

DRAFT MINUTES OF KNARSDALE WITH KIRKHAUGH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD MONDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 2015 AT 7.00p.m. IN KNARESDALE COMMUNITY HALL

Present: Cllrs M Mennie (Chair), J Grieves, T Moore, J Reed, W Watson & I Hutchinson (NCC).

Apologies: Cllrs S Makepeace (Vice Chair) & JJ Raine.

1. Broadband (Cyber Moor): Dominic Scarr's presentation was informative and easy to comprehend. There were members of the public in attendance who were able to ask questions and receive advice best suited for their individual circumstances. Contact details are available should anyone wish to speak on a one to one bases. The cabling network is at present being connect and hopeful the system should be operational soon. The Council asked if it would be possible for the Company to put Wi-Fi into the Community Hall free of charge for the community to use as a goodwill gesture. This to be investigated.

2. Minutes of meeting held 13th July 2015 were agreed and signed.

3. Declaration of Interest: Cllrs Moore, Reed & Watson Planning Application 15/02658/FUL Broad Mea.

4. Matters Arising:

Highway Issues: Clerk contacted Kris Westerby and asked 'If the farmer's field is above the highway, i.e. you have the field boundary wall and the highway is in the dip down a roadside embankment who is responsible for the water on the road and any erosion/shoring up of the embankment. Also vis versa if the road and the boundary wall/fence/hedge are above field height who is responsible for any subsidence of the embankment'. The response 'If the structure is new and retaining the highway the local highways authority has a duty to maintain it. If the structure is retaining adjacent land or buildings, the landowner has a responsibility. Landowners adjacent to the highway have a responsibility to stop water to the highway. This is generally in the form of a roadside ditch. This would be the landowners responsibility to maintain. The highways authority can drain the highway into this ditch if and when required'. In addition to the update on items highlighted at the May Meeting M Mennie took the opportunity of raising some concerns with Guy Opperman when he came to judge the gardens. G Opperman wrote to Featherstone Estate (Landfactor) re the land behind and in front of Merit House and the problems with flooding need attending to. He contacted NCC, the gullies by the cottages on the main road (Merrit House area) need cleaning out as a matter of priority, also 100 yards south from Community Hall a pothole and, more concerning, needs signage to warn of the sharp right turn. The Knarr road, at the fork, is in need of attention – under the road is eroding.

Old School: No further information available, G Opperman has wrote to NCC asking if their solicitor could support and help the Parish to resolve the ownership and land registry documents

The Hearse House: Cllr Mennie to arrange to register this plot of land with Land Register.

Enclosure Awards: A hard copy of the Knarsdale Enclosure Awards to kept in the filing cabinet. Clerk has been unable to get a copy of the Kirkhaugh documents, M Mennie will contact the Warden to see if he can help.

Dog Fouling: Cllr Hutchinson delivered a supply of notices.

Village Green Grass Cuttings: Cllrs. did not think compost areas should be introduced at the side of the Village Green, it would be preferable to leave the grass but it would mean extra cuts. Council to decide prior to next year's tender.

5. Parish Council's Projects:

Notice Boards: Still chasing quotes to carry out maintenance work on the notice boards beside the Community Hall.

Parish In Bloom Competition: Guy Opperman judged the competition 31/7 accompanied by M Mennie, the presentations took place 15/8 in the Community Hall, there was a singer and the Church will did the catering. Cup: Carol Grieves (donated by James Raine)

Large Garden: 1st Bill & Kath Aynsley, 2nd Albert Ridley
Cottage Garden: 1st Tom Cassley, 2nd Simon Garlick
Small Garden: 1st Carol Grieves Hanging Baskets & Pots: 1st Margaret Armstrong
Best Vegetable Garden: William Armstrong (Prize donated by Knarsdale Estate)
Children's Competition: Holly Armstrong
Best Decorative Tree & Water Feature: Chris Ashworth & Best Use Of Wheelbarrows: Les & Margaret Graham

6. Planning Applications:

14/03306/FUL: Provision of a car park to serve Slaggyford Station, changed from an agricultural field, with associated road improvements. No further update available.

15/02658/FUL Proposed upgrade to access track and creation of parking / turning area - Broad Mea, Kirkhaugh, Northumberland. Cllrs Moore, Reed & Watson declared an interest - Cllrs Grieves & Mennie commented on the application - there are **no objections**. It was commented that the address is Knarsdale not Kirkhaugh.

15/02783/LBC: Listed Building Consent to consolidate the dilapidated dwelling/agricultural listed building and reinstate residential use of the first and second floors and change of use of the ground from agricultural to residential use - Land West of High Luzley, Slaggyford, Northumberland. **An environmental point: this should have a sewerage treatment tank** not a septic tank due to proximity to a nearby water course.

15/02841/FUL: Single storey rear extension to games room, replacement of existing outbuildings to create indoor swimming pool, single storey rear linking extension between the main house and the swimming pool & demolition of a redundant coal store - Old Rectory, Kirkhaugh. Alston, Northumberland – **no objections**.

15/02275/LBC: Listed Building consent: Proposed alterations to approved plans to introduce 2 rooflights, 2 small first floor windows and stone staircase to first floor entrance - Blackcleugh Cottage, Alston, Northumberland CA9 3NJ – **no objections**.

7. Financial:

Monies: £296.24 + £2, 831.63 = £3,127.87

LESS: Parish In Bloom competition 336.50, GR Sloan £270.00, Clerk 6 Mths salary & expenses £329.40, HMRC £75.00 = £2117.07.

2014/15 Audit Report: BDO Stoy Hayward Auditor – no matters arising.

8. Transparency, Open-ness & Accountability:

Clerk still seeking information and clarification on what action is required of a small parish council.

9. West Area Committee:

Meeting in Haltwhistle Library at 6.00p.m. on Tuesday 15th September.

10. Correspondence:

NCC Electronic Permit Leaflet 'Pay as you throw' leaflets

NCC Home compost scheme leaflet

NCC Northumberland Local Plan Core Strategy – pre submission draft

NCC Draft Planning Protocols

NCC Alston – Haltwhistle Bus Service (681) – 12/10/15 operated by Go North East – timetables

Consultation document on possible closure of Herdley Bank School

Tynedale Hospice At Home requesting donation – no donation given

Northumberland Association of Local Councils Annual Report 2014/15 & AGM 17/10/15

12. Any Other Business:

Bus Shelter in the Village: It was not thought possible at this moment to erect a small, clear plastic, bus shelter on the main road for the village but the Cllrs. would re-visit if a suitable area became available.

South Tyne Trail: A complaint has been received re quad bikes/tractors using this path, speeding, tearing up the surface – making potholes etc., this trail a footpath/cycle way not a bridle way to be used by farmers etc. NCC Rights of Way have been notified and are investigating this matter and will be re-instating the 'barrier' at Burnstones to stop access for vehicle traffic along the path.

'30' Flashing Sign: It was discussed whether it would be possible to have a sign positioned in the area of Town Green, it was decided these signs were expensive and were not always a deterrent against speeding.

13. Date of Next Meeting: Monday 9th November 2015 at 7.30p.m.

Meeting closed at 9.25p.m.