

Minutes of meeting of Rennington Parish Council held on Thursday 10th January 2019

Councillors Present; K Burdett Chair, J Watson Vice Chair, A Tremlett, L Bosanquet, C Barker. County Councillor W Pattison. James McQueen was also in attendance as a prospective new Parish Councillor. One member of the public was also present.

1. Apologies; There were no apologies.

2. Declaration of Interest JW declared an interest on item 6 for Rennington Village Hall , LB declared an interest on item 6 for Rock Farm Visit.

3. Public Participation time In accordance with Section 3.5 of the Rennington Parish Council Standing Orders members of the public present may address the Council or Committee at this point on the agenda. The Council/Committee reserves the right to respond or debate the issue at a later date.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6th December 2018 were approved. Proposed by LB and seconded by AT and signed by KB.

5. Matters Arising

Boundary Wall –There had been no further correspondence. KB had drafted a letter to NCC’s building control to see if they will intervene and it was agreed this will be circulated to councillors for any comment before sending.

Northumberland Estates North Farm – It was agreed a letter will be drafted and circulated for comment to councillors before sending to Mr Barnes.

Rock Post Box – Northumberland County Council has completed the requested hard-standing area around Rock Post Box.

Church Road Parking- The clerk had written to Mr McKenzie and is awaiting a response.

Highway Drainage Maintenance-Graham Bucknall, Area Highways Manager, had replied to the clerk’s request regarding blocked gullies and had arranged for the gully tanker to clean out the gullies in and around Rennington Village.

Wisplaw Farm Entrance-In response to concerns raised by the PC regarding the state of the farm entrance and resulting loose stones on the highway, Graham Bucknall confirmed that as a private road it was up to the landowner if they wished it to be tarmacked but that he would investigate whether any stones on the highway constituted a danger and if so the landowner would be sent a letter pointing out that they may be in breach of section 149 of the Highways act.

Signposts in the Parish-CB had found 3 wooden signposts in need of cleaning and offered to go and clean them. This was agreed.

Rock Farm Visit - LB and WP left the room for discussion of this item. Councillors had visited the woodchip plant following an invite by LB. Councillors were in agreement that the level of noise is a concern and as is the impact on highways. It was also felt that as an industrial site it should have a defined boundary. The application, for change of use of part of the farm yard and two agricultural buildings use to mixed use agriculture/woodchip production, is currently with NCC planning department and RPC had previously submitted comments. It was agreed to await further development from Northumberland County Council before making further comment. LB and WP re-entered the room.

6. Financial Matters;

Statement of Bank Account Balances (appendix B, circulated).

Approval for payment of invoices; There were no invoices to be paid. The clerk explained NCC had not yet taken the direct debit for the clerk's payment as it is updating its payments system.

The clerk had received payment from Rennington Village Hall for the second payment of £425 rent to Northumberland Estates for the hall.

7. Town and County Planning Act 1990;

Current Applications; There were no applications at the time the agenda was prepared but the clerk received the following application the day before the meeting; 18/04410/OUT outline planning permission for residential development of 8 new houses, land north of Grange park B1340 Rennington to Christon Banks, applicant Mrs J Carty. KB explained an earlier application for this land using access to the B1340 had been refused, however there was already a current approved application for the land with access on to Church Road. KB also observed that the previous application had affordable housing but this had been removed and also additional car parking for the Grange had also been removed. It was agreed that the plans would be circulated to councillors before comments were made and returned to NCC.

8. County Councillor Updates; WP's report had been circulated prior to the meeting. WP highlighted the next Parish meeting on April 12th at Alnwick Youth Hostel and hoped that clerk and chairs and councillors would be able to attend. She said that the 20mph zone introduced last year in Christon Bank was being removed on 14th January. The reduced speed limit had been brought in without a 40mph buffer zone. WP also said that she thought a footpath from Rock to Rennington was a good idea with an increasing amount of traffic on the road.

9. Correspondence received; The clerk had received correspondence inviting nominations for the Royal Garden Party. It was proposed by KB and agreed that as a former chairman David Barracough should be nominated.

10. Any Other Business; The footpath on Church Road had been cleared but the wicket gate needs repairing-the clerk will chase up. It was also raised that the footpath by the woods before turning down to Little Horsley path has no stile. The clerk will raise this matter. LB raised the matter of the Public footpath at Rock that currently goes through the farmyard which she would like diverted onto The Avenue. WP suggested David Brooks at NCC and it was agreed LB would first chase this up herself.

11. Date of Next Meeting; Thursday 21st February 2019.