

# Belsay Parish Council

**Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 9 December 2015 in the Sir Stephen Middleton Memorial Hall, Belsay First School at 7.30pm**

**Present :** Councillors Batchelor, Chairman  
Councillors McDonnell, Metcalfe, Mole and Storey.

**In Attendance:** I. Humphries – Clerk  
Plus 20 members of the public

## **38. Chairman's Opening Remarks**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting indicating that anyone wishing to address the Parish Council would be allowed to do so. The Clerk explained the purpose of the meeting and the process to be undertaken to enable the Parish Council to reach a decision regarding the planning application it was being consulted on by the Planning Authority, Northumberland County Council.

## **39. Apologies for Absence**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Dodd NCC.

## **40. Declaration of Interest**

Councillor Neilson reiterated her previous declaration, that her stated views prevented her from having an open mind on the subject and therefore she declared an interest in the matter and took no part in the Parish Council's deliberations and decision making.

## **41. Planning Application 15/03810/FUL Residential development (28 houses) and creation of school car park, land south of The Old School House, Belsay**

The Chairman invited anyone wishing to comment on the application to do so. Members heard from 8 interested parties including the applicant, Belsay Estate.

Acknowledging the issues and views expressed, members considered the application. While some members saw merit in new housing in the village of a modest scale, the unanimous view was that the application should be objected to on the grounds of

- scale, almost doubling the number of properties in the village,

- layout not being in keeping with the historical linear design of the village,
- increased traffic through the village,
- increase in traffic hazard on A696 from vehicles entering and exiting the proposed development,
- potential for the proposed school car park not being attractive to parents dropping off children at the school, and conversely if used, creating excessive traffic movement through the development.
- the proposed development not being in keeping with the existing Castle Morpeth local plan,
- the County Council's proposals to extend the Green Belt area to the north of the village as stated within its proposed Core Strategy.

Members therefore

**Resolved:** to object to the proposed development on the grounds set out above

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

**Chairman** ..... **Date** .....