



## Birtley Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Birtley Parish Council held in the Supper Room of Birtley Village Hall starting at 8.00 pm. on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014

03-12-01 **Present** Messrs EN Coulson (Chairman), DRB Burn, J Robson, SW Crone, A Lowes and WG White. Clerk: Robert Macfarlane and County Cllr RM Gibson

03-12-02 **Apologies** None

03-12-03 **Declaration of Interest** Councillors (all of whom are residents in the parish) made a Declaration of Interest (Budget Dispensation) section 33 of Localism Act 2011.

03-12-04 **Minutes** Minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2014 were agreed and signed.

03-12-05 **Matters Arising**

- **Play Area** The yearly inspection report from Tyne and Wear Play Association (RoSPA) was sent to RSS Play and Boyd Sport & Play Ltd for their observations and to ascertain what work is covered by warrantee and any estimates for repairs. RSS Play sent estimates for repair work. Boyd Sport & Play Ltd turned up on site and carried out surface repairs without instructions. The company has now asked for £700 plus vat for work done. The Council agreed that a "good will" gesture should be made and the Clerk was instructed to offer them £400 plus vat as a full and final payment.
- **Secure Storage for Grass Mower** The storage cabin is now in situ on the playing field and it blends in well with the environment.
- **Playing Field Boundary Wall** The wall is in need of pointing and other repair. Cllr White will liaise with the builder (Mick Robson).

03-12-06 **Correspondence** All councillors were circulated with a full list of correspondence. Joint NCC and PC Meeting 21st October, Northumbrian CAB, CPRE, Tynedale Hospice, Northumberland Local Plan Core Strategy consultation.

- **Insurance Quotes** Quote for the parish insurance from Zurich Municipal - (cheaper and also giving better cover) renewal date - 1st June.
- **Grass Mowers** Border Counties insures both mowers - renewal date 6th March.

03-12-07 **Standing Orders**

In line with Nalc advice and Nalc Model Standing Orders the following was added to Birtley Parish Council Standing Orders;

Paragraph 3.2 *The public may record and transmit electronically the proceedings of a meeting of the Council and of any of its committees. No recording may be made of the public who are in attendance at the meeting, or of matters that occur in the meeting-place immediately prior to or following the meeting, without the Council's prior consent.*

03-12-08 **Roads**

**Traffic Regulation Act 1984 - section 14(1) u5035 Piper Lane Birtley (Temporary Road Closure) Order 2014**

Notice was hereby given that NCC have made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on that section of the U5035 Piper Lane Birtley/Warkshaugh Bank to Thorneyhirst for its entire length in the County of Northumberland.

The Order is to be effective from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015 until the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015. It is anticipated that the road will only be closed intermittently from the 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2015 until the 13<sup>th</sup> February 2015 between the hours of 8am and 5pm during this period. Reference 3184

The alternative route for vehicular traffic will be via the C213.

The closure has been requested by Northumberland County Council in order to carry out carriageway patching and repair works.

**Gullies and Drains** The Council praised NCC for carrying out good road repairs throughout the parish however this means that these roads will have to be dug up if the drains and gullies are to be repaired. Some of which were reported five years ago. Cllr Gibson will liaise with NEAT and Highways services to identify problem areas (Top of Catreen Fell and east of Middle Cowden)

**Grit Bin** Clerk to inform NCC so they can add the grit bin at top of village to their list.

03-12-09 **Footpaths**

No issues.

03-12-10 **Planning**

**Strategy re Planning Applications**

This document was approved by Council and signed by the Chairman.

**Northumberland County Council Planning Applications**

Application **14-01774-FUL** Proposed orangery and 2 furlong horse gallop Buteland NE48 2EX Permission was granted 22nd August 2014.

Application **14-01724-FUL** Proposal for existing stone and slate building to be converted into a two bedroomed building using the same address as the owner's property SW of Hindhaugh Farmhouse NE48 2RL Permission was granted 20th November 2014.

Application **14/03384/FUL** Proposed sub-station to house electrical switchgear within existing site. BAE Systems The Steel Bellingham NE48 2EZ As a statutory consultee the Council offered no objection to this application (Granted 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014).

03-12-11 **Reports**

**Village Hall** The hall windows have been replaced as part of Phase I and the kitchen is to be renovated as part of Phase II. The Council pledged financial support for Phase II

**NCC Wark Bridge** - Most of the work (£3.1m) has been completed and the bridge is open now. However the painting needs finishing and scaffolding may take up to six weeks to dismantle and remove. Cllr Gibson showed the Council his Ward map which showed road repairs and maintenance.

03-12-12 **Budget and Precept**

The clerk provided an outline budget for the following year. Looking at next year's spending the Council considered grant aid to support the Village Phase II project, cost of repairing the playingfield wall and repairs, running and maintenance of the two grass mowers. It was **RESOLVED** that the precept should be £2,900 for the financial year 2015-2016

03-12-13 **FINANCES**

**Bank Statements** 1<sup>st</sup> December Treasurer's Account £2092.40, BMM £2745.74

**Approved Payments** The following were agreed: Clerk's salary £250, Clerk's expenses £55.26 (vat £4.50), Playingfield Rent Northumberland Estates £1, OneandOne Website £31.43 (vat £5.24) and Boyd Sport and Play Ltd £480 (£80 vat)

**Grant Aid** Northumbrian CAB £25 and Sport Tynedale £25

**Section 137 Payments** Great North Air Ambulance £25, Tynedale Hospice at Home £25 and Community Action Northumberland £15.

03-12-14 **Next Meeting**

Tuesday 3rd March 2015 at 8pm in the Supper Room of Birtley Village Hall  
There being no other business the meeting was closed at 9.20 pm.

