

Minutes of the Meeting of Hexhamshire Parish Council held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>  
September 2024 in the Malcolm Caisley Meeting Rooms, Whitley Chapel Parish Hall

1. Present – Marge Rastall (Chair), John Austin, Roger Rutherford, Nicola Matthews, Hilary Kristensen, Gill Whatmough, Susanna Nixon (Clerk)

Apologies for Absence – Davy Short, Ed Parker, Lauren Porteous, Greg Finch

2. Minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 08<sup>th</sup> August 2024. – Approved

3. Declarations of Interest – None

4. Matters Arising

- 4.1 Lilswood Caravan Park Stage one complaint:

This will be followed up after correspondence on July 30<sup>th</sup> from Northumberland County Council. The procedures for raising the complaint to Stage two, will be studied before doing so. It was said that Colin Horncastle would speak directly to Abbie Hendrick after the meeting on August 08<sup>th</sup> but this has not happened.

- 4.2 Verges:

After concerns were raised at the way the verges, particularly at junctions were left, the clerk contacted David Hunt at Northumberland County Council to ask if there was to be any more verge cutting this year. David Hunt explained that the verges that were cut earlier in the year, will not be getting another cut. The council felt that the standard of verge cutting this year was of concern, as many areas were missed by the contractor at the time of the cutting. The feed back from the council will be reported back to Northumberland County Council to avoid the same issues next year.

- 4.3 Renny's Barn to ford.

This was not now considered to be a problem.

5. Public Participation – None

6. Matters for discussion with the Unitary Councillor – Councillor Horncastle was not present

7. Resilience Hub – Market Research will be done to purchase blow up beds in the near future.

8. Correspondence –

8.1. B4RN – The council were approached to ask if the B4RN Full Fibre Broadband could host a meeting in the Village Hall to present their project to the local community. The Council holds no objections to this and await the response from B4RN explaining that they can book the hall to hold a public meeting to ascertain the number of interested parties. Notice of the meeting would be circulated in the Parish Magazine, the Parish notes and on the website.

8.2. Future of CEG – The Council received an email from Chris Porter, explaining that the future of CEG is no longer secure as key positions in the group have not been filled. The Council rejected the proposal to take over the finances and would advise the CEG that the funds should be distributed to agreed charities.

9. Finance

9.1 AGAR – There has been an error made in recording and listing assets for the AGAR inspection. A current Asset Register will be submitted. This will incur a £40 Admin Fee.

9.2 NALC Invoice - £179.11 was approved for payment.

9.3 The 2024/25 Precept Remittance advice has been received.

10. Planning- 24/01685 FUL Land West of Windy Hill – No action needed

11. Highways, footpaths and BOATS

Highways. The missing signs for Dalton Bridge to be reported on Fix My Street

Footpaths/BOATS: Notification received on change to BOAT from PennyPie to Slaley Forest which came into force on 7<sup>th</sup> August.

12. Reports

Wetlands It was agreed that the Bird Hide would be repaired under the offer of labour provided by Northumbrian Water for a parish project as a thank you for our patience during the recent watermain renewal disruptions

Dukesfield Arches: None

Sportsfield: Hexhamshire Football team have returned to the football pitch.

School: The new school year has begun. Children who turn 3 will no longer have to wait until the term after their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday to attend Nursery. They will now be welcomed from the day after their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday, and the school have extended the number of days a week, meaning that the nursery is open to Monday to Friday.

13. Any Other Business:

The vacancy at No 3 at Whitley Gate had been filled.

*Meeting closed at ...8.57pm*