

Lesbury Parish Council

**Lesbury Village Hall
Tuesday 22 January 2019**

The Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council was held this evening at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs Knowles (Chairman) (DK), Vass (Vice-Chairman), Bradshaw (KB), Church (MC), Cossins (PC), Hodgson (AH), Humphrys (JH), Norris (JN), County Councillors Robbie Moore (RM) and Gordon Castle (GC), Mrs Taylor (Parish Clerk) (ET).

In attendance: Approx. 28 members of the public were in attendance.

Monthly Parish Council Meeting Minutes	ACTION
<p>Public Questions: 18/04528/OUT Land North of Alnmouth Station / 18/04527/OUT Land North of Lesbury The majority of residents were in attendance to discuss planning applications 18/04528/OUT re Land North of Alnmouth Station outline planning application for 60 dwellings and 18/04527/OUT re Land North of Lesbury outline planning permission for 41 dwellings. DK RM and GC were asked just to talk through the planning process. They advised the applications were most likely to go to Strategic Planning Committee, in particular application 18/04528/OUT but that is determined by the Chairman of the Committee. As a general rule of thumb, if an application is for more than 100 dwellings then they go to Strategic Planning Committee. If under 100 dwellings then they may be considered at Local Area Meeting. Both applications are for under 100 dwellings each. As well as the PC providing feedback, residents can also express their views to NCC planning before the deadline of the end of January. Once the deadline has passed the application would be considered by Planning Officers. They would take into account planning policy and any objections received. They would review feedback from statutory consultees (Highways, AONB, Northumbria Water, etc.) The Planning Officers would then view whether or not the application met the required criteria and this would determine whether it would be approved/disapproved under delegated powers i.e. would the application go to planning committee. If the PC objects to an application then it may go straight to committee, but not always. If it does go to committee then it will go before the North Northumberland Area Committee on which the North Northumberland County Councillors (including RM and GC) sit or they may go to Strategic Planning Committee. GC sits on the Strategic Planning Committee and both GC and RM sit on the Local Area Committee. RM and GC were able to speak about procedure but unable to comment on the application itself as they may be required to vote on the application. At the committee meeting the application would be presented either with a recommendation to approve or refuse. Anyone can speak at the meeting – they are allocated a 5 minute slot. Any objections to a planning application must be on valid planning grounds. Bob Dutton advised a petition had been started in objection to both applications. GC urged caution against this as a petition even if signed by hundred of people only constitutes under planning one person’s objection and doesn’t carry a lot of weight. If you wish to have your voice heard, you need to object individually direct to NCC via the appropriate methods. A resident enquired about the weight the NDP carried since it was still work in progress. JH advised an emerging NDP can be taken into account if an application significantly alters an area to which it applies. These two applications are for in total over 100 dwellings in a village which has only 450 dwellings and therefore it will impact on the neighbourhood and alter the nature of the community. The NDP is half way through the draft consultation period. Some statutory consultees have already commented on the NDP and are in favour of it. The NDP has also had 100% support from the local community however, the forms received back in favour and support of the NDP, the stronger the position of the NDP. GC advised an appeal can be made against refusal of a planning application but an appeal can’t be made about the granting of an application. If the application does get refused and appealed then it will go to an Inspector and their decision will be final. If that all does happen then it is worth noting that the NDP at that point will also</p>	

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be further along. A resident enquired what are current valid planning reasons for refusal? JH advised it an application is not in line with the local NDP or County Council Local Plan that is good grounds to object (neither of these two planning applications fit in with either the NDP or Local Plan); change to the nature or character of an area (urbanisation); detrimental impact to a neighbourhood. A resident queries why the applications referred to the old Alnwick District Council. RM advised there are 3 planning policies that are referred to when considering a planning application: NPPF, the Local Plan (as the Local Plan is still in draft reference has been made to the old Alnwick Core Strategy) and the local NDP. A resident commented that some statutory consultees have objected. RM advised if a statutory consultee objects then this will have an affect on the recommendation of the planning officer to the Planning Committee. GC clarified that the opinion of a lay-person will not count if a statutory consultee does not agree with that opinion. A resident enquired who decides if these applications will go to Local Area Committee or Strategic Planning Committee? GC advised the Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee in conjunction with the Head of Planning will make that decision usually about 10 days ahead of the relevant committee meetings. The Local Area Committee meet monthly alternating between Alnwick and Berwick and the Strategic Planning Committee meets monthly, location varying throughout the county. AV advised that there is one final NDP consultation meeting on 29/1/19 at 7pm in the Village Hall and residents are most welcome to attend, discuss the NDP and return their submission to show if they are in support or if they have any comments to make about the NDP. A resident raised concern about the misleading consultation in the planning application and it was noted that some residents had received a leaflet about both applications, other residents only about one and some residents none at all. It was also noted that Alnmouth was included in the leaflet drop and that not just residents of the parish were consulted. It was also noted that if residents did not respond an assumption had been made that they were in favour. A resident asked if the reasoning behind a planning application going to Local Area Committee or Strategic can be requested. GC advised the Chairman is not obliged to minute that discussion. A resident asked if a site visit would be undertaken? GC advised that yes this would be very likely and would take place 1 week prior to the meeting. The PC would be advised when the site visit takes place and can attend and are permitted to ask questions of a factual nature. The public can also attend but cannot speak. Members attendance at a site visit isn't mandatory. All updates and information will be on the NCC planning portal under the relevant planning application number. Residents cannot submit photos online in support of their objection but if they are included as part of the body of a letter then the letter will be scanned and uploaded.

Lesbury House Woodland Proposal

Mr & Mrs Jerdan attended the meeting following their letter to the PC of 4 December. They advised they had attended a meeting 11 months ago and wanted clarity on the situation of the woodland proposal and were keen to know where the PC and County Councillor opinion lies. The PC had objected to the Lesbury House application for a garage and their objection to the woodland was based upon the same principles. The PC had been invited to a site visit but no one had done so. AV and JH confirmed that the PC had been in favour of the woodland planting in principle but not until full consultation with local residents had taken place. The PC had received Mr Jerdan's letter of 4 December 2018 and that it was on the agenda for discussion this evening as this was the first occasion the PC had held a meeting since receiving the letter. Mr Jerdan enquired if the PC would make further representation and had their right to light be considered and had the high hedges be considered when the PC decided to be in favour of the planting scheme in principle? JH/AV advised that the PC had requested a full consultation had taken place to ensure that the opposing views of local residents could be noted and resolved during the consultation. Mr Jerdan advised that Ali Gray of GSC Greys had been uncontactable since the first meeting held at the PC meeting.

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8.	Parish Financial Matters a. Ludman Planning Ltd (NDP) - £1,173.60 - agreed b. NCC (£93.41 install seat Steppey Lane/£100.44 extra grass cuts) - £193.85 - agreed c. Village Hall (Room Hire – £100 PC Meetings/£60 NDP Meetings/£20 NIB Meeting) - £180 - agreed d. Aurora Digital Print (Newsletter – 2 x £125) £250 - agreed e. Penny Royale (Lesbury Works) - £83.10 - agreed f. NDP (hire of School £25 and Cricket Club £25 for NDP meetings) - £50 – agreed g. Sportworld (3 signs for P/O Car Park) - £36.00 h. Penny Royal (Lesbury Works) - £50.50 i. Marmax Products (ALCC benches) - £574.08 – agreed j. Paul Taylor (£1,050 parish maintenance/£80 strim Foxton footpath/£30 fix Pond Field balance beam) - £1,165 - agreed k. Grant Allocations – the following grant allocations were agreed: £500 to St Mary’s Church for maintenance to the graveyard and £100 each to CAN, NALC, Bailiffgate Museum, Alnwick Playhouse, GNAA and HospiceCare.	
9.	NDP Update JH reported that attendance at the consultation meetings so far had been good with 60 people attending the first meeting and 16 people attending the next meeting. The next meeting was to be held on 29/1/19 at 7pm in the Village Hall. All attending were in support of the NDP with no objections and some minor suggestions for amendments.	
10.	Sports Steering Group Update AV requested this now be taken off the agenda.	
11.	Northumbria in Bloom Update ET advised no updates.	
12.	Speedwatch Update/SpeedSign RM reported Sharon Wilmore-Grieves of Northumbria Police was now allocated to this and would hopefully organise Speedwatch training. JH to include an appeal for volunteers in the next newsletter.	RM JH
13.	Pond Field Update AH had obtained a quote to repair the fence from Cheviot Countryside Contracting to repair the fence into Pondfield which had been damaged by a falling branch and was in need of maintenance anyway. The quote was £1,251 and it was agreed to get this repaired urgently as stock from the farmers field had got into the play area. ET had requested a bill from Simon Rippon for the immediate temporary fix of the fence he had but this had not yet been received. AH to get the works organised and advise the local farmer accordingly. ET advised that rather than spending Playdale’s quote of £1,000 to fix the sweeping seasaw/rotabounce, Paul Taylor would review the issue which had been flagged up by RoSPA as needing attention in the future (low risk) to doublecheck value for money from Playdales quote.	AH ET
14.	Any Other Matters for Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A NDP Champion reported that residents at Greenrigg did not receive parish newsletter and that the roads were in a very poor state. AV to contact the residents to see if a volunteer from Greenrigg would like to be a newsletter volunteer. could advised he was trying to progress the ramp across Lesbury footbridge to better connect Lesbury and Hipsburn and make it more user friendly. RM/GC to investigate about road conditions. 	AV RM/GC
15.	NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 26 February 2019 - 7.30pm - Lesbury Village Hall.	ALL

The meeting concluded at 9.40pm.

Chairman: _____

Date: _____