

## **Bamburgh Parish Council**

Minutes of the Parish meeting held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January at 6.00pm in the Bamburgh Pavilion.

Present:- B. Brook (BB) Andrew Bardgett (AB), Jude Aldred (JA), Councillor Guy Renner-Thompson

- **Apologies** – Noel Page (NP) D, Miller (DM)
- Declaration of Interest – JA stated that she has a declared interest in number 7 of the Agenda the Planning Application and she would leave the meeting before this was discussed..
- **Minutes of 5<sup>th</sup> December** – Accepted and signed as a correct record. Cllr Renner-Thompson will continue to make sure that the repairs to the St Oswalds Way Information Board is completed. We are also still awaiting replacement of the rumble strips but the Officer dealing with this is currently off sick.
- **Financial Statement/Precept Setting** – DJS updated on the recent financial statement which had been circulated. In the current account the balance currently stands at £6672.50 and in the saver account the balance stands at £3536.63. Whilst this seems a healthy credit it should be taken into account that we still have January, February and March salaries and Direct Debits to come out and we still have the cost of replacing the War Memorial to consider. BB reported that we have not increased the precept for the last two years, however currently we do not have very much for any contingency. Currently the cost works out at £18.64 per household in Band D annually. An increase of £750.00 per year was proposed by JA and seconded by AB. Agreed by all.
- **Introduction of New Councillor** – BB introduced Kirsty Dobson who has very kindly agreed to be co-opted as a Councillor for Bamburgh Parish Council. Kirsty was welcomed to the Council.
- **Matters Arising**
  - **War Memorial** – DJS reported that the Grant Application had been submitted to the War Memorial Trust and she could now confirm that we had received funding for 75% of the overall costs for replacing the memorial on a like for like basis. There were certain conditions attached to the offer which we were currently working through. A pre-contract meeting was held with Classic Masonry to discuss issues, awaiting information from Kevin Doonan our Architect on the choosing of the stone.
  - **Street Lighting Update** – DJS currently trying to organise a meeting with Lynsey Sawyer from the Lighting Department to talk through the replacement of lights within Bamburgh.
  - **Streetscape** – Resurfacing works have been undertaken within the Village but it was noted that it was a very poor job with original lines showing through. BB has received numerous complaints on the state of the roads and has requested a meeting with Paul Jones, Director at Northumberland County Council. This has been organised for 30<sup>th</sup> January. Bill Brook also stated that the sandy coloured surfacing on the road also appears to be disintegrating and corroding. AB to take future lead in role on streetscape issues.
  - **Public Questions at future Parish Council Meetings** – BB stated that according to our standing order public questions should be at the beginning of the meeting rather than at the end, this will start from our next meeting. If anyone has particular issues they should email Dorothy Scott first which may enable issues to be dealt with more efficiently.

**Matters Arising:-**

- JA reported that the children are now being picked up on Front Street opposite the Pantry at the original bus stop. JA asked whether or not this could continue after the Streetscape alterations, DJS to ask NCC.
- Bill Brook asked Cllr Renner-Thompson if he could raise the issue of the precept within Northumberland County Council. Currently any holiday lets do not pay towards the precept which makes a larger contribution for actual residents. Why should holiday lets have the benefits of the Parish but they do not have to contribute. Whilst they pay business rates they do not contribute to the precept. Cllr Renner-Thompson stated this was an ongoing problem especially in Beadnell, he is happy to raise this with County Hall however it appears to be a national problem. KD also stated that this was a National problem so could this not be tackled at that level rather than locally.
- Judy Cowen thanked the Council for the paths being cleaned of leaves, DJS to ensure NCC are thanked.
- Judy Cowen reported about the rain water drains from Rock Cottage they do not go into any drainage but just pour water onto the path, which in icy conditions creates a dangerous area. Cllr Renner-Thompson to look into this as it should be an enforceable planning issue.
- Judy Cowen reported on the Empty Property Orders and the fact that we have four empty properties within Bamburgh which may fall into this Order. Cllr Renner-Thompson to look into this but does feel it is more for derelict properties.
- Alex (Victoria Hotel) can we confirm that the parking spaces outside the Victoria will be resurfaced – BB reported that this would fall under the streetscape alterations.
- Alex (Victoria Hotel) – can we ask if the Christmas Lights switch on be carried out on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December this year? DJS to email Alex Nixon.
- Planning Application – 17/04474/FUL – Land West of Telephone Exchange, Castle Wynd, Bamburgh – This application was discussed and agreed by all that an objection would be lodged on a number of issues, the Neighbourhood Plan to be referred to.
- DONM – Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 6.00pm

<b>Action</b>	<b>Initials</b>
War Memorial – Grant has been successfully awarded from the War Memorial Trust for 75% of the overall cost of the project. The sub Group to continue to work to replace the memorial.	DJS/AB/BB/JA