

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 10TH SEPTEMBER 2014

Starting at 7pm in Newbrough Town Hall

Present Cllrs MW Gibson (Chairman), J Annan and D Walker.

Also Present: Clerk, R Macfarlane, Mr H A Walton, Mrs K E Bell, Mr I S Hunter and one member of the public.

Apologies County Cllr RM Gibson

Declaration of Interest

Cllr MW Gibson with application 14/02055/SCOPE

Vacancies and Co-option

Four candidates have put themselves forward for co-option.

Members of the public were asked to retire from the meeting room. (Government Act 1972 Schedule 12A (As amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006).

In camera the Council unanimously agreed to co-op Mr H A Walton. The applicant was invited back into the meeting where it was RESOLVED to co-opt Mr H A Walton as a parish councillor for Newbrough Parish Council. Mr Walton signed the appropriate declaration under Section 83(3) of the Local Government Act 1972, made before the Proper Officer of the Council and signed by the Clerk. The Chairman welcomed Councillor Walton to the Council.

In camera the Council unanimously agreed to co-op Mrs K E Bell. The applicant was invited back into the meeting where it was RESOLVED to co-opt Mrs K E Bell as a parish councillor for Newbrough Parish Council. Mrs Bell signed the appropriate declaration under Section 83(3) of the Local Government Act 1972, made before the Proper Officer of the Council and signed by the Clerk. The Chairman welcomed Councillor Bell to the Council.

In camera the Council unanimously agreed to co-op Mr I S Hunter. The applicant was invited back into the meeting where it was RESOLVED to co-opt Mr I S Hunter as a parish councillor for Newbrough Parish Council. Mr Hunter signed the appropriate declaration under Section 83(3) of the Local Government Act 1972, made before the Proper Officer of the Council and signed by the Clerk. The Chairman welcomed Councillor Hunter to the Council.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of Newbrough PC which was held on 9th July 2014 were approved by the Council then signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

Pavingstone Work

The contract for work around the Whitebeam trees has been completed and the Clerk was asked to thank the contractor. It was also noted that the trees's roots are expanding and forcing their wall surrounds. It was agreed that the contractor should be asked for his advice. When repairs to the wall surround are carried out it is proposed to add the Stanegate Festival Queen's Jubilee commemorative stone.

Public First Focus

No issues.

Communications

- **Felling of Trees** There are several very large, old trees adjacent to Stanegate, on private land between Forge House and Newbrough Hall Lodge. The work will be carried out by a private contractor on behalf of the land owners, not NCC. The Chairman will endeavour to liaise with those concerned.
- **Sick Children's Trust** Gail Storey (House Manager) has sent a letter of thanks for the cheque of £60 (Deb Hoare has asked the Council to make this donation in lieu of payment for Internal Audit work)
- **Local Services** You now have the choice of how to contact Northumberland County Council; alongside the existing 0845 600 6400 telephone number you can use **01434 400388**

Other communications -

Hexham Bus Station Engagement Event 11th July, Community Rail Designation: Tyne Valley Line (Newcastle-Hexham-Carlisle) local service, NALC's AGM will be taking place at 10.30am on Saturday 18th October, First Annual Town and Parish Council Conference at County Hall on Thursday 25th of September, Northern Powergrid Consultation and World War 1 Centenary Commemoration.

Roads

Ref: 3002 – Temporary Road Closure C235 Bridge End to Warden distance of 30 metres either side of the railway bridge. It is expected that the road will only be closed from the 20th October 2014 until the 2nd February 2015 however it will be closed at all times during this period. The alternative route for vehicular traffic will be via the C234 and the B6319 and Homers Lane and vice-versa. The closure has been requested by Story Contracting in order to carry out railway bridge reconstruction works.

Footpaths

Tree Stump at St Peters

NCC cut down this diseased tree and the Clerk has asked to contact NEAT Services to see if the stump could be removed in order that the Council could plant a new tree. When the necessary equipment is available NEAT Services will attend to the job.

Planning

NCC Application 14/02055/SCOPE Lane House Newbrough NE47 5EA Proposed extraction of hard rock. Development area of beyond 15 ha.

This application regarding a scoping opinion is part of a process known as Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for which a subsequent planning application must be accompanied by an Environmental Statement which would describe the likely significant effects of the proposed development on its environment and any proposed mitigation measures. NNPA has also been contacted. Clerk has contacted the Phil McCarthy (Case Officer) and Frances Wilkinson (Strategic and Urban Development Management Team)

No planning application has been submitted. The stage that the proposal is at is pre-application. If however, the developer decides to pursue the proposal then a planning application will have to be submitted and that will subject to normal consultation and publicity procedures.

Reports

Northumberland County Council

No report

Newbrough School

No report

Finances

Payments in Special Category (LGA 1972 s137) None

Bank Accounts 10th September 2014 BMM £ 15708.59 Community £458.34

Payments Approved Expenses £36.83 (vat £3.83), S Davies Grass Cutting Services Inv 45 £68, Jewson £1393.43 (£232.25 vat), Jewson £152.68 (£25.44 vat), BDO £36 (vat £6), DJ Forster £2250 and OneandOne £31.43 (£5.24 vat)

Annual Audit and Annual Return

The Annual Audit in accordance with Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 (Regulations 12-16) is now concluded and the audit opinion having been given by BDO LLP. There were no matters arising.

The mandatory Conclusion Notice has been displayed publically for the prerequisite period of time. (14 days).

In matters arising BDO commented on the Council undertaking a risk assessment as part of its review of internal controls. The Chairman confirmed that the appropriate risk assessment had taken place. It was RESOLVED that the Council approve and accept the Annual Return.

Date and Time of Next Meeting – 7.00 pm, 5th November 2014

The Meeting was closed at 9.05 pm.