

GLANTON PARISH COUNCIL

GLANTON PARISH COUNCIL met on 28th July 2014 at 7.00pm in The Memorial Hall, Glanton.

Present:

Parish Councillors Angus Collingwood-Cameron, Mrs Susan Collingwood-Cameron, John Guiry, Iain Hedley, John Lang, Chris Livsey (Chairman presiding), Jon Radgick and Mrs Susan Rogers

SE Rickitt – Clerk.

Two members of the public were present

1: Introduction

1.1 Welcome, apologies for absence and declarations of interest/grant of any dispensations

The Chairman welcomed all and introduced the revised style of agenda on which comments would be welcome.

Apologies were received from Councillor Joe Easton

1.2 Public Questions.

(1) A parishioner complained about the tone of a letter received from the County Council regarding gravel on the footpath. The Chairman confirmed it was an issue mentioned by elderly residents and had been mentioned to the Highways Dept. during the recent walk-around the village. Issues regarding the tone should be taken up with the County Council.

(2) A comment was made about progress with the village plan. This is dealt with at item 2.1 below.

(3) Approval was sought for the expenditure of £25 on plants – this was approved by the Council

1.3 Minutes of the previous meetings

(1) The minutes of the annual parish council meeting held on 19 May 2014 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

(2) The draft minutes of the annual parish meeting held on 19 May 2014 were noted.

1.4 An update on matters arising from the minutes of 19 May 2014

(1) The Council noted that the County Council was undertaking drainage works on the C85 (road to Powburn). The clerk was asked to inform the County Council of the village show on 9 August. **Action SER**

(2) Councillor Mrs Rogers reported that most of the potholes on the Branton road had been repaired.

(3) Councillor Hedley reported his discussions with the National Park Authority regarding the grass bank (by the telephone box and well) being planted with wild flowers. The advice was this would involve more effort than retaining as grass. The clerk confirmed the bank was shown as being owned by the County Council on their website. The Council agreed to take no action at the present time.

(4) The clerk reported on the emails with the Flag Institute. Councillors confirmed that the existing design is to be retained.

2: Items for discussion and potential decisions

2.1 The Parish Plan

The Chairman reported that progress had been delayed due to other commitments within the village. He reported an approach by the Chairman of Whittingham Parish Council wanting a discussion on the potential for a joint *Neighbourhood Plan* for Whittingham, Glanton and Powburn. Councillors indicated they were content for the discussions to occur but would need to be convinced of the benefits for the village before embarking on such a project. In any event Councillors wondered if the discussions should be widened to include other local parishes. **Action CL**

2.2 Highway and Drainage issues

(1) Any further problems within the parish – Councillor Angus Collingwood-Cameron reported that Northumbrian Water had indicated that the main renewal was being brought forward to August 2014. Councillors will await any further information. **Action ACC**

(2) The selection of the three bids for funding as part of the County Council's Local Transport Programme for 2015/2016 – a range of issues were discussed including road humps. The clerk will distribute information on the criteria for roads humps to all Councillors. **Action SER**

Following discussions the following items were agreed as the three bids

i: The provision of safety improvements at the junction with the A697, including signage and road marking

ii: The provision of proper pavements within the village

iii: The extension of the speed limit on the C169 West Turnpike

The Council confirmed that the request shown on the letter from the County Council for a mini-roundabout was incorrect and should be deleted. **Action SER**

2.3 Planning

(1) There were no planning applications requiring comment.

(2) The Council noted the further delays in producing the Core Strategy.

2.4 World War I Commemoration

Councillors were reminded of the displays in the Memorial Hall on Sunday 3 August, the Fragments Art Project and the installation of the Poppy. The Council agreed to increase the budget for teas in the Hall to £200. **Action CL**

3: Items for Information

3.1 Forthcoming Village activities

In addition to the Village Show and the World War I Commemoration, the Council was reminded of the usual coffee and lunch clubs within the Memorial Hall.

3.2 Details of any meetings attended by Councillors or the clerk

The clerk gave details of the County Council's meeting with town & parish councils on 14 July in Thropton. The most significant issue was that the roll-out of faster broadband was to be handled by the

County Council's IT Dept. Some Councillors had heard that Glanton's connection had slipped to Autumn 2015. The clerk is to investigate. **Action SER**

3.3 Correspondence received

The clerk circulated details of recent emails and information. He drew particular attention to

(i) The first town and parish council conference being held on 25 September

(ii) The joint meeting with the County Council on 13 October in St James Church Hall, Alnwick at 6.00pm

4: Administration

4.1 To note the current accounts for 2014/2015 and any issues arising from the external audit for 2013/2014

The Council noted the current accounts for 2014/2015 (a copy of which is attached to the signed minutes) and also that BDO LLP completed the external audit for 2013/2014 and were not raising any issues.

4.2 To authorise any payments

The following payments were authorised

> Northumberland County Council - £161.96 – Insurance Premium (retrospective)

> NALC - £72.37 – Subscription for 2014/2015

NB: see also items above 1.2(3) & 2.4

4.3 To consider the attached report regarding internet banking

The Council considered a report from the clerk (a copy is attached to the signed minutes).

The Council resolved to agree the report, amended so that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman had full access with any other Councillor having read-only access upon request.

Once the internet banking had been put in place, the clerk is to investigate the current signing mandate. **Actions SER and then CL and ACC**

4.4 To conduct the biennial review of standing orders and financial regulations

The Council considered a revised draft which was agreed, save that provision for a *Named Vote* was removed and provision for a *Ballot* was reinstated. A copy of the agreed version is attached to the signed minutes and will be distributed to all Parish Councillors. **Action SER**

4.5 Any candidates for co-option to fill the Parish Council vacancy

Parishioners are asked to consider seeking co-option.

4.6 To consider adopting the General Power of Competence

The Council considered a report from the clerk (a copy is attached to the signed minutes together with a copy of his certificate of qualification). The clerk confirmed that for these purposes *elected* includes standing for an uncontested election.

The Council resolved

(a) That they meet the conditions in the *Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 (SI 2012/965)* and

(b) To adopt the General Power of Competence provided by the Localism Act 2011

4.7 To consider revisions to the Risk Assessment

The Council considered a draft prepared by the clerk. Some amendments were made. There was debate regarding the suggested monthly inspection of the village green. Councillors felt this was too onerous and amended it to be a formal annual inspection by the Chairman.

A copy of the agreed assessment is attached to the signed minutes.

4.8 Details of items Councillors wish to raise at forthcoming meetings

- (1) The Council confirmed they have no objection to Councillor Hedley using any of the Council's documentation if he decides to seek the CiLCA.
- (2) The Chairman confirmed that the seat from the post office was in his yard awaiting an inspection to see if repairs were viable. **Action CL**
- (3) The clerk was asked to prepare a revised sheet on contact details for the noticeboard showing Councillors names and their telephone numbers. **Action SER**
- (4)> Councillor Guiry offered to strim around the trough and seat before the village show. **Action JG**

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 29 September 2014.

Confirmed as a true record

and signed by the Chairman

Date