

Minutes for the Meeting of Embleton Parish Council

Monday 29th April 2019 at 7.30pm

Methodist Church, Christon Bank

Chairman: Terry Howells

Present: Vicki Fyffe, Monica Cornall, Andrew Chillingsworth, Raymond Carss, Ray Imeson, Chris German, Dave Cooper, Georgina Armstrong, Richard Manners

Attendees: County Councillor (Cllr) Wendy Pattison (Northumberland County Council (NCC), one member of the public.

Clerk: Melissa Gilroy

890. Declaration of Interests. Cllr Cornall agenda item 907 (Embleton Girl Guides)

891. Apologies for Absence: None to report

892. Confirmation of Parish Council (PC) Meeting Minutes 25th March 2019.

- J Swanson (CountyLife) requested an amendment on agenda item 874:
 - 'CountryLife' replaced with 'CountyLife' throughout.
 - Line 17. 'A Director' not 'Managing Director' of Karbon Homes. CountyLife do not manage NCC's homes although they may have inherited some via mergers.
 - Line 17-18. Reference to selling affordable homes to include 'as there was no demand to rent, they were sold by the developer at market prices'.
- The meeting minutes were then agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

893. Matters arising from minutes of last meeting.

- **Christon Bank Defibrillator.** Installation of the unit took place on 5th April and a new ceiling light has been fitted by Cllr German.
- **Parish Noticeboard.** The noticeboard has been delivered and awaits installation. The Cllr's agreed to place the board on the hard-standing surface of Embleton village green. Cllr Cooper & Cllr Imeson to arrange installation.
- **Dunstan Steads Signage.** Awaiting plans from Richard McKenzie (NCC).

894. 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, the following issues were reported:

- Embleton Pavements
- Potholes down Sea Lane.
- Station Road Junction.
- Pavement Repair in Christon Bank.
- Cllr. W. Pattison Members Schemes 2018 to 2019 – Longhoughton Ward Report.
- Community Litter Picking
- Rural Business Rate Relief
- Northumberland's 2000th Green Dog Walker

- Additional meeting notes:
- Speeding. County Cllr Pattison has received a verbal report from Neil Snowdon (NCC) regarding Christon Bank speed restrictions stating that 'Option 3' was the preferred option. Awaiting the full report. Cllr's requested a drop-in session for the Embleton speed restriction proposals with a written consultation option for those unable to attend. The North Farm speed assessment has yet to be conducted.
- An email from a local resident regarding funding for additional paediatric first aid training courses has been received. County Cllr Pattison will request that the resident contacts the PC.
- Pavement adjacent to the playpark towards Sunny Brae. County Cllr Pattison recommends that the PC contact NCC to request that this is included within the Local Transport Plan (LTP) this year. Clerk / Chairman to action.
- It was reported by a Cllr that No.7 Creighton Place (a reduced market cost affordable home) appeared to be let again as a holiday home although it wasn't being advertised on Airbnb. It was agreed that this was for a matter for NCC to deal with.

895. Glass Recycling Area Relocation. The PC are awaiting feedback from Paul Lowes (NCC Recycling Officer) regarding the proposed re-siting. Chairman to chase up. Cllr Manners reported the fly tipping at the recycling site, to be reported to NCC. Clerk to action.

896. Policies for Review.

- **022 Risk Analysis.** Cllr Cooper & Cllr Chillingsworth prepared the re-draft of the risk analysis. Cllr's reviewed the document and unanimously agreed the revised document:
Proposer: Cllr Chillingsworth
Secunder: Cllr Carrs
- **013 Asset Register.** Updated to include community assets acquired in 2018-19. Councillors unanimously agreed the revised document:
Proposer: Cllr German
Secunder: Cllr Cooper

897. Pig Farm Dunstan Steads. Cllr Cornall raised the issue of use of the second barn at Dunstan Steads. The barn was put up under permitted development and is therefore not allowed to house livestock unless planning permission for a livestock barn has been permitted. This has not been applied for or granted and is being used to house pigs therefore the farmer is currently making an offence according to planning regulations. No action has been taken by NCC. Cllr Cornall reported the issue to Liz O'Brian (NCC) in April. Liz O'Brien has since reported that the farmer intends to submit a planning application. The Cllr's discussed the lack of action currently being taken to tackle the offence. Cllr Cornall is concerned that once the farm gets up to 2000 pigs that it would be classed as an 'intensive farm' and would therefore need special permits and until then there is limited guidance or legislation to protect the residents of Dunstan Steads.

County Cllr Pattison recommended contacting Alan Rowley (Enforcement Officer, NCC) with a copy to Rob Murfin (Head of Planning, NCC) and Craster PC regarding the offence. Chairman to action.

898. Remembrance Sunday Service Spitalfields Cemetery – 3 Parishes Event. At the March PC meeting County Cllr Pattison raised the suggestion that three local Parishes (Craster, Embleton & Newton) hold a combined remembrance event. The Chairman has informed the other parishes about the annual event held at Embleton (Spitalfield Cemetery) on 11th November and has invited them to attend.

- 899. EPC Contracts & Tendering.** Written quotations are required for the annual parish grass cutting and maintenance contract. Current contractor to be consulted and job specification to be compiled with any required additions such as the Christon Bank verges. An additional quote should also be obtained from the Spitalfields contractor, Chairman to action. Cllr German has offered to re-plant and maintain the three planters.
- 900. Embleton Fireworks & Bonfire.** In 2018 EPC made a significant donation towards the Embleton village fireworks. The PC also owns the land that the bonfire and firework display is held on (leased out to the Playpark Committee). The issue of event insurance and liability was discussed. Cllr Manners also raised the issue of passing cars along the road by the playpark during the event and the need for caution signs. The Chairman has contacted the PC insurers (Zurich) for advice and has received a questionnaire for completion. A working party is required to complete the questionnaire, plan the event, review the DTI guidelines and ensure that the PC has the required insurance. Chairman to meet Cllr Cooper and Cllr Manners to contact the Alnwick Round Table for further information. The Christon Bank firework display was also discussed and the Cllr's agreed that they were keen to continue contributing to the event, it is regarded as a fundraising event for charity not a commercial venture (Air Ambulance in 2018). EPC to consider event liability and the required DTI guidelines for the Christon Bank display as per the Embleton event. Cllr Cooper to meet with the Chairman to discuss.
- 901. Neighbourhood Plan.** The Chairman provided an update. The comments received from the consultation have been reviewed by the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) working party group and the external consultant (J Ludman) leading to an action plan for the next steps and agreed changes to the documentation. The factual appendices (Non-designated Heritage Assets and Local Green Spaces) are being finalised so that the draft NP can be completed. During the consultations many public comments were received about the protection of habitats and landscapes. A meeting with the Ecology team at NCC has led to further professional assessments being carried out by NCC to ensure that all steps are taken to protect the environment. The draft NP will be checked for conformity with both local habitat and strategic environmental planning requirements to ensure it provides the most positive outcomes for the future of the Parish. These assessments will delay the production of the final pre-submission draft by a few months but the NP working group feel that that in the long term this will prove to be the correct path.
- The Issues raised from the draft NP consultation for action by the PC were also discussed. A summary of these are to be compiled, reviewed by the PC and sent to the NP working party group for information. Chairman to action.
- 902. Embleton Quarry Working Party.** The Chairman provided an update. Gorse cutting has ceased for the summer so as not to disturb the wildlife. Stumps of the cut gorse have been treated with chemicals to kill them. A large area of bramble, designated in the Management Plan, has been cleared with the help of Coastal Care volunteers, and a large amount of litter removed from the area. Three quotes for a 20ft container have been received with delivery to site and off-loading into position at a cost of approx. £2,700 (including VAT). The site for the container requires levelling and various ways of getting this done are being investigated. Candidates for the AONB funded part time job as helper / adviser have been interviewed and the position offered to a post graduate student at Newcastle University, a reply is awaited. An application has been made for a grant to cover the cost of equipment (tools, wheelbarrows etc.). The committee considered a request for a memorial arbour to be erected in the quarry and decided to defer a decision.

903. Embleton Joint Burial Committee (EJBC). The Chairman provided an update. All the necessary paperwork has been submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) in order to obtain permission for the PC to apply to the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) for a loan of £25k. This money to be used as part of the cost of renovating Cemetery House. A reply is awaited.

904. Mandell Place Development. The advertising board stating ‘Holmefield’ has been installed in the absence of planning permission. Cussins have also been working outside of permitted hours. The Chairman wrote to NCC to report these issues and meet with the landowner to discuss. The out of hours working has ceased but the advertising board remains in place. Chairman to chase up with NCC alongside agenda item 897. Cllr Manners queried the Chairman’s allowance to write letters without prior discussion at a PC meeting. The Chairman advised that the letter to NCC was to reinforce what was agreed at March PC meeting i.e. the agreed objection to the advertising board. Cllr Cooper enquired about the progression of the passing places along Station Road and the road closure. County Cllr Pattison advised that Cussins should have completed the work by 10th May.

905. Meeting Reports.

- 9 Parishes Meeting – Friday 12th April 6.30pm, Alnwick Youth Hostel. The Chairman attended on behalf of EPC. County Cllr Gordon Castle and Rob Murfin (Head of Planning, NCC) were in attendance and presented at the meeting.
- Adam Moody Memorial Meeting – Monday 15th April 7pm, Craster Lifeboat Station. Cllr Imeson & Cllr Carrs attended on behalf of EPC. Actions currently on hold.

906. Forthcoming Meetings. None to report.

907. E mails Received / Correspondence.

- **Funding Request – Embleton Girl Guides.** A letter requesting funding to the sum of £100 was received from Embleton Girl Guides. The funding is intended to help subsidise the weekly hall hire at Embleton Primary School. The Cllr’s agreed to the donation.
Proposer: Cllr German
Secunder: Cllr Imeson
- **AONB Partnership Meeting.** Awaiting further feedback on the questionnaire.

908. Financial Matters

• Account Balance	£44,723.92 - 31/03/2019	
<i>Parish Council</i>	<i>(£ 23,984.29)</i>	
<i>Quarry</i>	<i>(£ 20,667.97)</i>	
<i>Neighbourhood Plan</i>	<i>(£ 61.66)</i>	
• Spent & Received since 25/03/19		
○ Clerk Wages & Expenses (February 2019)	-£197.69	BACS
○ Creighton Memorial Hall Meeting Room Hire	-£15.00	BACS
○ Zurich PC Insurance 2019-20	-£492.40	BACS
○ David Ainsley (NP Printing Expenses)	-£226.01	CHQ
○ Parish Church Rooms (NP Meetings)	-£30.00	BACS
○ Land Registry – CB Well	-£5.00	CHQ
○ Greenbarnes Ltd. Noticeboard	-£1760.50	BACS
○ Clerk May 2018 Overpayment	+£18.30	BACS
○ Quakers Row Instalment 1 Rent 2019-20	+£80.00	CASH
○ Precept 1 2019-20	+9000.00	BACS

- Payments Required:

○ Clerk Wages & Expenses (March 2019)	-£304.39	BACS
○ Christon Bank Methodist Church Room Hire	-£10.00	BACS
○ Air Ambulance	-£100.00	CHQ
○ Alnwick Playhouse	-£50.00	CHQ
○ Whinstone Times	-£250.00	CHQ
○ Community Action Northumberland (CAN)	-£25.00	CHQ
○ Hospice Care Northumberland	-£100.00	CHQ
○ Parish Church Rooms – Toilet Upkeep 2019-20	-£140.00	BACS
○ Creighton Memorial Hall (NP Meeting 27 th March)	-£30.00	BACS
○ Clerk - Annual Norton Virus software	-£29.99	BACS
○ Clerk – Annual Microsoft Office	-£59.99	BACS
○ Chris German – Defibrillator box light	-£9.99	CHQ
○ Embleton Girl Guides	-£100.00	CHQ
○ NALC Annual Membership & Web Hosting Fee	-£261.46	BACS

909. Planning Matters.

- X18/04286/FUL. Change of use of agricultural land to parking area and garden. 44 Christon Bank Village, Christon Bank, Alnwick, Northumberland, NE66 3EY. Mrs Carol Petherbridge. GRANTED
- 19/00254/FUL. Demolition of 2 semi-detached 2 storey houses and construction of a single 2 storey dwelling. Retention of existing washhouse. Rigg Cottage 1 Embleton Mill Cottages, Embleton Mill, Embleton, Alnwick, Northumberland NE66 3DP. Mrs Elizabeth Robertson. GRANTED
- 18/01014/FUL. Proposed construction of 7 dwellings. Land West of Station Road Station Road Embleton Northumberland. Mr & Mrs Robertson. APPEAL
Date for Additional Comments - 22nd May 2019.
- The PC agreed to submit an additional statement to the appeal. The Embleton NP draft has progressed since the origination of the planning application and the proposed site is outside of the proposed village settlement boundary. In addition, more than the required number of houses (according to the draft NCC Local Plan) have already been built within the Embleton Parish, therefore there is no required need for any additional development. Chairman to draft a response and circulate to Cllr's for comment.

910. Agenda Items for Next Meeting. None to report.

911. Time, Date and Venue of next PC Meeting

- Tuesday 28th May, 7:30pm, Creighton Memorial Hall, Embleton. (PC Meeting, Annual Meeting of the PC & Annual Meeting of the Parish)