



Minutes of the meeting of Chollerton Parish Council, Wednesday 22May 2024 at Barrasford Village Hall (following the Annual Parish Council meeting), 8.05pm

Present: Cllr Dorothy Pigg
Cllr Edward Heslop
Cllr Andy Bennett
Cllr Bruce Lowden
Cllr Fiona Charlton
Cllr Michael Smith
Cllr Malcolm Johnson

County Cllr Nick Morphet

Parish Clerk Mel Bramley

1. Apologies: Cllr Maggie Tarbit

2. Election of Chair

Cllr Michael Smith proposed Cllr Dorothy Pigg as Chair for the next year 2024/25. This was seconded by Cllr Fiona Charlton. All present agreed and Cllr Pigg confirmed she accepted her role.

Cllr Dorothy Pigg was welcomed as the new Chair by those present and Cllr Edward Heslop was thanked for his hard work as the “standing down” Chair.

3. Election of Vice Chair

Cllr Bruce Lowden proposed Cllr Michael Smith as Vice Chair. Cllr Malcolm Johnson and Cllr Andy Bennett seconded this and Cllr Michael Smith was duly elected.

4. Opportunities for matters raised by members of the public before the meeting

There were no matters raised by public members.

5. Declaration of Interest from Members

Cllr Dorothy Pigg declared an interest in discussions around funding of the Barrasford playground as she is a committee member of this group. She agreed to leave the room when this matter was discussed further.



6. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 27th March 2024 at 7.30pm at Barrasford Vilalge Hall.

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record by all present.

(a) Matters Arising from the above minutes not addressed elsewhere on the agenda

Defibrillator Grant Scheme – Mel Bramley reported that Revd. Sarah Lunn, had responded regarding her interest in funding opportunities for a defibrillator at St Giles' Church.

ACTION: Mel Bramley will forward funding detail to Revd. Lunn for her to take forward

Children's Play Area – Barrasford

Cllr Dorothy Pigg left the meeting at this stage due to a potential conflict of interest.

Cllr Michael Smith led the discussion. Cllr Nick Morphet had agreed for the Council to fund £1000 towards the repairs. As the Barrasford play committee did not yet have a bank account the funds would be given to Chollerton PC to administer.

Cllr Michael Smith stated that following the RoSPA inspection last year and an estimate for repairs, the committee required a total of £3038. If repairs were not done by June 2024, the playground would have to close.

Northumberland Estates have forwarded a letter to confirm that the playground will remain with the committee for the following 10 years. This will help to support any funding applications in the future. The committee have some funds themselves but have a shortfall of approx. £1500.

Cllr Malcolm Johnson stated the play area was well used and Cllr Micheal Smith noted that the committee had tried hard to raise funds themselves, to no avail.

A discussion took place if any money given should be a loan or a donation. All **AGREED** that a donation should be offered. This would not raise a precedent for the future e.g. if Gunnerton play area asked for funds as the Gunnerton committee are able to raise their own funds. Also, it was noted that a donation had been given last month towards grass cutting at St Giles' Church. Each funding request would be looked at as an individual matter.

ACTION: The proposal was to give the Play area committee the monies they require (circa £1530). Mel Bramley will inform Cllr Dorothy Pigg and the committee.

(a) External emails forwarded by the Clerk

It had been noted that there has been an excessive about of temporary traffic management orders (TTMO) forwarded on to all Parish Councillors. It was agreed that in future the Clerk will forward TTMOs relating to the Parish Council area only and those relevant to A68 North & South, the A6079 toward Hexham and in the other direction to Rothbury.



7. County Councillor Report

Cllr Nick Morphet had previously sent his report for this meeting to the Parish Clerk who had forwarded to all prior to the meeting.

The report will be posted on the PC website each month, once date stamped and agreed by all. (N.B. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes for distribution.)

The following discussions took place from the report:

Item 5 – Species Rich Grasslands

There is space for possibly up to 2 representatives to attend the award ceremony at Alnwick Garden on June 13th. Nick suggested Cllr Maggie Tarbit may wish to attend due to her assistance in this project.

ACTION: Cllr Dorothy Pigg will speak with Cllr Maggie Tarbit to see if she is able to attend. Cllr Andy Bennett may also attend – space permitting.

Item 6. Barrasford to Barrasford Quarry footpath

Richard McKenzie in Highways Programme stated vegetation clearance prior to resurfacing is not necessary. Cllr Edward Heslop stated the local windfarm and quarry companies may help. He also asked about Section 106 monies.

ACTION: Cllr Nick Morphet will speak to relevant Council officers but thinks it is unlikely to get this 106 funding as it has been identified for support towards sporting projects.

Item 8. Lights at Barrasford Quarry

Cllr Edward Heslop has a contact name and e-mail address for the quarry area manager, Steve Carter to pursue this matter.

ACTION: Cllr Edward Heslop will forward this information to Cllr Nick Morphet

Item 11 Mound affecting line of sight at Brunton Crossroads

Cllr Malcolm Johnson stated the grass is now cut. Following on from Cllr Nick Morphet's advice the matter will be reported to Fix My Street to see if further action can be taken.

ACTION: Cllr Pigg and Cllr Heslop will take photographs of the area and forward this on to Fix My Street.

Item 13 New Climate Change Action Plan

Once the climate change working group meet on the 29 May 2024 information will be forwarded on. **ACITON: Cllr Nick Morphet will forward information on the draft website address etc to all, which will allow access to the Action Plan for people to view and make comment.**



8. Items for discussion

Cllr Dorothy Pigg reported that Mel Bramley had sought new quotations for PC insurance as the current insurance seemed excessive and Mel felt that the PC were over insured e.g. present insurance covers equipment which is not PC responsibility.

ACTION: Cllr Dorothy Pigg will review the 3 quotations received once Mel has forwarded these to her. Cllr Dorothy Pigg noted that Ansvar (one of the companies who had quoted) have ethical policies that give profits back to charitable organisations. This seemed a favourable option for PC insurance and fits with the ethos of the Parish council.

9. Correspondence

D day 80th anniversary event

It was AGREED that due to a limited amount of time and capacity the PC would not be able to arrange an event.

Gunnerton Park Fence Area

The fences have been removed and Karbon Homes have agreed to replace them. Karbon Homes will liaise with Angela Bullock wrt progress. Karbon Homes had also raised the issue of parking next to the new housing near to the Village Hall in Barrasford. A complaint had been raised following a dispute between a resident and a person parking in this space.

AGREED: Mel Bramley will contact Karbon Home to suggest a sign is erected (incorporating the Housing Associations' logo) to highlight the resident parking only area.

10. Financial Matters

The bank reconciliation was noted and payments for Clerk's wages, NALC subscription and Business Insurance as detailed on the Agenda were agreed to be paid.

ACTION: Cllr Dorothy Pigg will approve these on the Lloyds bank system.

11. Planning Applications

The Potts site –**Action: Mel Bramley will contact planning to note no further comment from the Parish Council.**

There were no updates on Camp Hill quarry and Barrasford quarry planning applications.

12. Humshaugh Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Andy Bennett stated he had read the plan which the PC had been invited to comment on. He stated that there was nothing extraordinary in its content to comment further.



13. Information Items

Nothing to report on events/ further items on note.

14. Any other Business

Grass verges

Cllr Dorothy Pigg asked Cllr Nick Morphet when the verges were due to be cut. He responded by stating these will be cut in June.

Milestones

Cllr Malcolm Johnson stated that the grass was overgrown on the old road (A6079) to Hexham. The mile stones are buried in the grass and have had previous damage from the grass cutters.

ACTION: Cllr Nick Morphet will mention this to Neighbourhood Services to see what can be done.

Bank Signatories

It was agreed to add Cllr Andy Bennett as a cheque signatory to the account and keep Cllr Edward Heslop on the account also. Both agreed to this.

ACTION: Mel Bramley will liaise with Lloyds bank.

15 Date and Venue of next meeting

A new date of **Tuesday 16 July 2024** was set for the meeting, to be held at Colwell Village Hall at 7.30pm.

ACTION: Mel Bramley will publicise this on the website. Cllr Edward Heslop will book the venue.

The meeting ended at 9.30pm.