

Bamburgh Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish meeting held on Monday 9th July at 6.30pm in the Bamburgh Pavilion.

Present:- Andrew Bardgett (AB), Kirsty Dobson (KD), Dave Miller (DM), Barbara Brook (BB), Cllr Guy Renner-Thompson, Sergeant Will Munro.

Apologies – None

Before the meeting started Barbara Brook reported on the very sad news that Jude Aldred who had served Bamburgh Parish Council for many years had lost her fight with cancer. She will be a huge loss to all who knew and loved her. BB also stated that Bamburgh Parish Council should involve themselves with other organisations that Jude was connected with in the Village and come up with a suitable and lasting tribute/memorial to her in Bamburgh. Any suggestions and ideas please get in touch with BB.

1. Declaration of Interest – None
2. **Minutes of 14th May** – Accepted and signed as a correct record.
 - a. KD updated on a recent meeting with Northumbrian Water regarding The Pant Water Trough, the water is metered probably to the Castle. If we could get a water supply it would need to be checked/tested weekly with regular checks daily. Grants are available and we would require listed building consent. KD to contact Alnwick Council to ask their advice on their water trough. Alex from the Victoria suggested that we have more than one water point.
 - b. Google Group – KD asked what other Councillors thought of the East Clandon Google Group – it was very good for dissemination of information amongst residents and would be very useful in Bamburgh. KD to discuss with DJS
3. **Will Munro (WM) – Acting Police Sergeant** introduced himself and gave a brief resume of the current policing situation in Bamburgh. The areas covered by the local police were Seahouses, Bamburgh, Wooler and Rothbury, when there are no duty Officers an emergency response will come from Berwick. Poaching is still a problem locally, if anyone sees anything please call the police, if possible get registration number of vehicles as the Police have powers to seize the vehicle if the Poachers get caught twice in a year. There is also a dedicated poacher mobile phone which can also be called which is 07802378814. GRT asked about speeding traffic outside Armstrong Cottages, Church Street and Radcliffe Road as this is an ongoing problem, WM answered that unless the Police can catch them speeding it is difficult, however there is always the Community Speed Watch which residents can participate in. Mobile telephone for police non emergencies is 07736193907.
4. **Public Questions:-** Judy Cowen asked if we could find out if an electric charging point could be put into the main car park GRT to ask the question of NCC.
5. **Financial Statement–** DJS gave update on financial information which was provided. Current account stands at £8123 and there is £6800 in the savings account. Still awaiting costings to be paid from the War Memorial.
6. **Land Availability** – BB confirmed that there is land within Bamburgh which is available for building, Ingram Road and Bamburgh Hall Farm. AB also stated that the Neighbourhood Plan also states there is land available
7. **Holiday Business rate/precept non-payment** – BB reported that there was 355 domestic properties within Bamburgh that pay Council Tax – precept. However, there are 97 cottages/flats which are registered for business rates however they receive 100% relief if the valuation is under £12000 all but 4 properties fall within this which means they do not pay any precept. BB feels this is very unfair to all other residents can we make representation to Central Government. GRT to supply email contact to

send a letter. Bill Brook asked if we could write to the 97 properties to ask for a voluntary contribution – this was agreed as a good idea. The rateable value of the property could be used as a indication of how much contribution we could ask for. KD/BB to work with DJS to construct a letter.

8. **Feedback from GRT on the Joint meeting of the Parishes** – GRT reported that the meeting had been well attended with cllrs from Adderstone/Lucker, Belford, North Sunderland and Beadnell. Ian Robson has given a talk on the Coast Care Initiative where volunteers give their time to carry out various tasks for example litter picking, strimming, beach clean up. GRT suggested that across the Parishes these volunteers could be utilised to carry out work, Ian Robson to provide costings.

GRT also reported the Neighbourhood Plan required a new Chair, GRT had volunteered, but Cllrs are also required to enforce the Plans, a meeting to be organised every six months but volunteers are required.

Parish Council Meetings were also discussed here in Bamburgh we are lucky that we have residents who attend but in other Parishes the attendance is very low with some meetings having no residents in attendance.

Agreed that the meeting was useful and agreed that it should continue with a meeting to be held every six months at various locations within the Parishes.

Matters arising

- a. AB reported on the recent meeting held with Paul Jones and Richard McKenzie which he and Dave Miller attended. The outcome was extremely disappointing as the latest plans fall well short of what the residents had voted for in 2017. A robust discussion followed as to whether the Parish Council could support the latest plan and if not what action should they take. It was agreed that the Parish Council would wait for the official letter and a final plan from Northumberland County Council. A further discussion took place as to how much public money had been spent on the Streetscape Plans by Northumberland County Council GRT to ascertain but the Parish Council would also request some information through the Freedom of information Act.
9. **Local Transport -Plan Feedback** – DJS reported that our transport priorities for 2108/2019 had been reported on by NCC – Priority one - three footpaths should be created and defined from Bamburgh to Budle. Bamburgh to Glororum and Bamburgh to Seahouses – this scheme scored well against the LTP criteria, Bamburgh to Seahouses is likely to progress via private funding, insufficient funding at the present time for the others.

DONM – Tuesday 4th September at 6.30pm