

HEPSCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 21 May 2015

1. Present

Philip Ashmore (Chair), Malcolm Paton, Philippa Raper, Ken Reed, Carolyn Reid, Sylvia Johnson (Clerk).

Apologies:

David Cowans (Vice Chair), Fred Dye, County Councillors Glen Sanderson and Ian Lindley.

In attendance: PC Andrea Teasdale, Merle Heppell, Michael Benson and Rochelle Johnson (two members of the public)

2. Declarations of disposable pecuniary interest

None

3. PC Andrea Teasdale

- PC Teasdale reported on a recent accident near Barmoor Bank. However this was not a result of speeding as had been thought; unfortunately the driver had suffered a diabetic seizure. PC Teasdale has agreed to park up more often on Barmoor Bank to see if this slows down the traffic.
- There had been a recent incident at Hepscoth Park Referral Unit (outside the Parish) in which several animals had been killed.
- Bat surveys are taking place in the area and we may see people walking around late at night.
- Speed watch – FD has now received his registration details and ID. Fred will be asked to do observations on Barmoor Bank.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 19 March 2015

It was noted that the date shown for the next meeting was incorrect and should read 21 May 2015, not 23 May 2015.

PA agreed to write to the Women's Institute to thank them for the recently planted tree in the orchard.

PA has contacted NCC regarding the solar powered speed sign for Barmoor Bank. Once supplied SJ will need to add the sign to the Asset Register as belonging to HPC.

The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

Action

PA

SJ

5. Update from County Councillor

Unfortunately County Councillors Glen Sanderson and Ian Lindley were both unable to attend the meeting.

6. Barratt/Stobhill

PA, along with others had attended a meeting with Barratt's personnel at the end of April at County Hall. The developers had given the timescale of 7-8 years for the site; roads will be done first, then the show house/sales office. Phase 1 of the development will be from opposite Collingwood School to Stobhill Roundabout. Working hours were stated to be 8.00 – 4.30, with the workforce of around 20-30 people arriving from 7.30. Work will commence sometime in July. PA had invited Kerry Moore, Project Manager and Scott Robinson, Engineer to attend HPC meeting on 21 May, but unfortunately they were unable to attend. They hope to attend the meeting in July. KR had contacted NCC regarding the planning conditions of the development. NCC stated they would let him know when they were discharged and also post this on their website. PA to contact NCC to inform that KR is also an HPC contact on planning conditions.

Action

PA

7. Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan (MNP):

PA stated that the Neighbourhood Plan had been to Pre-submission health check and an independent consultant to help put it into shape for the submission to NCC and the Examiner. It will be submitted to NCC on 29 May. It was noted that any developers may want to comment on MNP and that the Examiner may invite the MNP group to give evidence in its support. There are 3 scenarios which could happen before the referendum:

- The plan is okay and approved to go straight to referendum;
- The plan is okay but needs minor changes;
- The plan is rejected.

The expected date for a referendum is October/November. There is a population of 19,000 in the Neighbourhood Plan area with an electorate of approximately 15,000. If the majority is in favour it will take the status equivalent to the Core Strategy and planners will need to give it the same weight. We do not need to wait for the core Strategy from NCC to go ahead with the referendum.

8. NCC Core Strategy:

PA had spoken with Jo-Anne Garrick from NCC who informed him that the Core Strategy was due to go to Cabinet (previously the Policy Board) for update shortly. The next version is due at the end of September for consultation and will be submitted to the examiner hopefully in early spring 2016. Adoption should be in autumn 2016.

9. Planning Applications

- Shadfen Park: Granted
- Roseden: Refused
- 4 Hepscoth Manor Farm (retrospective): Granted
- Land west of Dunces Houses: Pending consideration
- Westgarth: Objections have been lodged by the Drainage Officer
- 5 Dunces Houses: Pending consideration
- Parish Hall: Granted
- Barratts Signage: Comments due at NCC by 27 May
- Ashcroft, Shadfen: Comments due at NCC by 22 May
- Land east of Turner Square: Received 21 may, comment due at NCC by 5 June
- Langdale: Originally refused but appealed. Currently with Planning Inspectorate, being considered.

10. Hepscoth Parish Hall

KR had been unable to attend the AGM but gave information regarding 2 issues:

- Car park: The extension to the car park is now ready for use.
- Extension to Parish Hall: Although planning approval was given by NCC, lottery funding has not been granted therefore at present work cannot go ahead. Planning permission will last for 3 years and alternative funding/self-funding will be looked into. PR suggested speaking to Barratts for any funding they could offer.

11. Financial Matters

Monthly financial statements for the beginning of the new financial year had been emailed to councillors and were approved. It was noted that three items were above £100, as per new rules these were all examined, noted and approved.

NALC subscriptions notification had been received. The cost for the coming year (on the new formula) is £206.28. It was agreed that their service was valued and to pay forthwith.

12. Website

The website continues to get a fair number of hits. It was agreed to keep the website on a 6 month review and review again at the November meeting.

13. Correspondence

FD had received a letter from Northumberland fire and Rescue Service, recruiting volunteers to assist in the delivery of community safety education. Anyone interested should contact FD/SJ for more information.

14. Meetings and training

- PA and DC attended steering group meetings of MNP and PA the Plan preparation Group

15. Any other business

In his absence FD had requested the following items be reported:

- The state of the pavement on the C132 for the first 300m from the A192. SJ has contacted NCC Highways department to ask for repair.
 - Road Safety – recently deployed with the speed gun in Hepscoth on three occasions. Total: 232 cars, 13 speeders (5.6%) Range: 35 - 41mph.

16. Date and Time of next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 16 July 2015 at 6.30 pm

Minutes taken and prepared by Sylvia Johnson, Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer.

Signed as a true copy: