

HEPSCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 17 September 2015

1. Present

Philip Ashmore (Chair), David Cowans (Vice Chair), Malcolm Paton, Ken Reed, Carolyn Reid, Sylvia Johnson (Clerk), County Councillor Glen Sanderson

Apologies:

Fred Dye, Philippa Raper, County Councillor Ian Lindley, PC Andrea Teasdale.

In attendance: Michael Benson and Rochelle Johnson (two members of the public)

Declarations of disposable pecuniary interest

None

2. PC Andrea Teasdale (report submitted via email to Parish Clerk)

There have been no crimes recorded since the last meeting and the problems at Heps cott Park have ceased whilst it's being demolished.

Mrs Dye's application for the Community Speedwatch is being processed.

With the dark nights please ensure sheds and cars are locked and secure. If heating oil is used try and make sure the tank is secured.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 16 July 2015 and matters arising:

- **SIDS signs:** GS has spoken with Highways and a site meeting is arranged for 23 September with PA/PR/GS/NCC Highways/Providers to finalise the position of the 2 SIDS.
- **Overgrown hedges:** KR confirmed that the overgrown hedge in Fieldhouse Lane had been attended to. SJ confirmed that the hedge beside the playpark in Stobhill Manor had been cut back by NCC after a complaint by a member of the public.

4. Update from County Councillor Glen Sanderson:

GS had tabled a question to NCC regarding grass cutting/verges. It is imperative that this is reviewed with the need to get it right for next year.

GS confirmed that charges are to be made for tipping of rubble/soil. It was agreed that this may result in more fly tipping. SJ informed GS that already fly tipping had taken place in the lane next to Red House Farm, where a large quantity of rubbish had been dumped in the layby, encroaching onto the road. SJ had informed NCC and some of the rubbish had already been removed.

GS stated that £300,000 had been raised by NCC from parking disc enforcement across the County.

The move of County Hall to Ashington was due to be debated in July but this has now been postponed to November.

Action

PA/PR/GS

GS stated that complaints had been made in connection with possible breaches of planning conditions regarding Barratt's site; these included times of operation/entrance to the site.

GS expressed his concerns regarding the new planning application delegation protocol and the need for better communication with HPC/GS on planning matters. It was agreed that SJ will copy GS into emails of any applications that are to be objected to by HPC. SJ agreed to check the weekly list on NCC website as letters take considerable time in arriving. GS stated he had emailed NCC to request Planning Committee meetings regarding Westgarth and Roseden (both in Hepscott Village) but his request was refused for Westgarth.

SJ

5. Barratt/Stobhill:

PA stated that it had been difficult getting representatives from Barratt to attend a meeting of HPC. He said that a meeting is to take place on 23 September with PA, GS, IL, Mark Kettley (NCC), Alison Byard (MTC), and 3 representatives from Barratt's. PA stated he would circulate an email once the meeting has taken place. KR stated that work had now begun on site.

PA/GS/IL

6. Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan (MNP) and NCC Core Strategy update:

MNP: PA updated the meeting on progress with the Public Examination.

NCC Core Strategy: The latest draft of NCC's Core Strategy is due to come out soon. It will be taken to Cabinet on 29 September. The 6 week consultation period will be from 14 October – 25 November. There will be a series of drop in sessions, with the session at Morpeth being held in the Town Hall on 9 November. PA advised that he will later ask for volunteers to take parts of the strategy and formulate a reply to that part. He asked councillors to try to go to a drop in session if possible.

7. Planning Applications:

a. Land west of Dunces Houses: It is hoped that this land will be designated as green belt land as per the emerging Core Strategy. PA is informed that this application will go to Committee on 13 October at 2.00 pm at County Hall. At present there has been no report from NCC.

b. Westgarth: No decision at date of HPC meeting. HPC have objected to this application on grounds of overdevelopment, massing, position in village and flooding issues. The new application has 2 raingardens planned for surface water. As per the new delegation planning protocols, this application will not go to committee but will now be delegated to Case Officers for decision.

c. 5 Dunces Houses: Same as item 7a above.

d. Land east of Turner Square: An extension of time to the end of October has been requested by the applicant.

e. 3a Hepscott Manor Farm: Application was granted permission.

f. Shadfen Park Drift: Application was granted permission.

- g. **Braegate:** Application was granted permission.
- h. **Land east of Stobhill Roundabout (discharge of conditions):** No decision to date
- i. **Land east of Stobhill Roundabout (variation of condition 2):** No decision to date
- j. **Maple Lodge (TPO):** Partial consent granted - 3 Pine trees to stay as condition good.
- k. **Shadfen Farm** (Riding arena/Manage) – No decision to date.
- l. **Langdale:** Appeal to the Planning Inspectorate has been allowed.
- m. **3 Field House Close:** Application was granted permission. PA has asked for reasons as to why this application was a delegated decision.
- n. **Stables, 5 Crofts Park (TPO):** Application was granted permission.
- o. **Land south east of Roseden Cottage:** No decision to date. The application is outside the village settlement boundary. HPC had asked for the application to go to Committee via GS.
- p. **1 Chatton Close, Stobhill Manor:** No decision to date

8. **Hepscott Parish Hall:**

KR reported that:

- The Hall's finances are quite healthy at present.
- A vote had been taken regarding the recent planning application and it had been decided to extend the hall northwards. The cost for this will be £35,000.00. Unfortunately self-funding will not be possible and it had been agreed to look for alternative funding.
- KR had agreed to research broadband installation in the Parish Hall.

9. **Financial Matters:**

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

10. **Website:**

The website continues to get a fair number of hits, averaging around 25 per month. It was agreed to keep the website on a 6 month review and review again at the November meeting.

11. **Correspondence:**

- SJ had received email correspondence from a resident regarding a litter bin in Parkside that had no lid and was used for dog litter. NCC had been contacted but eventually informed SJ that this was the responsibility of HPC. SJ/KR agreed to look at the bin with a view to renewing/moving.

- KR requested that a letter be sent to Northumbrian Water Ltd regarding a rut in the lane to the sewerage plant south of Parkside, directly in front of a dog litter bin and causing problems for elderly residents. SJ to contact NWL.

Action

SJ

12. Meetings and training:

- PA and DC attended steering group meetings of MNP; PA had attended Plan preparation Group meetings
- PA/CR attended NCC training regarding new planning procedures
- DC to represent HPC at the Town and Parish Council Conference on 24 September.

DC

13. Any other business:

None.

14. Date and Time of next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 19 November 2015 at 6.30 pm. Apologies received in advance from MP.

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

Signed as a true copy:

HEPSCOTT PARISH COUNCIL - FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1 April 2015 - 10 September 2015																
CURRENT ACCOUNT																
											Receipts/balance brought forward	Payments	Sub Total	Total Balance of both accounts		
RECEIPTS		Current Account														
		Balance brought forward											9,421.19			
		Precept from NCC (50%)											5,400.00			
		Reimbursement of VAT											769.88		15,591.07	
PAYMENTS																
		Parks and Open Spaces												883.00		
		Admin (expenses)												50.00		
		Costs (Rent/audit/stationery)												228.56		
		Costs (Insurance/Donations to local Administrative bodies)												473.26		
		Salary/Tax												883.10		
		Miscellaneous												96.41		
		Dog Bins, Checking Stobhill, etc												550.00		
		Website												45.00		
		Training												5.00		
		Vat												18.20		
		Total Receipts/Expenditure from 1/4/15 - 10/9/15													3,232.53	
		Current Balance (receipts minus payments)													12,358.54	
BUSINESS ACCOUNT																
BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2015											6084.86					
RECEIPTS in current year																
											Interest	1.24	6,086.10	18,444.64		