application has now been made, with the access amended.
- **Shadfen Park:** SJ contacted NCC as we had not received any further correspondence on this application. She was informed that the application had been invalid, but no reason could be given as to why. SJ to write to NCC for more information.
- **South Lodge Wood:** Tree felling of the monkey puzzle tree has not taken place to date.
- **Swallow Barn (Catchburn):** This application has been approved.
- **Langdale:** HPC's objection to this application has been forwarded to NCC.
- **Redesdale House, Barmoor:** PA sent a response to NCC on 17 March, with a list of provisos and comments. A reply was received on 19 March from the Planning Officer, Tony Carter, who shared our concerns regarding "general industry" and will ask the applicant to come back with a more "restrictive" use.

SJ

9. Financial Matters

A record of recent expenditure had been emailed to Councillors. All expenditure was agreed.

10. Draft Revised Northumberland Town and Parish Council Charter

Correspondence had been received from NCC regarding this. PA asked if anyone would like to respond on behalf of HPC and KR agreed to do this

KR

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<p>11. County Wide Parking Consultation</p> <p>HPC had been consulted on this by NCC. PR had agreed to respond on our behalf and sent a draft response. This was approved and will be sent to NCC by SJ.</p>	<p>SJ</p>
<p>12. Website</p> <p>KR stated that links to HPC website were now on various other sites. The website is getting more hits, having 37 in January, which is very encouraging. A short article about the website was published in the last issue of the Hepscoth Herald.</p>	
<p>13. Correspondence</p> <p>SJ had received 2 letters asking for donations, from DAWN and the organisers of the Morpeth Gathering, however with our limited precept, both were declined</p> <p>An email had been received from NCC attaching a Stakeholder Consultation on Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showmen within the area.</p>	
<p>14. Meetings and training attended by Councillors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PA had attended the Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan meeting • DC had attended the Civic society and talked about MNP. 	
<p>15. Any other business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual litter pick: PR had requested volunteers for this, which takes place on 5 April. DC agreed to co-ordinate in Hepscoth Village. • Overgrown Footpath: PR has asked if we could contact NCC regarding the need to scrape the footpath back between Coalburn and Nicholas Garrow beside A192. SJ to write to NCC. • Winter road damage: DC mentioned the state of roads in the area, due to numerous potholes. He stated that the road into Bothal from Shadfen is particularly bad. DC agreed to write to NCC regarding this issue. • FD stated that he wished to volunteer for speed camera duties. He was informed to contact Otto Meth-Cohn or Paul Kidd, who are currently the two volunteers • DC asked the Council to think about spending some money on developing further car parking spaces. 	<p>SJ</p> <p>DC</p> <p>FD</p>
<p>16. Date and time of next meeting:</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on Thursday 15 May 2014 – please note this will be the AGM.</p>	

Prepared by Sylvia Johnson, Parish Clerk/RFO, 6 April 2014

Signed as a true copy: