

Embleton & District Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on 18th June 2014 at Embleton Village Hall at 19:15pm

Present: Councillors Petecki (chair), Richardson, Brown, Wood, Hewitson

Apologies: Councillor Graham, Brandwood, Boardman, Pickering, Teasdale

Also Present: Becx Carter (Clerk),

Mr G Browning of the Forestry Commission (agenda item 2) has a prior commitment and so will arrive later in the meeting. Agenda item 2 was delayed until he arrived.

75.14 Declarations of interest

None were received.

However all councillors present noted that they all knew the owners of both Derwent Lodge and Elva Plain Farm, however after due consideration it was **resolved** that it wasn't necessary for anyone to declare an interest as their are no pecuniary interests.

76.14 Police Report

Apologies were received from PCSO Megan Jones. A written report was provided; which was read out by the clerk (0 incidents have been reported since the last meeting of Embleton & District Parish Council).

The report updated the council that the matter of the Community Speedwatch group was progressing, risk assessments have now been completed and the clerk has provided a copy of the relevant insurance documentation. PCSO Megan Jones will be back in touch in due course to organise a training session for the volunteers

77.14 Minutes of the previous meeting

Cllr Teasdale's attendance at the May meeting had been omitted from the minutes. A correction stating that he was present was made.

A further correction was requested by Cllr Teasdale to minute number 59.14 line 23, the correction was made so the line would read that the council were in favour of supporting the donation.

Subject to the above corrections the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 21st May 2014 were accepted as a true and accurate record by the councillors present and the chair duly signed them. **Resolved.**

78.14 Matters Arising

36.14- Heartstart training, the training event took place on the 4th June and was well attended by 14 people. Another training course can be run in the future if the demand requires it.

Resolved that an article requesting persons interested in training to contact the clerk be included in the Winter Newsletter

Action: Clerk to action the above in the Winter newsletter.

Action: Clerk to produce a press release for the local press including the Binsey link about the installation of the defib and thanking the parties involved in raising the money.

Action: Cllr Brown to forward the contact details for the Binsey Link to the Clerk.

69.14- Planning Ref 7/2014/2102 (Bassendale, Embleton) – notification was received from the LDNPA informing the council of their decision to approve this planning application. They had sent through a copy of the delegated report which addressed the issue of the request from the Parish Council to include a local occupancy clause on the application. This report confirms that a local occupancy clause can't be applied to an existing house. The council noted this response, and appreciated the LDNPA providing a response to the parish councils comments.PPG

AGM- It was noted by the parish council that Cllr Brandwood (who resigned from her position as Vice-Chair at the 2014 AGM) had been vice chair for many years. It was **resolved** that a letter of thanks be sent to Cllr Brandwood for her work as Vice Chair.

Action: Cllr Petecki to send a letter to Cllr Brandwood on behalf of Embleton & District Parish Council

Action: Cllr Petecki to send a copy of this letter to the clerk for filing.

36.14- Correspondence item 8- Regarding the removal of a light at Wythop Bridge. The clerk confirmed that no written confirmation has been received from CCC that they will be replacing this light on the grounds of health & safety

Action: Clerk to chase this matter up with Karl Melville

36.14- Issue of overhanging branches on vicarage hill- This matter has still not been resolved.

Action: Clerk to chase this matter up.

79.14 Co-option of new councillors

No applications had been received for co-option for the remaining 1 vacancy.

80.14 Public Participation

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

81.14 Chairman's Report.

Cllr Petecki informed the meeting that there was no chairman's report as he had not attended any additional meetings since the May meeting.

82.14 Clerks Report

All councillors had received and read a copy of the clerks report.

Correspondence Item 5- An email had been received from Margot Fish of the Embleton Rural Safety Group with a request for the Parish Council to consider the siting of a mirror opposite the exist from the road coming down from the Golf Course were it joins the old A66, to enable vehicles and pedestrians to have a better view east from this junction.

Resolved that the parish council felt that this junction and its blind spot is a danger and that action needed to be taken.

Action: Clerk to contact Cumbria County Highways and request that a mirror be sited on this location due to the dangerous nature of this blind junction for cars, and pedestrians.

Compounded by the fact that the school bus stops on this junction and the risk of an accident between a vehicle and a pedestrian is high.

Correspondence Item 6- CALC Developing your skills programme. Cllrs Richardson, Wood, and Hewitson would like to attend the 12th November Good Councillor Course. It was also agreed that Cllr Wilson be informed of this course as she has expressed an interest in the past to attend this course. **Resolved** that any councillors that wish to training would have the course costs paid for by the Parish Council.

Action: Clerk to write to Cllr Wilson, and to book the relevant number of places on this course.

Correspondence Item 7- The council noted the appointment of Dr Geoff Davies as the new LDNPA Member for the area.

Correspondence Item 9- The council noted receipt of a letter from Blackrock requesting confirmation that we are charity. **Resolved** that the clerk report to the July meeting the options available for moving this investment to.

The clerk informed the council that the account had been opened in April 1989 with an opening sum of £3,002.60.

Action: Clerk to provide a report to the council on the options for this investment at the July meeting.

Action: Clerk to check who the signatories on this account are, and to request a mandate change form for this account.

Correspondence Item 10- The council noted the receipt of a letter from St Cuthberts Church confirming receipt of the £1000 donation cheque, and providing written confirmation of acceptance of the conditions laid down by the council

Correspondence Item 13- Update from ABC on The Old Station Building, Bassenthwaite- ABC have now attended a site meeting and confirmed that a safety fence has now been erected and ABC have requested appropriate signage is added to the fence

Clerks Actions from the Previous Meeting

Unless otherwise mentioned below all actions are deemed to have been completed.

Fluoridation in Water- This item is on-going.

Action: Clerk to continue work on this matter.

Traffic Data count on the old A66 through Embleton- CCC have confirmed that the grid references provided by Embleton & District Council are satisfactory and a traffic data count will be scheduled in due course

Action: Clerk to continue to liaise with CCC on this matter.

83.14 Gareth Browning- Forestry Commission

Attended the meeting to provide an update on the forestry works that the Forestry Commission are undertaking in Wythop & Setmurthy Woods.

Gareth is now responsible for the operations side of forestry across North & West Cumbria (Adrian Jones is now responsible for recreation and access across North & West Cumbria).

Wythop Forest- They are currently in the first year of a 10 year contract which is aimed at managing continuous cover forestry, this means trying not to clear fell, but on-going thinning and trying to encourage regeneration. The aim is to thin a whole forest in over a 12 month period. Due to the nature of the contract some areas may have to be clear felled (e.g. where the forest has been unmanaged for a long time, is very exposed, or the ground is very soft and wet). One of the areas that are being clear felled is the top of Wythop Forest (Red area on the map shown at the meeting). This clear area will be left for a few years to see what species regenerate and then if necessary planting will be done. The idea is to encourage as many natural broadleaves to grow (Oak, Birch, Rowan, Ash).

The purple area on the map shown at the meeting is to be managed with continuous thinning over the next 12 months.

With regard to the felling in Wythop Forest, there are some very large trees (up to 50m) when felling these they need to leave a safe area of 100m radius. This means that there is a risk of some of the trees hitting the A66, therefore during October-December the Westbound A66 will be closed. Also during this period there will be a time where there are traffic lights in the contraflow system to enable the very large trees close to the road to be felled- as these could potentially hit the road.

Setmurthy- No current activity planned, at some point it will need to be thinned.

Isele- This is an ancient woodland that had been planted with conifers, the long term aim is to regenerate it as an ancient woodland. Which involves removing the conifers. Also part of the Isele forest is infected with Phytophthora Ramourm (Larch Disease) which means it is under a plant health order which requires compulsory felling of these trees by the end of July to prevent sporulation.

Embleton & District Parish Council thanked Gareth for attending the meeting, and invited him to attend again in the Winter to update the council on progress.

Action: Gareth to send through copies of the electronic maps for the clerk to circulate to all councillors

Action: Clerk to circulate these maps to all councillors

84.14 Low Cost Housing

There is an on-going issue with there not being sufficient low cost housing with Embleton & District Parish, and this is starting to affect the viability of the community (there are only 6 children from within the parish attending Lorton school). It was noted that some children from within the parish may attend Bassenthwaite school so this may not be an accurate representation of the number of families within the parish.

It was considered if the Parish Council should be trying to do something to create more of the right type of housing to attract more young people/families.

Cllr Brown noted that this issue has been discussed many times at the Embleton & District Parish Council, and that part of the issue is that the LDNPA believe there is no such housing need within the area due to the responses received to their last Housing Needs Survey. How do we move forward from this?

Cllr Wood informed the council that there must be a need for such housing given the application that has been submitted for Strawberry Howe.

Action: Clerk to contact ABC regarding the Strawberry Howe development to remind them they agreed to consult Embleton & District Parish Council on this matter.

Cllr Petecki referred the meeting to the Embleton & District Parish plan (pg 10) which showed a marginal objection to new houses being built, but marginal support for the need for affordable & starter homes. Cllr Petecki also reminded the council that there had been an opportunity to allocate land under the LDNPA land allocations consultation that could possibly be used for housing (subject to land owner consent etc) and that Embleton & District Parish Council hadn't submitted a response to this. This could be reawakened?

Proposed that the council write to the LDNPA and say that Embleton & District Parish Council are discussing the issue of low cost/affordable housing and ask how we would go about getting some appropriate housing within the parish, and also to ask what their current policy is in relation to the development of new housing within the park (given a decision to refuse a housing development in the past near the Wheatsheaf).

Action; Clerk to write to the LDNPA and agenda for the July meeting.

Action: Clerk to circulate to all a definition of affordable & low cost housing.

85.14 Items for the Summer Newsletter

It was agreed that articles on the following topics are to be included in the summer newsletter and the clerk is to circulate a draft of the newsletter at the July meeting:

- Bus stops- Article already submitted by Cllr Brandwood
- Chairmans report- To be written by Cllr Petecki
- Defibrillator & Training- To be written by Cllr Petecki
- Summary of the work in Wythop forests- Clerk to ask Gareth if he would write a short article
- List of organisations supported financially by the council- Clerk to prepare
- Article on the councils donations policy & funding- To be written by Cllr Brown

All articles to be submitted to the clerk by early July

Action: Clerk to produce a draft newsletter ready for circulation at the July Meeting

Action: Clerk to get quotes for printing of the newsletter ready for the July Meeting

86.14 Planning

Applications for consideration:

Ref 7/2014/2018 New agricultural shed- Elva Plain Farm, Setmurthy

Resolved: That the council had no comments or objections

Action: Clerk to write to the LDNPA with the above comment.

Ref 7/2014/2270 Erection of annex building to provide additional letting accommodation in association with existing hotel- Derwent Lodge Hotel, Embleton

Resolved: That the council support the application on the basis that it is a local business expanding, and providing additional employment.

Action: Clerk to write to the LDNPA with the above comment.

87.14 Consultations

LDNPA Code of Conduct for Rights of Way Users- Embleton & District Parish Council had no comment to make on this.

88.14 Highways & Parish Maintenance

No items were raised

89.14 Council Finances

Reconciliation for June

The reconciliation of finances for May was approved & signed by Cllr Petecki. **Resolved**

Authorisation of Payments

All items for payment were approved by the council and signed by two signatories (Cllr Petecki at the meeting, and Cllr Teasdale after the meeting):

1) Becx Carter- Salary Qtr 1	£491.45
2) HMRC PAYE	£122.80
3) Cumbria Payroll Services- PAYE Services	£14.00

Action: Clerk to process the above payments

Action: Clerk to request a mandate change form for the bank account to add Cllr Hewitson on as Vice Chair.

Update of the Risk Assessment & Asset Register

To be agenda'd for the July Meeting

Action. Clerk to circulate an updated Asset Register prior to the next meeting for consideration

Action: Clerk to try and establish if the salt bins should appear on the asset register

90.14 Matters for the next meeting

-Ideas for council projects.

91.14 Date of next meeting

Wednesday 16th July at 19:15 in Embleton Village Hall

Cllr Brown noted his apologies for the July meeting
Cllrs Wood & Petecki noted their apologies for the September meeting.

Meeting closed 21.08

Signed..... (Chair)

Dated.....