

Notes of Rothbury Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th August 2011 in the Parish Hall Rothbury commencing 715pm

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Mrs Edes

Welcome and congratulations given to newly elected Parish Councillor's, Roz Tinlin & Steven Bridgett, commiserations to Christine Downie.

Those Present: Cllr Reynolds (Chairman), Cllr Mrs Dawson, Cllr Mrs Morton, Cllr Mrs Tinlin, Cllr Bridgett, Cllr Dawson, Cllr Fendley, Cllr Gilson, and the Clerk

One member of the public.

109/11 Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded all Councillors of their duty to declare, at the start of any such item on the agenda, if they have a personal or prejudicial interest. It has come to Cllr Bridgett's attention not all Councillor's have signed a Declaration of Office & Declaration of Interest – legal advice to be sought.

110/11 Police Presence

PC Maxine Thompson present, who reported a small spate of rural thefts - police working with farming community, arrests have been made. Further speeding controls would be welcomed, and there are still mindless motorbike users, police to see if additional measures can be taken. Concerns over several small parking spaces within the village.

111/11 Public Questions

None.

112/11 Minutes of the meeting held 13th July 2011

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

Addycombe play area repair actioned by gardener's.

Planning & Finance Sub-Committee reconstituted.

Possible bus shelter – David Curry has offered groundworks free of charge to the community.

113/11 Matters Arising

113/11.01 Chairman's Announcements

None.

113/11.02 Urgent Business

Electric car charging points requested by Cllr Dawson.

113/11.03 NCC Provision of Local Services

Cllr Dawson queried PC taking over riverside play area, as twelve months ago it had been agreed not to take over this responsibility.

113/11.04 Church Clock Update

Nothing to report.

113/11.05 Dog Bins

No reply from Northumberland Estates requesting permission for bin on their land.

113/11.06 Parish Clusters

Next meeting 17/10/11 730pm and Sub-committee meeting 24/8/11 730pm.

113/11.07 Bridge Works

Revised plans received, Peter Brewis requesting local community view.

113/11.08 Community Policing

Subject to PC agreement, proposed to hold closed meeting between Councillor's and two police representatives to look at issue of police volunteers, 22/9/11 7pm suggested - agreed meeting should be held.

113/11.09 Mayoral Chain

Nothing to report.

113/11.10 Armstrong Plot

Nothing to report.

113/11.11 War Memorial

Repairs to be carried out by J Gregory.

114/11 Planning

114/11.01 Notice of Permission for Works to Protected Trees:

- 11/00774/FEL/TPO – Heather Moor House, Hillside

Approval of Planning Permission has been received for the following:

- 11/00601/FUL – Porch to north elevation, 8 Beechcroft
- 11/00214/FUL – Conservatory, Highbury, Mount Terrace
- 11/01061/FUL – Mr C Mcewan, Silverton House West - extension

115/11 Financial Matters

Sub-Committee meeting to be held 17/8/11 630pm, Daisy Cottage.

115/11.01 Accounts for Authorisation:

- at home in the community – request for donation – further information required.
- Alnwick Playhouse – request for donation - £100 donated 12/1/11 – to reply requesting they ask January 2012, Cllr Gilson uncomfortable talking about finance given previous information on “Declaration of Interest/Declaration of Office.”
- Rothbury Traditional Music Festival – request for donation – no donation given last financial year – Cllr Dawson declared an interest - £250 agreed.
- M Evens/J Ayre – Gardening - £349.25 & £226.00. Gardeners wish to prepare planting for Spring, agreed they can purchase bulbs
- UCCT – July bus hire - £100 - £72 received in fares
- Northumberland Estates – Playground Rent - £30.00
- Northumberland & Newcastle Society – membership - £15.00 – deferred until next meeting – Cllr Fendley to research if value for money

116/11 Seats/Trees

Nothing to report.

117/11 Paths/Verges

Erosion of village greens – gardeners report the problem will re-occur even with attention, suggest in certain parts to put strong plastic grids where grass can grow, can be used very quickly within days of it being fitted, requires gravel/hardcore. Tom Mason to quote for works, War Memorial to Turks crossroads initial area for attention. Rook muck and shade does not encourage grass growth.

118/11 Unitary Councillor Report

NCC have confirmed licence applications can only be commented on via their official web-site,

however Cllr Dawson had information that official communication would still be received for such issues – Clerk to

contact NCC.

119/11 Correspondence

119/11.01 NCC – LTP Programme 2012-13 – West End road narrowing/Bridge Street narrowing/Footway War Memorial current longstanding requests. Agreed traffic management at War Memorial top priority; then Bridge Street, although more effective with current one way system; then West End.

119/11.02 NCC – Bridge Works – Request for no parking lining by Otterburn Mill – acknowledgement received.

119/11.03 NALC – Training events – 15/9/11 – new Councillor training – Cllr Morton & Tinlin to attend 12/9/11, Cllr Reynolds to confirm which date he would attend.

119/11.04 NCC – Customer Management System – Highways & Neighbourhood reorganisation – for information

119/11.05 NCC – 30mph speed limit, Whitton - Supported

119/11.06 Caroline Bruce – proposed meeting – will reply after annual leave

119/11.07 Web-Site: Graham Taylor – Railway Hotel – Parish Council have no control over late public house licences, Cllr Gilson had spoken to landlord, who confirmed the music did stop at 1115pm, and it was the annual Football Club event, which in Cllr Gilson's view the PC should support.

120/11 Cllr Sandford Retirement

Youth Project AGM to be held September.

121/11 Any additional agenda items for inclusion please contact Clerk or Chairman

- Electric car points – issue raised a few months ago, Cllr Dawson in discussion with National Parks who have funding available and wish to install two points in Rothbury, NCC would then adopt points once installed and ongoing maintenance, Cllr Dawson thought the PC should support. Currently takes 12 hours to charge a vehicle, but technology is moving on, and EU are to standardise points, with a quick charge of 80% battery capacity in less than 5 hours. Areas suggested being the disabled bay outside Parish Hall; cross area; and layby opposite old doctors. Agreed with the proposals on the proviso no installation or future running costs attributable to the PC.
- Problems with registrar's IT equipment – Cllr Edes had had to travel to Alnwick office - Cllr Reynolds to draft correspondence to NCC.
- Cllr Fendley asked if expenses can be claimed for agenda/minutes sent by e-mail for paper/ink - this possible.

122/11 Items to be discussed in private (exclusion of public:)

123/11 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Rothbury Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 14 September 2011 commencing 715pm in the Parish Hall Rothbury