

## ROTHBURY PARISH COUNCIL

### AGENDA

The next meeting of Rothbury Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 13th January 2010 in the Jubilee Hall, Rothbury commencing 7.15pm

1. Apologies for absence
2. Meeting with
3. Public Participation: Members of the public may address the committee on any of the items listed in the agenda to be considered in public. If you wish to speak at this committee on any of the items shown on the agenda please contact the clerk (621565) before 7pm the evening prior to the meeting
4. Minutes of the meeting held 9th December 2009
5. Matters Arising
  - a) Crime & Disorder Forum
  - b) Rural Transport/Shopper's Group
  - c) Play Areas
  - d) NCC/LTP
  - e) NHS Governor matters
  - f) Residential Home
  - g) Flooding/Dealing with emergencies
  - h) Community Lights Committee
  - i) Turks Head Area Gulley
  - j) Churchyard Wall
  - k) Quality Parish Council
  - l) Community Forums
  - m) Lord Armstrong Bi-centenary
  - n) War Memorial
  - o) Bridge repairs
  - p) Future clock expenditure
6. Planning
  - . **Report from Planning Sub Committee**
    - . **Addycombe Development**
    - . **Bridge Street Proposal**
  - . **Planning Applications have been received for the following**
    - . A/2009/0478: Single storey extension, 31 Addycombe Gardens
    - . **Notice of Approval of Planning Permission**
7. Rothbury Plan .  
Parking / Hospital / Footpaths / Enhance Public Areas / Additional Street Lighting / Speed Cameras / Recycling / Cyclepath / Youth Project / Amenity Project / Information Signage / Any Other Business
8. Accounts
  - The following accounts are to be authorised**
    - . Request for Donation - Community Action Northumberland
    - . Alnwick Playhouse
    - . M Evens - £85.00 - September invoice
    - . UCCT - December bus hire - £75.00

9. Seats/Trees: Tree Donation
10. Paths/Verges
11. Unitary Councillor Report
12. Correspondence
  - . NCC - Budget
  - . Haydon Bridge PC - transfer of services to PC's
  - . Mr Carlisle - Beggar's Rigg
  - . NCC - Proposed Chicane
  - . Community Action Northumberland News
  - . Community Action Northumberland - Annual Report 2008/09
  - . NCC - Proposals for Play Areas
  - . NHS North of Tyne - Consultation
13. Any Other Urgent Business/Items for Next Agenda
14. Date of Next Meeting

**SCROLL DOWN FOR MINUTES  
OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

## Minutes of the meeting of Rothbury Parish Council held on Wednesday 9th December 2009

The meeting commenced at 715pm

**PRESENT** Coun. Mrs Dawson, Mrs Edes, Mrs Morton, Dawson, Fendley, Gilson, Reynolds, Sandford and the Clerk  
Coun. Bridgett, NCC

**APOLOGIES** Coun. Murray

### **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed after minor alterations.

### **Matters Arising**

#### **West End**

Coun. Dawson suggested contacting NCC to ask what their policy is regarding traffic calming measures; how they arrive at the suggested 70% in favour of criteria; details of responses received regarding the proposed chicane; whether the views of PC and police were taken into consideration; who the statutory consultees were and their responses; and requesting a copy of the report the committee based their decision on.

#### **Crime & Disorder Forum**

Main area of concerns being drugs an increasing problem in the area. Northumbria Police are one of the top two forces within UK, with the forums seen as a model for the county. Next meeting 15/3/09 630pm.

#### **Rural Transport/Shopper's Group**

Nothing to report.

#### **Play Areas**

Correspondence received from NCC - riverside play area to become PC's responsibility from 1st April 2010. Estimated costs £1200 per annum, with NCC willing to carry out maintenance for this fee. Coun. Sandford thought it would be within the PC budget. Clarification required of what exactly is required - fence and play equipment or also grass cutting. Previously there was an agreement reached with ADC the play area would become the responsibility of the PC 10 years after the new equipment was installed - it could be suggested when this 10 year period lapses the PC could assume responsibility, and it will have to be ensured the equipment and surrounding area are at an acceptable standard before it is adopted. A figure from the mart field development was ear marked for the play area and within ADC's accounts. A condition of Whitton Development was provision of a play area; have to be watchful what else may have to be maintained. It was thought as a tourist play area, surely NCC should take on responsibility, with an estimated 20,000 children 8-13 visiting Rothbury annually and using the park. Coun. Gilson to see if the area can be combined within the Playbuilder bid, which the PC have been accepted in to bid for funding - a group has been formed and Coun. Gilson would report back in January.

#### **NCC/LTP**

Nothing to report.

### **NHS Governor Matters**

Coun. Sandford reported the surgery is to set up a patient participation group. Coun. Sandford concerned bed occupancy at the new hospital is very much down - summer and winter - and had researched respite care previously, and it was thought Northumberland Health Care Trust could provide a number of dedicated beds for respite care. The Care Trust Chairman to bring matter up early January 2010 - Alnwick Infirmary currently offer respite care, and are part of the same organisation.

### **Residential Home**

Mr Lee of the Riding Mill home has encountered slight snag with the land being very sandy with builders spoil under the land, and is awaiting permission to drill holes, and will then apply for full planning permission.

### **Flooding/Dealing with emergencies**

Coun. Gilson thought RPC could write to Cockermouth Town Council offering support with their recent problems, agreed. Coun. Fendley reported a trial of temporary barriers at the riverside, and indications action will happen, and if not quickly it is nothing to do with the efforts of Coun. Bridgett who has worked very hard on this issue. Environment Agency testing temporary barrier in place until January, with quotes received for permanent structures. NCC has pushed Whitton View contractor for drainage works on the site to begin in January, barriers for 3 entrances at Armstrong Cottages to be obtained. The Maltings wall is to be heightened by NCC stone masons. Grant money could be available for home protection, the fundamental problem being the river Coquet.

### **Community Lights Committee**

Christmas tree not yet in place, Coun. Bridgett following up - National Parks did take responsibility for the tree previously. A great deal of positive feedback had been received on the new tree lighting, however negative comments also received. Coun. Sandford thought new lighting absolutely fantastic. Statement of Accounts have been provided on request to organisations, and statement to be displayed in PC notice board. Usual Christmas Eve sweet giving to go ahead.

### **Turks Head area gully**

Part of programmed NCC works.

### **Quality Parish Council**

Personnel required for newsletter obligations.

### **Community Forums**

Intention to hold Community Forum in new year, although it has the potential for budget management by unelected personnel. Parish Cluster meeting held 1/12/09 where Chief Executive and Leader NCC present with Chief Executive message being there is a 28million budget deficit. Peter Brewis, Bridge Engineer also in attendance and had given a presentation on works to be carried out. A public meeting regarding the bridge is hopefully to be held in March, after a Business Club meeting with Peter Brewis in February. Coun. Dawson agreed discussions are required and communication will be key. The project could run into 3 years.

## **Lord Armstrong Bi-Centennial**

Informal meeting to be held early January. Jubilee Hall Committee to confirm exhibition can be held in hall. National Trust at Cragside are to carry out a separate celebration programme based on water. Dedicated flower bed - could gardeners be instructed to source plants? Agreed, Coun. Edes and Fendley to liaise on design.

## **War Memorial**

Insurance company requires two quotations for the repairs, previously the firm who had installed the railings carried out repairs, and it is difficult to gain alternative estimates. Agreed to contact insurance company pointing out problems with gaining estimates. Coun. Dawson thought the suggested pedestrian area be reconsidered around the cross which would lose two parking spaces - agreed Coun. Dawson would research this.

Regarding claim for flood damaged and vandalised seats, Allianz have stated the only seats insured on the policy are seats at Armstrong Cross - clerk confirmed this.

## **Bridge Repairs**

Work could be spread over 3 years 2010 - 2012, with one way system at Haw Hill and temporary bridge.

## **Planning Applications have been received for the following**

- . A/2009/0451: Mrs J Ludman, National Trust - bird hide - Cragside
- . A/2009/0478: Homes for Northumberland - side extension - 31 Addycombe Gardens

## **Addycombe Development**

Coun. Edes thought the large fences can appear intimidating, Coun. Fendley explained they are of a temporary nature, and will eventually be taken down. Concern over green spaces that will need maintained, however it was thought there is an agreement whereby Northumberland Estates will maintain. Coun. Edes suggested a path from Whitton View to Hillside Road; however this would be impossible, as the fields are private land.

## **Bridge Street Proposal**

Nothing to report.

## **Rothbury Plan**

**Parking:** Nothing to report.

**Street Lighting:** The pedestrian crossing at Barclays Bank had originally had a light on top of which was removed as it posed a danger to drivers giving them a false perspective, however Coun. Sandford had witnessed two youngsters crossing who could hardly be seen due to lack of lighting. NCC Street Lighting Department to be contacted.

**Footpaths:** Coun. Gilson having difficulty gaining quotes for the post and chain works, which may now have to wait until New Year.

**Cyclepath:** Correspondence received from NCC stating there are no changes to design approved by PC in June, but a need to finalise the design for the route west of Lady's Bridge, with work to hopefully commence mid January 2010.

**Speed Camera's:** Nothing to report.

**Signage:** Nothing to report.

**Enhance Public Areas:** Nothing to report.

## Accounts

### The following accounts were authorised

- . C Miller - quarterly salary & expense - £922.40
- . UCCT - November Bus £100 - £86 received in fares
- . Smith of Derby - £192.05 - All Saints Church Clock 12 month maintenance
- . Smith of Derby - £1 012 - All Saints Church Clock chime motor repair - thought expensive for repair, could easily break down again - to be discussed further at next meeting
- . M Evens - £40 - November gardening
- . G Stephenson - £40 - November gardening
- . Rothbury Traditional Music Festival- request for donation - £300 agreed. Coun. Mrs Dawson congratulated on her chairmanship of RTMF.
- . Youth Project is running low on funds and NCC are not offering same level of donation.

## Seats/Trees

Nothing to report.

## Paths/Verges

Gardening work finished until spring.

## Unitary Councillor Report

- . Second cluster meeting held, Bill Baty NCC to attend 23rd February meeting. Coun. Fendley asked if flooding update could be added to agenda, and also differential parking charges.
- . NCC financial situation - 28-30 million savings to be made. Coun. Sandford asked is there an option of PC contributing to costs such as the librarian if Rothbury library were to be cut, however greater costs involved with maintenance of building - no plans at present to close Rothbury library.

## Correspondence

- . Bank of Ireland - closure of account - signatures required for closure of account - actioned.
- . NCC - Parish Precept - 2010/11 - decision required on percentage increase - 3%, as recommendation of finance sub-committee.
- . NCC - Northumberland Charter for Local Councils - requires action/comment - PC to be responsible for riverside play area from 1st April 2010 - discussed earlier.
- . Chairman NCC - Welcoming home the 2nd Battalion the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers - Coun. Fendley attended.
- . Allianz - seat cover - discussed earlier - Finance Sub-Committee to discuss current insurance policy.
- . City & County - newsletter
- . Boundary Committee - Unitary Electoral Review of Northumberland
- . CPRE - newsletter
- . NCC - Gambling Act 2005 - Consultation on Statement of Gambling Policy - draft policy available on NCC website - comments by 5pm 11/12/09
- . Homes for Northumberland - Annual Report 2009-2009
- . Hospice care - newsletter

**Any Other Urgent Business/Items for Next Agenda**

. Thropton WI seeking co-operation and help for the planting of Bee friendly plants. Currently the two beds in middle of village are surrounded by such plants, and also the patch opposite old hospital attended to by National Parks.

**Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Rothbury Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 13th January 2010 in the Jubilee Hall, commencing 7.15pm.

The meeting finished at 9.15pm. C Miller, Clerk  
Rothbury Parish Council

**PRIVATE MEETING**

**Churchyard wall**