

# Minutes for the Meeting of Embleton Parish Council

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7.00pm

## Christon Bank Methodist Church

**Chairman:** Terry Howells

**Present:** Adam Moody, Vickie Fyffe, David Cooper, Andrew Chillingsworth, Raymond Carss, Georgina Armstrong, Richard Manners, Monica Cornall, Ray Imeson

**Attendees:** County Councillor Wendy Pattison (Northumberland County Council (NCC)), six members of the public, Architect R Verrill representing Cllr Manners on planning application.

**Clerk:** Melissa Gilroy

**614. Declaration of Interests**

Richard Manners Agenda Item 631 – Planning Application Land North of Quarry House for eight dwellings.

**615. Apologies:** None

**616. Confirmation of minutes of last meeting**

The Minutes of the 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2018 were agreed as a true record.

**617. Matters arising from minutes of last meeting.**

- **Bin replacement.** Replacement village bins now in place.
- **Quakers Row Property Boundaries.** No response has been received from residents regarding their extended boundary, their intention with the land and possibility of leasing the area from Embleton Parish Council (EPC). A recorded delivery letter to be written to the residents asking them to respond within 2 weeks of receipt before further action is taken.
- **Christon Bank Bus Service.** At present the 460 NEED bus service continues to run through Christon Bank each Thursday providing residents with a weekly return bus service to Alnwick. Neil Easton is currently in negotiation with Need Ltd with regards to the dial-a-ride service. Information about the Get-about service was circulated from NCC, Chairman & Clerk to complete survey and express interest in the scheme.

**618. County Councillor's Report.** County Cllr Pattison provided a report that was circulated to Cllr's alongside the meeting summons and agenda. The full report is available upon request. In summary:

- **Life Saving Equipment** - NCC asked the RNLI to carry out an audit / assessment on all Public Rescue Equipment (PRE) on the coastline of Northumberland, they compiled a report with recommendations on which PRE should remain and what equipment was required in particular areas, following risk assessments. Some of the PRE was deemed ineffective in the areas it was placed. The audit was to help beach operators make better-informed decisions for PRE requirements. Some of the equipment was judged to be useless in the areas they were placed and has since been removed. Councillors requested that other life-saving options were considered for these areas, Chairman to contact NCC for details of suitable alternatives.
- **Superfast Broadband.** NCC's main contract with BT Openreach aims to get to the level of 95% of properties in the county able to access superfast broadband by the end of 2018. Inorthumberland currently have a budget of £2m to help fund community fibre partnership schemes (see [www.communityfibre.openreach.co.uk](http://www.communityfibre.openreach.co.uk)). Time is getting

critical for these schemes due to the amount of work required before they can be contracted, and as such may have to stop accepting new communities into the fund in the next few months. NCC are in discussion about funding to extend the broadband coverage further. This is likely to take some time, NCC don't expect any live superfast services using new funding before the end of 2019. As such I think the community fibre partnership route is the best route to take for any community not currently in plan and with a desire for superfast broadband services. County Councillor Pattison asks the PC to ascertain all postcodes within the Parish which are currently NOT receiving superfast broadband so that iNorthumberland can be informed asap.

- **Highways England** had planned to re-surface 4 miles of the A1 between Wandylaw and Warenford on 2 March 2018 for two weeks resulting in a full road the closure from Brownieside to Adderstone. These works have since been cancelled due to lack of consultation with NCC. Overnight works rescheduled for October 2018 (tbc.)
  - **Potholes.** Parish Council Clerks, Councillors and residents are encouraged to log onto the NCC website and report potholes:  
<https://online.northumberland.gov.uk/citizenportal/form.aspx?form=557> or, telephone 0345 600 6400 and ask for Highways.
  - **Weed Control.** As part of the weed control activity NCC will be adding blue dye (harmless) to the herbicide used. This is completely non-toxic and provides visual assurance to everyone that the weeds have been sprayed and no areas missed. The dye breaks down over time and is no longer visible. This approach has been used successfully by Durham County Council for the past 5 years
  - **County Councillor Members Allowance.** All Councillors get £15,000 to spend on their Communities. Since County Councillor Pattison was elected in May the following amounts have been donated:
    - 1) Construction of new toilet facilities at Howick Village Hall - £2,000
    - 2) Contribution towards the installation of new drainage at St John the Baptist Church, Edlingham Village - £2,000
    - 3) Contribution towards Traffic Calming (design) B1339, Main Street Embleton 20mph speed limit/zone - £2,000.
    - 4) Contribution towards footpath resurfacing and reconstruction works at Boulmer Village and at Heugh Wynd, Craster - £9,000.
  - **Defining a Conservation Area.** See County Councillor report for more details
  - **County parking plans.** The County Council commissioned consultants to undertake parking studies and survey work in the market towns of Berwick, Hexham, Morpeth and Alnwick, which has taken place over the summer and autumn to help develop options for future parking needs in these busy market towns. Work is now being undertaken to seek the views and opinions of the local county councillors, town councils and other key stakeholders on the findings of the consultants' studies and their suggested recommendations on a range of potential measures that could help address parking issues in their areas.
- 619. Christon Bank Defibrillator.** The Clerk contact BT and Stephen Carey Trust to get details and costs of taking over the BT phone box in Christon Bank and installing a defibrillator. The Parish Council (PC) can apply to BT to adopt the phone-box for a nominal fee of £1. Stephen Carey Trust can convert the box installing a cased defibrillator, phone-box signage and deliver a community familiarisation session for £1750. The units have a 10 year warranty and would require new pads every 2 years (£59 approx. cost) and a new battery after 5 years (£130 approx. cost). Monthly checks are required on the units once installed. The Councillors agreed to go ahead with the plans as an alternative to the village planters. Clerk to action.
- 620. Christon Bank – 20mph Speed Restrictions.** The Clerk reported Councillor views on the 20mph speed restriction designs for Christon Bank to Neil Snowdon at NCC. The revised plans have yet to be received. County Councillor Pattison raised the issue of legally enforcing a 20mph zone and the alternative of a mobile speeding camera

(similar to those used in Powburn) in enforcing a 30mph speeding zone. County Councillor Pattison has asked to PC to confirm their preference for Christon Bank village before the final plans are completed. The pros and cons of each method were discussed and Councillors felt that a 20mph with rumble strips with a passage for cyclists was preferred. A meeting with Neil Snowdon, PC Councillors and the Chairman to be arrange with the revised plans.

- 621. Neighbourhood Plan.** The Chairman provided an update of the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) working party group. The visions and objectives for the NP have been agreed and shall be published in the next Whinstone Times whilst the policies to meet these objectives are now being drafted by the working party. The housing survey is due to be delivered to each house in the Parish (with a stamped addressed envelope) in March 2018, Councillors to assist with the distribution of these. The target for completion of the NP is by the end of 2018. Councillors discussed their concerns around the vacuum in the NCC planning framework, brought about by scrapping the Core Strategy before local Neighbourhood Plans are in place, and the resulting flurry of planning applications being submitted in the area.
- 622. Data Protection Update Regulations.** Discussed at the January 2018 meeting.
- 623. Removal of Lifesaving Equipment – Embleton Bay.** See agenda point 618.
- 624. Embleton Quarry Working Party.** A public open meeting took place on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February in the Parish Church Rooms between 4-8pm. Copies of the Wildlife Management Plan, achieve articles and an ariel video was produced for the meeting. Approx. 50 local residents attended the event to share their views, and express their interest in the Quarry Working Party. The Chairman to feedback the analysis of the meeting at the next Quarry Committee meeting, date tbc. Councillor Cooper thanked Adam Gilroy for the producing a short ariel video to show at the open meeting.
- 625. Meeting Reports.**  
**North Northumberland Local Area Council Meeting 25<sup>th</sup> January,** 4pm, Alnwick Northumberland Hall. Cllr Moody attended on behalf of the PC. No issues relevant to EPC were raised at the meeting.
- 626. Forthcoming Meetings.**
- **Longhoughton Ward 9 Parish Council Meeting** - Friday March 9th 2018 at 6.30pm, Thrunton Trout Fishery. Chairman to attend.
  - **Embleton Holy Trinity Church,** Commissioning Alison Hardy as Area Dean of Alnwick Deanery. Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7:30pm. Chairman to attend.
- 627. Embleton Joint Burial Committee (EJBC).** Cemetery House surveys ongoing. Next EJBC meeting to be held in Creighton Hall on 5<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm.
- 628. Embleton Parish Council Facebook Page.** Councillors agreed that a Facebook Page for the PC would be useful in helping to share community events and news in conjunction with the website. Clerk to action.
- 629. E mails Received / Correspondence.**
- **Grass verge opposite Wesley Way and other issues in Christon Bank.** A resident email has been received to complain about cars driving on the grass verge opposite the shop at Christon Bank. Chairman / Clerk to write a letter requesting that they refrain from turning their car on the verge.
  - **Northumberland Local Plan Update and 'Call for Sites'.** The new full Local Plan will set out both strategic and detailed policies (including site allocations) which will guide future growth and development across the County up to 2036. To inform the Plan, the Council is inviting landowners, developers, agents, local residents and other interested parties to submit potential development sites for consideration. Potential sites for residential land uses, economic development and mineral extraction are

welcomed. Sites for other uses such as retail, leisure or mixed-use development will also be considered. Details of how to submit sites can be found at [www.northumberland.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/localplan) by 5pm on Monday 12 March 2018. Following the consultation, the Council will consider and review all of the information received which will be used to inform the process of selecting the sites for allocation in the forthcoming draft Local Plan.

- **WI funding request.** Embleton WI have written to the PC to request funding, they will celebrate their 100th Birthday later this year and would like to commemorate this with a bench and plaque possibly to be placed in front of the Church beside the Parish Room wall. In addition to fundraising the WI have asked if the PC can also contribute. Charitable donations to be considered and agreed at the March PC Meeting for issue in April 2018. Clerk to write to the WI to find out the level of funding that they require.
- **Seahouses Development Trust.** Small grants of £100 are available to newly formed community groups requiring resources. Friends of Spitalfield are applying for a grant to apply for equipment to help tidy up Spitalfield Cemetery.
- **Post 16 Transport Consultation.** NCC is carrying out a consultation on some significant changes to its Post-16 Transport Policy, which would make free travel to their local school or college available for most 16-19 year olds who live more than three miles away from that local school or college. The proposals which are set out in the consultation document are available to view at [www.northumberland.gov.uk](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk). Clerk to place on Facebook page.

### 630. Financial Matters

- NALC Transparency Fund Application 2018
- Account Balance £46,433.84 26/01/2018
  - Parish Council* (£21,422.10)
  - Quarry* (£22,388.26)
  - Neighbourhood Plan* (£2,623.48)
- Spent & Received since 22/01/17
  - Clerk Wages & Expenses -£336.91 (November 17)
  - Creighton Memorial Hall -£27.50
  - Parish Church Rooms Dec 13<sup>th</sup>, Jan 10<sup>th</sup> (NP Meetings) -£30.00
  - Karen Greenhoff (NP Expenses) -£63.17
  - Clerk Wages & Expenses -£86.00 (December 17)
  - G Mallaburn -£330.00
  - Environment Agency -£232.37
  - Soho Commerical – Wheelie Bins -£93.00
  - Northern Powergrid +£50.00
  - Bolton Terrace Annual Lease +£300.00
- Cheques required
  - Clerk Wages & Expenses -£271.49. (January 18)
  - Embleton Primary School (Photocopies) -£5.00
  - Clerk – Printer Ink Cartridges -£31.88
  - Methodist Church, Christon Bank -£10.00
  - Parish Church Rooms 7<sup>th</sup> Feb (NP Meeting) -£15.00
  - D Moody – Grass Cutting 2018 -£900.00
  - Parish Church Rooms (Quarry Open Meeting) -£15.00
  - T Howells (Azure Leaflet Printing) -£45.00

### 631. Planning Matters.

- 17/04459/FUL. Construction of one detached house. 4 Horsley Place, Christon Bank, NE66 3FB. Mr M Cockerill  
Comment Exp Date: 11th January 2018  
NO COMMENTS

- 17/03713/FUL. Proposed Storage and Freezer Shed. 1 Chapel View Station Cottages Christon Bank, NE66 3EX. Mr Gary Little  
Comment Exp Date: 10th January 2018  
NO COMMENTS
- 18/00579/FUL. Proposal to develop land to the north of Quarry House, Embleton to provide eight dwellings. Land North of Quarry House, Embleton Northumberland. Mr Richard Manners. 14th March 2018

The Architect representing Councillor Manners (R Verill) briefed the Councillors on the plans for the development to include 8 houses ranging in size from 2-4 bedroom homes within a traditional style steading. Carbon neutral dwellings using air source heat pumps as an energy source, the entrance to the development planned for beside the layby / bottle bank area. Councillor Manners left the meeting when the Councillors discussed the planning application.

OBJECTION – Positioning within the AONB. Outside of the housing need for Embleton Parish considering the other housing developments and the initial draft of the Neighbourhood Plan. Chairman & Clerk to feedback on planning application.

- PRE PLANNING CONSULTATION. Proposed Communication installation for Arqiva's Smart Meter Network at SW Adjacent to Bus Stop B1339, Alnwick, Northumberland, NE66 3XS.  
OBJECTION – Within the AONB and on the coastal route into a Conservation area. Other sites within the village may be better suited e.g. Quarry site (possibility of a wayleave agreement with the PC). Councillors requested a meeting to discuss the mast. Chairman to write to Argiva with feedback.
- 8/00021/VARYCO. Removal of Condition 3 (time limit – caravan) on approved planning application 11/02793/FUL. Dunstan Steads Farm, Embleton, Northumberland, NE66 3DT. Mr Brown  
Date for comment by: 27th February 2018  
OBJECTION – No required need for a caravan on the site. The caravan historically placed on this site has never been used. Chairman & Clerk to feedback on the planning application
- 17/03461/FUL. Replacement of existing dwelling with two new dwellings. 16 Springfield View, Christon Bank, Alnwick, NE66 3ET. Mr Thompson. Expiry date for comment: 15<sup>th</sup> November 2017.  
GRANTED
- 17/04214/FUL. Single storey extension to the rear and side of the existing dwelling. 2 Merton Cottages, Embleton, Alnwick, NE55 3XL. Ms L Johnston.  
GRANTED
- 17/02146/FUL. Demolition of existing flat roof garage and construction of two storey self-contained annexe for holiday let/ancillary 4 The Villas Embleton NE66 3XG.  
GRANTED
- 17/04270/FUL. 5 new conservation area roof windows to existing roof. East Farm House, Embleton Main Street, Embleton, NE66 3XB. Mrs Victoria Fyffe.  
GRANTED

**632. Agenda Items for Next Meeting.**

**633. Time, Date and Venue of next meeting**

Proposed that the meeting should be held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7:30pm in Creighton Memorial Hall.