

Minutes of meeting of Rennington Parish Council held on Thursday 6 September 2018

Councillors Present; K Burdett Chair, J Watson Vice Chair, A Tremlett, L Bosanquet.

1 Apologies; K Anscombe, N Anscombe, C Barker. County Councillor W Pattison.

2 Declaration of Interest LB declared an interest in Rock Post Box, JW declared an interest in Rennington Village Hall Boundary Wall.

3 No members of the public were present.

4 Minutes of the previous meeting Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 28th June were approved. Proposed by JW and seconded and signed by LB.

5 Matters Arising

Boundary Wall – G.White’s response to the PC’s letter had been circulated with chair’s comments to all councillors prior to the meeting. It was agreed the chair will write to Mr White, with a copy being sent to the managing partner address, enclosing a copy of his deed plan and lease. It was agreed the other documents he had requested were publicly accessible. It was felt this should be the end of correspondence as Mr White’s ownership and responsibility for the wall were clear.

Meeting with Northumberland Estates North Farm- KB said he had not heard back from Mr Barnes and would chase him up.

Church Road parking and Church Road footpath- KB had received correspondence from Richard Mackenzie confirming that the Church Road parking improvements had gone for financial approval. It was raised that WP had said the area would be grasscrete (which is the existing surface) and this type of surface finish was not requested at on-site meeting with RM. RM to be contacted.

KB confirmed that the hedging alongside the Public Footpath from Church Road to Stamford Cottages had been cut back and the stile can now be used. He raised that two parishioners had approached the PC asking if the steep stile could be replaced with a kissing gate. It was agreed by the PC that a gate should be put on instead to make the footpath more accessible.

BT phone line interference- It was agreed that the clerk should wait to contact Network Rail, as previously suggested, because WP had reported that Openreach have been looking at their network and have one more thing to try which is an overlay cable. This is a temporary cable which runs over ground between two points either side of the bridge to eliminate that section of cable absolutely. This is the only place that the cable passes the track so if any noise induction is present due to weakness this will eliminate it and give clear next steps. They will need local traffic management to be able to try this and are hoping to arrange this soon.

Rock Post Box- KB said Richard MacKenzie from NCC had said he would have a look at the Post Box when he next comes out to Church Road but has agreed NCC will pave the area around it when contractors come out to work at Church Road.

Northumberland Local Plan; RPC’s response- the clerk had sent an agreed response and NCC had confirmed receipt.

6 Speed monitoring strips AT raised an email he had received from K Anscombe saying NCC's report on the results of speed monitoring in Rennington was misleading. KB said that all correspondence should go to the chair or clerk. NCC has proposed A 20mph speed limit throughout Rennington to address residents concerns and a PC response has been requested by September 27th. Following discussion and on the basis of figures from the residents survey which saw 17/10 in support of a 20mph zone, it was proposed to support a 20mph speed zone in Rennington. This was proposed by AT and seconded by KB with JW reluctantly in support. LB was against the limit as she feels a 20mph zone would be dangerous because the road from Rock to Rennington is 60mph and traffic could slow too quickly.

7 Christmas tree WP had asked all Parish Council's to consider her potential offer of a Christmas tree paid from her member's allowance (depending on approval from NCC). LB declined the offer for Rock as there would be nowhere to put it where an electric point could be taken to it. She felt it was a generous offer but an expensive idea and would rather money was spent on paving around the post box. For Rennington it was proposed, by AT and seconded by KB with JW in agreement, to accept the offer on the basis of one tree for Rennington. It was agreed that should NCC agree Cllr WP's proposals, then RPC would engage an electrician, arrange the lights and properly erect the tree in front of the village hall.

8 Financial Matters;

Statement of Bank Account Balances (appendix B) – Approved by LB and seconded by AT.

Approval of invoice made between meetings;

N&Fyoung (for signposts at Rock and Rennington)

£622.80 chq 535.

Approval for payment of invoices; Clerk's payment to NCC for June and July £292.56.

Approval of any additional invoices received since preparation of the agenda. An invoice for £425 for rent had been received from Northumberland Estates and was approved for payment. Rennington Village Hall will be invoiced for the same amount from RPC.

*Online banking-*The clerk has set up online banking but only with the business account so is in the process of adding the Treasurer's account.

*Direct debit -*The clerk had been advised by NCC that a direct debit for the clerk's payment rather than a standing would be preferable.

9 Town and County Planning Act 1990;

Current Applications;

18/01869/Out Mason Arms, Rennington, seven self build plots, unanimous objection, **refused**. KB reported that the issue had been raised with NCC of rubbish being buried but nothing had been received back other than they were going to have a look at it. KB proposed the PC write to the enforcement officer again.

18/02495/Ful South East Farm, Mill Race, Rennington, new rear dormers, no objections

18/02663/Ful 16 Rock Home Farm, Front Porch, no objections

Applications granted approval since June PC Meeting; 17/04589/LBC and 17/04588 for demolition of buildings and 8 new houses, North Farm Steading, Rennington, 17/04589/LBC GRANTED.

10 County Councillor Updates; WP was unable to attend because of other NCC commitments. Her report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

11 Correspondence received; Local transport plan programme 2018/19 NCC had written to RPC requesting their transport priorities. LB proposed a footpath between Rock and Rennington as more and more people are

walking the road which has a 60mph speed limit. AT agreed as more homes means more people walking. JW suggested pedestrian refuges. He also suggested the reinstatement of road markings. KB suggested the main priority be the parking improvements on Church Road. The clerk will return the following resolutions: 1) Vehicle Parking on Church Road be Improved, 2) Restoration of carriageway road markings – particularly 3 x give way markings at Finger Post junction into/from Church Road, 3) Pedestrian Footway alongside road linking Rock and Rennington.

12. Any Other Business KB raised a concern regarding councillors not attending meetings but conducting parish council business via email. He said that it was not appropriate to use emails for discussion as opposed to attending meetings and email is for information rather than discussion. LB suggested a reminder be sent to councillors that all emails should be to reply all. KB informed the PC that CB had offered his resignation but that due to his ongoing health problems, KB had declined at present.

13. Date of Next Meeting; Thursday October 18th 2018.