

Subject to ratification by Nunnykirk Parish Council

Draft Minutes for meeting held Thursday 16th September 2021 at 18.00 hrs via zoom.

Present: Chris Tait (Chair) Louise Kirkwood Nigel Fisher Sue Rollitt (Clerk). Glen Sanderson County Councillor.

Welcome all. As Chris still unwell meeting reverted to a zoom meeting.

Minutes of AGM Friday 18th June 2021 circulated prior to meeting. Approved by all Councillors and to be signed by Chris (Chair) after the meeting.

Declaration on items on the agenda other than standard declarations of interest NONE

Parishioner slot of 10 minutes duration, no parishioners joined the meeting and no questions forwarded prior to the meeting.

Report from Glen Sanderson County Councillor.

1. Glen had attended the Alnwick Gardens awards which included a new award for Communities tackling Climate Change. Also held a meeting with the Portuguese ambassador at Blyth.
2. Afghanistan situation. NCC is taking as many families as possible in the correct manner and providing accommodation. There has been a pause during the reshuffle of the Cabinet. Majority of people are supportive of the Councils approach to this.
3. The NCC budget needs to be cut by 12 million and needs to find 45 million over the next 3 years. They will not cut back on social affordable housing. They may need to task Parish Councils/Town councils regarding grass cutting etc.
4. NCC still investing in climate change, new factories and business, and keeping unemployment as low as possible. In Blyth there are 3-5000 more jobs at Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult. Also continuing to encourage business opportunities and help people who need help financially , food banks etc.
5. The theatre in Berwick is to be rejuvenated and the approach to Wooler.
Glen asked us to contact him if we require his assistance with any issues before he left the meeting.

Matters Arising

1 Minutes of meeting held 30th April and AGAR minutes signed by Kirsty Bell 20/06/ 2021. Confirmation also received from PKF Littlejohn of receipt of our Certificate of Exemption. All AGAR paperwork published on website July 1st, 2021, until August 14th, 2021. Public exercise of rights displayed on noticeboard for the same duration.

2 Letter attached to Neil Snowden for update on 6-month consultation of assessment of Road and Traffic safety on approach to Wingates. Email sent again to Highway's programme prior to meeting No response yet. Email response from Richard McKenzie re 30mph limit within Wingates forwarded

to all 06/07/2021. Sue to email Highway's programme regarding update again. A few days ago, metal posts were positioned on the western/northern approaches to Wingates awaiting completion with the signage. Sue to thank Highways for the implementation of the 30mph speed limit which we have requested for many years.

3 Storage of litter picking equipment. A locked box to be stored at WVI was discussed at our last meeting and Louise to ask NCC if they can help with the litter issue. Louise stated that WVI not keen on storage of equipment at the Hall and all Councillors agreed after discussion to postpone this idea due to Covid worries of group litter picking. To check dykes after vegetation has died back and contact NCC if still a problem.

4 Dog fouling issue. Sue contacted NCC regarding this and subsequent email forwarded to all 5/07/2021. Councillors discussed this and ascertained that for a few months there has not been any complaints regarding dog fouling. Chris and Sue to walk the lanes and check. Item to be discussed again if the problem re occurs.

5/6 Co-option/policy discussed. Sue to send draft policy template to all for approval and implementation. Chris suggested that the 2 vacancies on the Council be included in the newsletter to be posted/emailed or hand delivered to all parishioners. Newsletter discussed Chris to draft and send to all for approval.

7 Climate emergency declaration discussed and Councillors comments to be emailed to NCC by 15th October 2021. Councillors asked the question of how much power we have to do anything. Suggestions made were as follows:

- a) Within our next newsletter to include a survey on usage of low emitting energy bulbs, reinforce correct recycling and to include the questionnaire from CAN re older properties energy usage.
- b) Ask NCC for support and guidance, how we can measure any changes and to invite a team member to our next meeting in December via zoom if convenient for them.

Sue to contact NCC and complete survey.

8 Councillors survey regarding elections sent to Councillors 03/09/2021, all completed the survey.

Correspondence

1 Local Transport Plan discussed. To request again a depth indicator for the burn at Fiddlers Elbow. Grass at Prince Charles corner in need of cutting Sue to email Highways re this. Louise reported chevron warning side on eastern side of Fontburn entrance needs repaired. Sue to contact Highways regarding this. Noted that NCC may be wishing to offload jobs including grass cutting to local councils.

2 Email from Stephen Rickitt regarding by election costs for discussion. Awaiting further correspondence from Stephen.

3 BT proposal to phase out landlines by 2025 discussed. Louise raised this issue (see attached information). Councillors feel this would be detrimental for Northumberland if all landlines are removed as not all residents have access to mobiles etc. Chris stated that 2025 is not far away for people to adapt or understand the impact of this. Louise queried what NCC may think of this. Louise to draft details for all to approve and Sue to send to Glen to ascertain his thoughts on this.

Meetings/Training attended

1 Louise and Nigel attended Wingates Windfarm Community Trust Fund committee meeting held 21/06/2021. Julie Famelton elected as Chair and John Trevelyan re-elected as vice chair.

Grants approved:

Broadband project Rothley and Hollinghill PC, Wingates Village institute patio instalment, Feasibility study Netherwiton Village Hall survey, Nunnykirk School extracurricular activities. Longhorsley Junior football club repair storage container, Sporting Clays, Coquetdale Wildlife Trust nest boxes.

Next meetings September and December.

2 Chris attended training for new Chairperson which he found to be very informative. Chris to forward information to all. Kirsty also sent all information to Sue from a planning meeting she attended, forwarded to all.

Plans

1 NCC Local Plan Modification comments sent 01/08/2021 to NCC

2 Wingates Moor Farm application for new barn approved by all, comments sent to NCC 13/08/2021

3 South Healey application for extension to art studio approved by all, comments sent to NCC 13/08/2021

Finance

1 In A/C as of 16/09/2021 £1.153.85. We still have the shortfall of by election costs to consider when we set the Precept/ budget at the December meeting.

2 Cheque for £90.00 1st instalment payment for by election costs signed by Chris and Sue, sent 23/07/2021. Cheque for £45.00 2nd instalment signed by Chris and Sue, sent 19/08/2021.

2 By election costs. (Discussed within correspondence plus email from Stephen Rickitt regarding this subject)

3 All new bank signatories now in place and others removed from bank account details.

4 Costs reimbursed to Sue for £63.08 for 2 extra-large ink cartridges. Cheque to be signed by 2 other signatories.

AOB

1 Bridge repair at the burn that runs along the boundary of East Wingates farm and Todburn East completed. Chris liaised with Stephen Kirkup and the repairs to the bridge were carried out by the River Trust. It has made the route along the footpath/bridleway much better and will be especially welcome when the burn is flooded for walkers to access this route.

2 Queens Platinum Jubilee June 2022. Prince Charles has suggested that community groups and Parish Councils plant a tree to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Sue suggested that due to lack of space within the gardens of the Village Hall that maybe Will Cuthbert may allow us to plant a tree in his field behind the Hall. Chris to approach Will regarding this. NCC scheme at present to apply for a free sapling to plant which we could apply for.

3.Planning Validation Consultation sent to Councillors prior to meeting Comments to be sent by Sue by 8th October. They felt it was a lengthy document clearly written with lots of guidance on sensitive sites. Very comprehensive and well-constructed.

Briefing session via zoom with Stephen Rickitt (NALC) at 18.00hrs on Monday 11th October for 2 hours.

Date of next meeting: - Thursday December 2nd 2021 at 18.00 hrs. Meeting closed at 19.25 hrs

DRAFT