

# HEPSCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 18 March 2021 Held via Google Meet due to Covid Regulations

<b>1</b>	<b>Attendance:</b>	
	Carolyn Reid (Chair), David Cowans (Vice Chair), Philip Ashmore, Fred Dye, Anne Colver, John Sadler, County Cllr Glen Sanderson, Sylvia Johnson (Clerk)	
	<b>Apologies:</b>	
	Malcolm Paton	
	<b>Declarations of Interests:</b>	
	None	
<b>2</b>	<b>Report from Neighbourhood Policing Team:</b>	
	<p>No-one from the police was in attendance, and no report had been received at the time of the meeting. An email was received on 19 March from Les Robson 792 Sergeant Neighbourhood Policing, stating as follows:</p> <p><i>As I am aware there has been a number of changes re the beat officers and CSO's that cover the area. Along with the changes to Sgt's etc. I am hoping that things will stabilise shortly and we will have everyone in place however in the meantime and until then please use myself as point of contact.</i></p>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Update from County Councillors:</b>	<b>Action</b>
	<p>GS has been contacted by DC re S106 monies. GS said he had contacted Rob Murfin, the Director of Planning, who is willing to come to meet HPC and discuss the subject. SJ to find suitable dates.</p> <p>ASB on South Fields - GS reported that he had spoken to the NCC safety team regarding the issue from their point of view. Discussion took place as to the types of ASB, where on the estate it was occurring and as to the possible ways of trying to control it. It was felt that it was important to inform the residents of South Fields that HPC was concerned about the situation and that the problem would be investigated and appropriate action taken.</p> <p>It was agreed that GS would set up a meeting between HPC members, NCC Safety Team, the Police, a representative of Barratts and other interested parties as necessary. PA informed GS that in recent times it had become difficult to organise a police presence at HPC meetings and that we felt this was important.</p> <p>GS stated there is a problem with speeding on the A196 beside South Fields estate; vehicles are coming off the roundabout at speed. FD stated that the area is one of the deployment areas for community speed watch. FD to make enquiries on CSW administration issues.</p> <p>GS stated that work is ongoing at Goosehill car park and that building of the new Leisure Centre has commenced. He stated that projects, both large and small are in the pipeline regarding NCC's Climate Change Action Plan. GS informed the meeting that the surface of the road to Shadfen is to be improved over the summer because of the increasing number of potholes.</p>	<b>SJ</b>

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	<p>PA asked GS if the planning application for Greenfield House had been called in. GS stated that he had not received a formal request to his request for this.</p> <p>PA discussed the need to reposition the road signs on the eastern side of the A192 welcoming motorists to Morpeth as they were no longer in an appropriate position following the change of the boundaries.</p> <p>Councillor Sanderson left the meeting at 19:15.</p>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2021 and matters arising:</b>	
<b>4.1</b>	Minutes from the meeting had been agreed by councillors via email and the minutes had been published on the website.	
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Matters Arising:</b> SJ has unsubscribed from the Newsletter of the Wansbeck MP.	
<b>5</b>	<b>Planning Applications and Local Plan (A detailed schedule of all recent planning applications is attached to these minutes - Addendum 1)</b>	
<b>5.1</b>	<b>Greenfield House:</b> An amended planning application has been submitted to NCC. HPC have submitted further comments. It was noted that there has been low/zero level of activity of late.	
<b>5.2</b>	<b>Four Winds:</b> DC stated that parking at Four Winds today had been dreadful, 2 vehicles had been parked on the road opposite one another, and people had to walk on the road to avoid them. It was stated that there was a trench on the drive meaning that vehicles were unable to get onto the site. PA stated that he was taking as many photos as possible.	
<b>5.3</b>	<b>2 Fir Tree Copse:</b> TPO to fell 2 pine trees – DC expressed concern regarding this due to the possible return of red squirrels which have been sighted in outlying areas recently. DC stated that a site visit was needed to ascertain why the trees were to be removed. DC will contact the TP Officer and seek a visit.	<b>DC</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Flood Sub Group:</b>	
	MP was not able to attend the meeting but sent an email to say that regarding the flood report nothing has changed from the last meeting, we are still waiting for Aaron to organise the next meeting which should be at the end of this month.	
<b>7</b>	<b>Financial Matters:</b>	
<b>7.1</b>	All recent finances were approved, including items of £100 or over.	
<b>7.2</b>	The new bench seat had been ordered. A resident of the parish has very kindly offered to meet the cost of this, in memory of her late husband. SJ has organised a plaque to be fixed to the seat in memory of her husband. HPC accepted the very kind gesture, and SJ will contact her once the invoice has arrived.	<b>SJ</b>
<b>7.3</b>	<b>Task and Finish Group:</b> PA summarised the recommendations of the “Task and Finish Group on HPC Finances” for the meeting.	

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	<p>The background was that until very recently HPC did not know the outcome of the “Land Grab”, Morpeth Town Council’s attempt to annexe 2 estates, South Fields and Stobhill Manor Hepscoth for council tax purposes. If these 2 moves had taken place HPC’s income and population would have been halved.</p> <p>The “Land Grab” issue, because of COVID and NCC internal delays, had been undecided for over 3 years and cast a shadow over HPC finances. It was decided to be extra-prudent in its spending until the outcome was known.</p> <p>The outcome of the Community Governance Review, decided in January 2021, was that South Fields is to remain in Hepscoth, whilst Stobhill Manor Hepscoth will move to MTC, we believe in October 2024.</p> <p>In the light of this decision the Task and Finish Group recommended that HPC could increase its spending on services across the Parish. Specifically it recommended that HPC should fund appropriate measures that make South Fields more of a part of Hepscoth Parish and bring the Parish together; communication with SF residents over this was very important.</p> <p>Other recommendations were to help groups looking to improve the Parish and who needed some financial help; to update and improve communication with Parish residents; to provide some financial assistance for professional advice to HPC; to discuss with the Parish Hall Committee the changing demography of the Parish.</p> <p>The TFG was thanked for its work and the recommendations were broadly agreed. The next steps were to flesh out and progress the recommendations.</p>	
<b>8</b>	<b>South Fields/Stobhill Manor update:</b>	
<b>8.1</b>	<p><b>South Fields:</b></p> <p>Mostly discussed in item 3 above. All agreed that we want to try and find a solution to the ASB and that a meeting arranged by GS will be organised.</p> <p>As JS is not standing for re-election to HPC PA asked if he had heard of any other residents of South Fields that would be willing to stand for election to HPC. JS stated that he had put information regarding the vacancy onto the South Fields Residents Facebook page. He stated that he thought flyers were the way to go.</p>	
<b>8.2</b>	<p><b>Stobhill Manor Play Park:</b></p> <p>Following receipt of the annual play park inspection report, CR had walked the park with Andy Rochester (AR) to look at any repairs that were required. No major factors were shown in the report; however, AR will look into clearing out weeds from the edges, giving a general spruce up.</p>	
<b>9.</b>	<b>Speeding and Parking issues:</b>	
	<p>FD reported that there had been no problems on Field House Close/Lane recently. He had emailed two photographs to two separate policemen but had not received a reply.</p>	

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	FD is still waiting to find out what is going on with Speed Watch Volunteers. He stated that he was disappointed and frustrated with the current situation.	
<b>10</b>	<b>Hepscott Parish Hall Committee:</b>	
<b>10.1</b>	<p><b>Parish Hall Committee Meetings:</b> An online meeting had been held the previous evening. They are raring to get started with events once COVID regulations are eased. They have around 6 future events lined up, including a scarecrow weekend with a picnic outside the hall from 1-3 May, a film night on 28 May, a Big Mingle Open Weekend from 25-27 June and an outside music event in August (date to be finalised). It was agreed that a calendar of events will be published, and this must also go into the South Fields domain.</p>	
<b>10.2</b>	Main car park drain: CR has had a quote of £80.00 for the work to repair and clean the drain, which Councillors accepted. CR will arrange for the work to be undertaken asap.	<b>CR</b>
<b>10.3</b>	Car park extension edging: DC stated that Paul Martin is to look at edging on the car park.	
<b>10.4</b>	SJ has received information from Anne Finlay stating that the man chopping the logs is Paul Martin who has been looking after the trees in the orchard for years. He has not charged for his work caring for the old trees and removing broken branches etc and is not running a business.	
<b>11</b>	<b>Correspondence/Meetings and Training attended:</b>	
<b>11.1</b>	SJ had received an email from the website administrator regarding reporting the death of a Senior National Figure. He stated that in the event of such an occurrence he will construct a suitably worded notice taking note of any formal announcements published and place this free of charge on our homepage.	
<b>11.2</b>	CR expressed the thanks of all councillors to JS who has decided not to stand for re-election to HPC in May. A big thank you was expressed for all his help in the last couple of years.	
<b>12</b>	<b>Date and time of next meeting:</b>	
	<p>The next meetings will be held on 20 May at 18:30, venue to be determined by Covid regulations.</p> <p>The meetings will be:</p> <p>(a) Annual Parish Meeting, followed by (b) Parish Council Meeting.</p> <p>Details of links for any online meeting will be published nearer the date.</p>	

**HEPSCOTT PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 18 March 2021  
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**Minutes taken and prepared by: Sylvia Johnson, Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer**

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

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### ADDENDUM 1

#### Details of planning applications discussed at the meeting of Hepscott Parish Council on Thursday 18 March 2021

- Land West Of Field House, Hepscott, Northumberland - Change of use of existing agricultural buildings and land to residential including conversion to 5 dwellings (as amended 29.01.2020)  
**Ref: 19/03789/FUL – Awaiting decision**
- Four Winds, Hepscott - Variation of condition/discharge of condition: 2 (plans), 3 (mitigation), 4 and 5 (trees), 6 (landscape), 7 (car parking), 8 (cycle parking), 9 (demolition), 10 (waste) 11 (surface water) and 12 (materials) pursuant to planning application 19/03670/FUL  
**20/02280/VARYCO – Registered**
- Clifton Caravan Centre, Great North Road, Clifton, Morpeth: Variation of section 106 agreement pursuant to planning application 14/02140/FUL dated 7 February 2018 to facilitate commencement of development and cash flow (in light of COVID restrictions it has been proposed that 50% of the affordable housing off site contribution is paid 12 months after commencement of development and the remaining 50% 6 months thereafter).  
**Ref: 20/03629/S106A – Permitted**
- Greenfield House, Hepscott: Reserved Matter for appearance, scale, layout and landscaping for 2 dwellings.  
**Ref: 20/03423/REM – Registered.**
- Newlands, Side Lane, Hepscott - Conversion of garage to add an extra bedroom and family room, construction of pitched roof over and single storey side extension to garage to add a small ensuite and dressing room  
**Ref: 20/03955/FUL – Permitted**
- Clifton Car Sales, Clifton Garage, Great North Road, Clifton - Change of use from Car Sales to reinstate the previous use (prior to 2005) as a petrol filling station  
**Ref: 20/04006/COU - Registered**
- Barratt Homes, South Fields, Hepscott - Variation of Condition 2 (approved plans) pursuant to 18/02364/VARYCO - in order to amend Plot 431 - Remove garage, Plot 432 - site to the west and construction of double garage, Plot 433 - house type changed from Denby to Radleigh, Plot 434 - house type changed from Denby to Maidstone and terraced with plots 435 and Plot 436 (revised description)  
**Ref: 20/04214/VARYCO - Registered**
- Burnside Kennels, Hepscott - Variation of condition: 1 (plans) pursuant to planning permission 18/01421/REM in order to amend the layout, appearance and scale of the dwellings.  
**Ref: 20/04396/VARYCO – Invalid application removed from planning portal.**
- Augusta House, Park Side, Hepscott Morpeth Northumberland NE61 6LX - Proposed alterations to property including part garage conversion, internal alterations and dormer windows to rear roof slope, plus canopy entry and bow window to front.  
**21/00242/FUL – Registered**
- 2 Fir Tree Copse, Hepscott - TPO application to fell 2no Scots Pine trees on south border of property  
**21/00798/FELTPO - Registered**