

Belsay Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 27 July 2016 in the Sir Stephen Middleton Memorial Hall, Belsay First School at 7.00pm

Present : Councillor Storey, Chairman
Councillors Batchelor, Mole and Roe.

In Attendance: I. Humphries - Clerk
Cllr Dodds - Northumberland county Council
Mr Coombe - Belsay Estate
2 Residents

9. Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

10. Apology for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Metcalfe and McDonnell

11. Minutes of Meeting held on 25 May 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2016 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

12. Revised Planning Application 15/03810/FUL Residential Development (9 houses as amended on 1/07/2016) and creation of school car park: Land south of The Old School House, Belsay

Cllr Roe declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item and took no further part in the Parish Council's deliberation in the matter.

Members considered the revised submission based on information on the County Council website and noted that there was no reference to the car park originally proposed to support the school.

While there was appreciation of the reduction in the number of dwellings and improved interpretation of the linear village design, members remained concerned about the access arrangements to the site and the proximity to the curve in the road north of the access.

A view was expressed that the school car park was a consideration for the school and the school had never requested a car park. It was also

suggested that the village may benefit from a modest influx of residents although there was concern regarding the potential for further development in the future.

The consensus view was that there was insufficient information available to the Parish Council and the lack of clarity over the school car park to enable a decision to be reached and the Clerk was requested to convey that concern to the County Council.

13. Financial Matters

Members approved the following accounts for payment –

- R Gray Internal Audit Fee £50
- School Room Hire £75
- NALC Annual Membership Fees £117.92
- CI Accountancy £54
- CAN Grant Aid request - deferred

14. Traffic Speed – Wallridge Cottages

Members received a request to support a campaign to reduce the speed of traffic in Wallridge. Members expressed the view that it would be difficult to justify the need for traffic calming as following the provision of the by-pass any speeding traffic was away from the houses and footpath. It was suggested that the Quarry Fund may have been able to support the proposal.

15. Highways Matters

Members noted the request from the County Council to identify highway schemes for inclusion in the Local Transport Plan Programme 2017-18.

Cllr Roe raised a number of issues relating to highways, suggesting the Parish Council undertake work to identify issues around road safety to help inform decisions on highways matters in the future.

While members supported Cllr Roes's suggestion it was agreed that the following issues be submitted to the county Council on this occasion

- Road surface treatment, Belsay village
- Surface and line markings, Belsay to Bolam Lake

16. Ponteland Partnership 2 Tier System

Cllr Mole updated members on the intention of the County Council to introduce a 2 tier education system which would include Belsay School. He suggested that the way in which the scheme was being introduced

was undemocratic. Members agreed to monitor the effect the new system may have on Belsay School.

17. Dissington

Members noted the proposals for a new housing scheme which would impact upon Belsay in terms for increased through traffic and the potential for development in the Parish in the future.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting.

Chairman Date