

EMBLETON PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday 28th May 2019 at 7.30pm, Creighton Hall, Embleton.

- Chairman:** Terry Howells
- Present:** Raymond Carss, Monica Cornall, Ray Imeson, Chris German
- Clerk:** Melissa Gilroy
- Attendance:** County Councillor (Cllr) Wendy Pattison, one member of the public
- Absent:** Vickie Fyffe, Andrew Chillingsworth
- Apologies:** Richard Manners, David Cooper, Georgina Armstrong

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

1. Welcome by the Parish Council Chairman

2. Minutes of the last Annual Meeting of the Parish

The Minutes from 21st May 2018 were agreed as a true record.

Proposer: Cllr Carrs

Seconder: Cllr Imeson

3. Report from the Parish Council Chairman of the work of the Council over the past 12 months.

The 2018/19 Council year has been dominated by three issues, namely the 20mph speed limit in Christon Bank, the Neighbourhood Plan and the renovation of Cemetery House for the Embleton Joint Burial Committee (EJBC).

There were many other matters dealt with by the Council including, the installation of a defibrillator in the disused Christon Bank phone box and the first steps in obtaining ownership of the land on which the old well in Christon Bank is located which will culminate in the restoration of the well. After many years the Council has at last succeeded in persuading Northumberland County Council (NCC) to install a length of footpath between Woodstead and Greyfield and is working with NCC regarding the proposed relocation of the glass recycling plant which is at present opposite Creighton Place. The Parish Council has made a significant contribution to both the fireworks displays and the Christmas lights in both Embleton and Christon Bank. A new Council notice board has been installed on the village green in Embleton. Following the resignation from the Council and later the tragic death of Councillor Moody an election was called for to choose a new Parish Councillor. Three candidates stood for election, Mr Chris German being successful joined the Parish Council in November 2018. There was an outbreak of graffiti being painted on roads around the parish suggesting improper behaviour in the Council and the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (NPWG). Despite publicity the culprit has not been identified. Finally on these matters the Council

has continued to press for action from NCC to prevent one of the affordable homes in Creighton Place being offered as an Airb&b

There have been many planning applications relating to the parish made in the period under review to which the Council has responded. The Council modified its Standing Orders procedure regarding the way these were to be handled on two occasions and it is hoped the new system proves to be robust. Work has commenced on the building of sixteen homes in Mandell Place, north of Creighton Place. The application to build seven homes on Station Road, which was refused by NCC, has gone to appeal.

The 20mph speed limit which was installed in Christon Bank after several years of discussion was widely criticised almost immediately as creating more dangerous situations than it solved. After a widely publicised drop in event it was decided to remove the scheme, which has been carried out. A further drop in to consider alternative schemes has been held and a new design agreed by the majority of those responding. It is hoped this will be installed in the coming months. A scheme for a 20mph limit outside Embleton School is being investigated by means of a drop in.

The Neighbourhood Plan has proceeded through two public examinations and the NPWG has considered all the comments made and made adjustments where considered necessary. NCC has decided that the Plan requires a HRA (Habitats Regulations Assessment) and an SEA (Strategic Environment Assessment) which they are carrying out. Once this is completed and has passed yet another public examination the final draft of the Plan will be presented to the Parish Council for ratification before submission to NCC and external examination. It is hoped that the public referendum will be held in the autumn.

The EJBC was successful in its application for a £50,000 grant towards the renovation of Cemetery House but spent many months establishing an agreement between the three Councils (Craster, Newton by the Sea and Embleton) regarding the application for a £25,000 loan to complete the work. All the necessary paperwork has now been submitted to the Ministry of Public Works and it is hoped the loan will be approved in early June so that work can commence quickly.

Finally work on the Quarry has progressed rapidly in line with the Management Plan. A post graduate student is joining the team on a part time basis for the next six to nine months to help with administrative and planning work. This is funded by the Area of Natural Beauty (AONB). The Environment Agency agreed to drop their charge for overflow water from the quarry pond saving us some £1,500 per year. A container is being purchased and installed in the quarry to contain tools and the two mowers bought for the project.

Close to the Annual Meeting of the Parish at 7:40pm

Chairman _____

Date _____