

Minutes of meeting of Rennington Parish Council held on 5th April 2018

Councillors Present; K Burdett Chair, J Watson Vice Chair, A Tremlett, N Anscombe, L Bosanquet,
C Barker, Wendy Pattison, County Councillor.

1 Apologies; K Anscombe

2 Declaration of Interest NA declared an interest in item 5. JW declared an interest in item 5 (Rennington Village Hall Boundary Wall). AT declared an interest in item 7 (18/000923/FUL).

3 No members of the public were present.

4 Minutes of the previous meeting Minutes of 22nd February 2018 were approved. Proposed by AT seconded by JW, signed by KB.

5 Matters Arising

Vacancies on the Parish Council; KB reported the notice had been displayed but no response received therefore the PC was free to co-opt and so would actively seek new members.

Letter to Northumberland Estates regarding development of North Farm Steading; the clerk had sent the letter and was awaiting a response.

Letters to Highways; the clerk's letter of thanks to highways regarding snow clearance had been welcomed, the clerk was awaiting a response on letters regarding littering on the A1 and the clearance of blocked gullies. It was asked the clerk write again regarding a blocked gully at Northfield/North Farm and to chase up others.

Village Hall Boundary Wall; Northumberland Estates letter informed that the wall conveyed as part of School House property. It was agreed that following a response from the solicitors the PC will write to Mr White confirming the wall belongs to him. Additionally the PC will write to building control to see whether they have any responsibility in considering the wall's safety.

Parking on Church Road; Richard Mackenzie at NCC had confirmed finance is available in the coming financial year for the parking improvements in Church Road. It was agreed that following confirmation the PC would approach The Grange and ask them to mark out their car parking.

6 Financial Matters; *Statement of Bank Account Balances (appendix B)* approval proposed by JW and seconded by AT. It was noted that the PC has a healthy bank balance and the clerk was asked to check the maximum balance a PC should hold. One cheque was raised to settle an item listed on the agenda for Northumberland Estates rent (Sept 17-March18) £425. Three further cheques were raised to settle additional items noted; Kaspersky anti-virus renewal £29.99, NCC clerk's invoice and arrears £179.10, NALC training costs (reimbursed to clerk) £25.

7 Town and County Planning Act 1990; *18/00923/FUL Extension Northfield House. Rennington;* 5 no objections, 1 abstention, 1 declaration of interest. *18/00647/FUL Agricultural Building Rock Midsteads Farm;* No objections.

Applications granted approval since February PC Meeting; 18/00268/FUL Kitchen Extension Gull-Ha Rock South Farm and 18/00439/Ful Rock Moor Farm, new garage.

*NA raised a concern regarding the removal of asbestos from the barn roof when demolition work starts at North Farm. KA will draft a letter for the clerk to send to NCC raising concerns and to ask for a copy of the construction method statement and to ensure a bona fide contractor is involved in the removal of asbestos.

8 County Councillor Updates; WP presented her report which had been previously circulated.

Potholes; WP spoke about the state of the roads in her ward and the lack of funding to tackle the problem.

Broadband and Internet problems; AT thanked WP as everyone in Rennington is now connected to broadband. KB will put in a grant application for non connected properties at Stamford. CB highlighted the problem with telephone landlines in parts of Rennington due to the line crossing the East Coast main line. He has written to BT and requested that WP will write also and to the local MP.

BT phone boxes; WP reported that she had written to BT chasing up phone box removal and they had now been removed in South Charlton and Rock.

Community Speed survey; WP confirmed that when the PC was ready a speed survey could be conducted. KB proposed that the early part of May would be a good time.

9. Northumberland Local Plan Spring 2018 consultation; It was agreed the clerk will complete the survey following councillors' discussion on housing and economic development. It was agreed there should be no expansion out from the existing Greenfield boundaries and to maintain the boundaries between the Parish settlements. It was also agreed that it would be necessary to have a mix of housing in size and tenure, and the need for development of community facilities to attract young families. It was considered that local employment opportunities should be based around redundant farm buildings, particularly those with good road connection to the A1.

In Rennington it was agreed that residential development would be preferred at North Farm Steading and extending on land to north of North Row cottages (12-30), in order to retain the Greenfields and open aspect, presently a strong landscape character feature of the village.

In Rock there was no specific discussion on preferred land for residential development though LB expressed the view that any future residential development would continue the recent mix of housing which has encouraged a balanced age of residents/occupants. LB also expressed the view that development leading to employment opportunities would be beneficial to support the parish community.

10. NALC training dates; The clerk and LB will attend a course on finance and the new audit arrangements on April 16th and LB will attend the data protection course on May 23rd. It was agreed that the £10 cost of the clerk's training would be split between Rennington and Egingham Parish Council and approval was given for £20 training costs for LB.

11. Amendment to PC Standing Order 4.3 (appendix E circulated) AT proposed and LB seconded change. It will now read ; "All councillors are to respond individually within 14 days by email to the Clerk copying all other councillors with objections / no objections and

comments to support this as appropriate OR with a note of abstention or declaration of interest . Any councillor not responding is deemed to be abstaining . Regular abstentions will not be acceptable without good reason.”

12. Correspondence received; NCC had informed the PC that Mark Ketley had left his position as former head of Planning Services by mutual agreement. Following correspondence from NCC Footpaths Officer, Phil Bradley, KB will take photographs of the overgrowth needing cut back along the Public Right of Way footpath from Church road upwards and send to him.

13 Any Other Business There was no other business.

14 Date of Next Meeting; Annual meeting on Thursday May 17th 2018.