

Lesbury Parish Council

Virtual Meeting
Tuesday 27 July 2021

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

Present: Cllrs Norris (Chair) (JN), Humphrys (Vice Chair) (JH), Church (MC), Hall (JuH), Martin (AM), Tulip (PT), County Councillor Gordon Castle (GC) and Mrs Taylor (Parish Clerk) (ET).

Monthly Parish Meeting Minutes		ACTION
	Public Questions: No members of the public were in attendance.	
1.	Apologies: Cllrs Knowles (DK), Hodgson (AH) and County Cllr Martin Swinbank (MS).	
2.	Minutes: The minutes of 22 June 2021 were agreed and will be signed as a true record next time there is a physical PC meeting.	
3.	Declarations of Interest: None	
4.	<p>Matters Arising from Previous Minutes</p> <p>Declaration of Acceptance of Office: Signed forms still pending from AM.</p> <p>Lesbury Broadband Project: Update from Sylvia Pringle: Openreach have escalated the problem with DCMS not being able to reissue the email to those residents who did not receive/did not verify the original email. Openreach/NCC are still actively trying to get the full fibre scheme for Lesbury finalised so it can move onto delivery.</p> <p>Post Office Noticeboard: Perspex installed.</p> <p>Hipsburn School 50th Anniversary: AM advised Hipsburn School thanked the PC for their offer to fund a tree in school grounds but declined the offer. They are planning a celebratory event on 1 October 2022, the details of which are on the school website.</p> <p>Lesbury Tennis Club: No further updates yet from MC.</p> <p>Fixed Asset Inspection: MC had completed inspection of grit bins and would report any issues to NCC. ET advised Multiutillis had inspected all seats/benches and had carried out some minor repairs. The NCC grass cutter had damaged the bench on Steppey Lane footpath again, ET had reported to Bill Pringle at NCC and requested they repair again and to remind grasscutters to take care when cutting the grass.</p> <p>School Hedge: AM had reported the overgrown hedge and part has now been cut.</p> <p>Bridge Magazine: ET confirmed an appeal for a newsletter editor and notification of 2 PC vacancies had been placed in the August edition of The Bridge Magazine.</p>	<p>AM</p> <p>MC</p>
5.	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>a) Review of Policies and Procedures: It was agreed to delay this item until the September meeting. It was agreed that the PC's policies and procedures as listed on the PC Website would be reviewed to ensure they are up to date and applicable. Any suggested amends to be reported at the September meeting otherwise, if there are to be no changes, all policies and procedures to be adopted again.</p>	ALL
6.	<p>County Councillor Gordon Castle and Martin Swinbank – NCC Update</p> <p>GC advised there were no further updates/timeline on the Lesbury Footbridge, Hipsburn School Road Safety Scheme, VMS Sign or line painting at Hipsburn Steadings. AM advised NCC Highways had indicated a start date of 12 August for the Hipsburn School Road Safety Scheme. GC to circulate the new NCC Planning Dept staff contact details list but requested only Chair or Clerk contact staff direct. GC advised the NCC Local Area Council meetings were under review with the aim to make them more responsive and to enable NCC to better engage with PCs and residents.</p> <p>GC to ask Neil Snowdon and Richard McKenzie from Highways, NCC to attend the next PC meeting to give an update on timetable for all outstanding NCC Highways projects.</p>	<p>GC/MS</p> <p>GC</p>
7.	<p>Planning</p> <p>a) 21/02274/FUL - 2 x shepherd huts - Bilton Barns Farm, NE66 2TB – no objections</p> <p>b) 21/02683/MAST – installation of 25m high tower for 12 antenna, 4 dishes and 16 equipment cabinets - Land at Wooden Farm, Lesbury, NE66 2TW – no objections in principle with a request for better screening. It was noted a 2nd planning application</p>	

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	<p>had been received from NCC today – Planning Committee to review to establish the difference in the application detail and then respond accordingly to NCC.</p> <p>c) 21/02546/FUL – single storey rear/side extension, proposed shed, summer house, bin store and greenhouse/shed - The Cottage, Lesbury, NE66 3PP – no objection.</p>	
8.	<p>Correspondence Received</p> <p>a) Alnmouth Parish Council (APC) – Parking Project at High Buston: APC had contacted the PC concerned about parking at High Buston now that Northumberland Estates had closed the road to South Side beach and the impact it is having for the local farmer struggling to use the road as a consequence. APC would like the PC to support their request to create a parking space to resolve this issue. It was noted there is already parking located just further up the road beyond the bridge. GC advised Northumberland Estates were entitled to close the vehicle access to the beach as it had only been made accessible to vehicles for their own purpose and that they had simply restored it to its original status of footpath access only. GC advised a site visit had been made with APC, the local farmer and NCC officers and due to safety reasons (pedestrians having to cross the busy A1068 on a blind bend), NCC could not create a designated parking area in that locale. The only option NCC could offer would be to erect bollards on the corner to prevent cars parking there, which might then encourage parking on the road which would not resolve the issue. JuH suggested tidying up the existing car park beyond the bridge to create more space and putting up signage to encourage parking there. GC was of the opinion that a safety audit would not enable NCC to agree to any measures that encouraged crossing the busy A1068 and felt the only solution would be to discourage parking. MC maintained that if people had a desire to park there would it not be better to tidy up the existing car park and erect signage as a positive step to resolving the issue as JuH had suggested? It was concluded that this was a difficult situation and whilst the PC would like to support APC, there was no obvious solution but that if/when APC had identified a solution, to come back to the PC for support. The PC can't resolve this issue for APC. JN to get in touch with APC accordingly with feedback.</p> <p>b) AONB – Second Homes/Holiday Lets in AONB – the paper prepared by Jen Hall at Beadnell had been previously circulated. JH advised it was difficult to make a blanket response and that whilst the PC supports the paper in principle, it was important to recognise that local communities may wish to find their own solutions to meet their own needs rather than have a blanket response from all parishes. JN to feedback accordingly.</p> <p>c) The Queen's Green Canopy – GC's email which had originated from the Duke of Northumberland had been previously circulated. JH suggested 2 project that could be put forward: first, better woodland management of the trees in the copse at the bottom of Curly Lane/junction with Lesbury Road; and second, the creation of a small orchard in Lesbury. Both project would be on Northumberland Estates land. GC to submit the suggestions on behalf of the PC.</p> <p>d) Tony Dee – Volunteering re Speedwatch – it was noted with thanks that Tony Dee had responded to the PCs appeal for volunteers and had applied to Northumbria Police to be trained to enable him to take part in Speedwatch.</p> <p>e) Highways Agency – resurfacing A1 between Newton on the Moor and West Cawledge (16 Aug-20 Sept) - noted</p> <p>f) NALC Enews 24 June and 20 July – noted</p> <p>g) NCC LTP Highways Programme – NCC are reviewing the LTP Programme for 2022/23 and as part of this process would like to know the PC's top 3 highways and transport priorities. The deadline is 8 October 2021. It was agreed to review and consider in advance of a decision being made at the September meeting. Options</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">JN</p> <p style="text-align: right;">JN</p> <p style="text-align: right;">GC</p>

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	<p>discussed included a review of access to the bus stop on the A1068 and 20mph for Lesbury Village. MC to review previous submissions and circulate to facilitate decision making at the September meeting.</p> <p>GC agreed to review the latest position with the PCs previous request for an extended 30mph zone at Deep Dene and also an update on previous requests for the installation of additional streetlights on Curly Lane and Steppey Lane footbridge.</p> <p>h) NCC Love Northumberland Award 2021 – noted. PC to make nominations direct.</p> <p>i) Richard Fairbairn – NCC Local Plan Consultation: Richard Fairbairn’s email had been previously circulated. Whilst he believed a lot of it seems OK, TRA5 (in relation to rail facilities) was a bit rough and ready, and the revisions concerned him. Richard Fairbairn had drafted a proposed submission for the PCF to consider submitting. JH advised she had responded to advise Richard Fairbairn should definitely submit his own concerns direct to NCC as they hold as much weight as the PCs. JH flagged one area of concern for her was that Lesbury and Alnmouth were still linked as a service centre despite the PCs previous requests for NCC to make them separate service centres and this was one concern the PC may wish to highlight again. It was agreed JH would review and then draft a response to the NCC consultation for the PC to review and agree for submission.</p>	<p>ALL MC</p> <p>GC</p> <p>JH/JN</p>
9.	<p>Parish Financial Matters</p> <p>a) Penny Royale (Lesbury Works) - £65.80 – agreed</p> <p>b) Multiutillis (£20 noticeboard; £113 bench inspections/repairs) - £133 - agreed</p>	
10.	<p>Pond Field Play Area:</p> <p>AM reported all ok. AM advised that the football pitch at Pondfield was little used and there was an appetite to put in its place a pump bike track similar to the one at Hawick, Tynemouth or Hadston. MC also suggested basket ball nets would be popular addition. It was noted that the track at Hadston cost in the region of £90k plus ongoing maintenance costs. A question on whether a pump track for older children would fit alongside the play equipment for smaller children and this concern was noted by AM. It was agreed AM to investigate the project options further.</p>	<p>AM</p>
11.	<p>Any Other Matters for Discussion:</p> <p>Camera by Lesbury Road Bridge: AM enquired what the purpose of this new camera was for. GC thought it was most likely to be a traffic flow reading camera.</p> <p>Coach Inn: JuH enquired as to updates. JH advised the Plunkett Foundation had been contacted about what the community could do, particularly as the pub was listed as an asset in the NDP. They had advised as it was listed as an asset, it could only be sold as a pub and they had sent a survey to gauge interest in the community running the pub if the brewery were unable to re-open it. JH to pass all details to JuH to progress. JH also highlighted newly launched government funding for such projects.</p> <p>Lealands Playpark: JN flagged that the fence on the footpath to the area of land designated for a children’s playpark in Lealands had fallen over and that NCC had been unable to cut the grass as a consequence. The fence is next to land owned by Northumberland Estates who deny any responsibility for the fence. JN enquired if anyone knew who would be responsible to repair the fence? JN to progress with residents in Lealands to try to find a solution.</p> <p>LNER Timetable: MC reported that the revised LNER timetable consultation was due to conclude and the positive news for Lesbury is the proposal to add a late train to the timetable to stop at Alnmouth from Newcastle.</p>	<p>JH/JuH</p> <p>JN</p>
12.	<p>NEXT MEETING: Next Meeting 7.30pm - Tuesday 28 September 2021 via Zoom. It was agreed the October meeting to be held face-to-face, all things being well. To be noted that if government guidelines changed, the meeting would revert back to Zoom.</p>	<p>ALL</p>

The meeting concluded at 9pm.

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