

GLANTON PARISH COUNCIL

GLANTON PARISH COUNCIL met on 31 July 2017 at 7.00pm in The Memorial Hall, Glanton.

Present:

Parish Councillors Angus Collingwood-Cameron, Mrs Susan Collingwood-Cameron, Jerry Dronsfield, Iain Hedley, John Lang, Jon Radgick (Chairman in the Chair), and Mrs Susan Rogers

Ms Susan Williams

SE Rickitt – Clerk

1: Introduction

1.1 Welcome, apologies for absence and declarations of interest/grant of any dispensations and possible co-option

- (1) Councillor Angus Collingwood-Cameron had presented his apologies.
- (2) There having been a written application, the Council resolved to grant Councillor Radgick a dispensation under section 33 (2) Localism Act 2011 to enable him to remain, participate and vote on issues arising from the proposed development west of Whickham House such dispensation to remain valid until May 2021 - see also item 2.2 below.

1.2 Public Questions

Mrs Williams raised two issues:

- (1) She expressed concern at the state of the footpath public footpath leading to Whittingham which had been in its present unsafe condition for the past two years. Councillor Radgick responded that the landowner had frequently assured him that action would be taken but with no result. Other Councillors expressed their concern and it was resolved that the Council would make a complaint to the local highway authority under section 130 (6) Highways Act 1980 with a copy to the cabinet member with responsibility for highways and to the chairman of the County Council's Rights of Way Committee **Action SER**
- (2) Mrs Williams expressed her dismay that the grass banking by the telephone box had been strimmed by the County Council before the recently planted wildflowers had the opportunity to self seed for future

years. The chairman confirmed his disappointment in the actions of the County Council and assured Mrs Williams that he would be raising it with the County Council within the next few weeks. **Action JR**

1.3 Minutes of the previous meetings

- (1) The minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 15 May 2017 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- (2) The draft minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 15 May 2017 were noted.

1.4 An update on matters arising from the minutes of 15 May 2017

- (1) The kerb at the end of West Turnpike has now been raised to its previous level prior to the resurfacing of the road.
- (2) A printed bus timetable has now been supplied and is on display in the case.
- (3) The clerk has asked for a dark green salt bin but has had no response. The Council asked that this be pursued. **Action SER**
- (4) The Chairman reported his assistance in getting articles for the newsletter; unfortunately email problems meant that it was delayed in publication.
- (5) Councillor Mrs Rogers is still to discuss the potential location of the two rowan trees with Councillor Dronsfield. **Action SueR**

2: Items for discussion and potential decisions

2.1 Reports from the County Councillor and the Police

No reports had been received from the County Councillor or the Police by the time of the meeting.

2.2 Planning

(1) The Council considered *Application 17/02457/OUT - Land to west of Whickham House, The Causeway - Outline application for residential development with all matters reserved*. After discussion it was resolved that the Council would have no objections to the concept of development on this site but only if

1. A childrens' play area is provided on the site of the old St Peter's Church in the north-west corner of the application site - the equipment should be suitable for the younger toddler aged children. The concept of a play area as part of the development had been previously agreed with the owner

and raised with the agents in the pre-application discussions in September 2016. The need for a Play Area is a key part of the Parish Plan

2. The application site excludes the bus shelter on The Causeway, it being noted that the submitted plans were inconsistent with some showing exclusion but others not.
3. The line of the existing recorded public footpath through the site should be cleared, surfaced with tarmac (or other suitable durable material) to a width of not less than 1.2 metres and fenced before any other work may commence on the site

(2) There were no further new applications.

2.3 Christmas Tree

There was further discussion and the Council agreed to explore the concept of purchasing a number of fast-growing trees, with the aim of thinning out the least attractively shaped trees as they grew. Councillor Mrs Rogers offered to use her contacts within the Forestry Commission to see if they would donate trees, an offer gratefully accepted by the Council. **Action SueR**

2.4 Whittingham MUGA

The Council noted the letter from the Headteacher of the Primary School (a copy is attached to the signed minutes). The Council welcomed the new facility and will draw it to the attention of parishioners. The clerk was asked to send a reply in those terms. **Action SER**

2.5 Telephone Line Capacity

The Chairman reminded Councillors of the response which has been circulated.

2.6 Commemoration of the end of the First World War

There was no further information to report.

3: Items for Information

3.1 Forthcoming Village activities

- (1) Councillor Easton reported that the regular coffee morning and lunch clubs were continuing.
- (2) Councillor Radgick reported that the road sweeper was coming to the village on Thursday 10 August before the Show on 12 August. The Council

agreed that the Annual Clean Sweep should be over the weekend of 5 & 6 August or other days prior to 10 August. Parishioners would be asked not to park on the main roads on 10 August to allow access for the road sweeper.

3.2 Details of any meetings attended by Councillors or the clerk

- (1) The Chairman had attended a NALC training session on being a Chairman of a Smaller Local Council, presented by the clerk in his capacity as the NALC Chief Officer.
- (2) Councillor Hedley reported his co-option onto the NALC County Committee although he had not been able to attend that month's meeting.
- (3) The clerk reported a probable training session for Parish Councillors on development Control issues in Alnwick during August. He will circulate details as soon as they are received. **Action SER**

3.3 Correspondence received

- (1) The clerk had been unable to circulate a list of emails received due to IT problems.
- (2) The Chairman reported a communication with Mrs Childs of Northfields Farm who has been told by the land agents that the new owners of the Shawden Estate were not allowing any permissive routes on their land. Councillors were reminded of their previous discussion regarding the agreement with the former owners. It was agreed that the Chairman and the clerk would draft and send a letter to the agents seeking clarification. **Action JR & SER**
- (3) Mrs Childs had also expressed concerns at the speed of traffic, especially timber lorries, coming down the Powburn road. Councillors reported the road surface was now breaking up and confirmed the excessive speed of vehicles and their fears of a serious injury accident. The clerk was requested to carry out the following actions
 - To ask for police enforcement
 - To ask for speed surveys with a view to seeking an extension of the 30 mph limit
 - To ask for suitable warning signs as a matter of urgency.

Action SER

- (4) The clerk reported the receipt of the annual request for items for the LTPP. The Council agreed to repeat the requests made the previous years, with the inclusion of reference to A697 side road junctions. The submission agreed was

First Priority: The westward extension of the 30 mph limit on West Turnpike to beyond the Old School. This was now more pressing as permission had been given for housing outside the existing limit.

Equal Second: The provision of proper footways within the village to stop walkers having to walk within the roadway and the continuing need for safety improvements on the A697 and its side road junctions to increase awareness of the turnings to and from the village.

(5) It was agreed that the Clerk could make an application for funding from the NALC transparency fund for a Parish Council laptop as the previous laptop was no longer supported by Microsoft. On receipt of such funds, and after email consultation with Parish Councillors, the clerk was authorised to use any funds received for the purchase of a laptop together with software and other accessories, provided that any expenditure was made entirely from the grant.

Action SER

4: Administration

4.1 To note the current accounts for 2017/2018 and to authorise any payments

(1) The current accounts were noted and approval given for the following BACS payment

- Northumberland County Council - Insurance Premium - £187.05

4.2 The final accounts for 2016/2017

The clerk reported he had responded to one query from the external auditor and was awaiting their final report.

4.3 Elections in May 2017

There were no outstanding issues to report.

4.4 Details of Items Councillors wish to raise at the next meeting

(1) Councillor Mrs Rogers would like to raise the replacement of the remaining street lights within the village. Councillor Radgick expects the relevant County Council officers to be at the September Cluster Meeting and will report back to the Council. **Action JR**

(2) Councillor Lang asked about replacing the existing litter and dog waste bins. The clerk will forward details of a reputable supplier to Councillor Lang. **Action SER**

Date of Next Meeting

The Council noted the following schedule of meetings

- Monday 25 September 2017
- Monday 27 November 2017
- Monday 29 January 2018
- Monday 26 March 2018
- Monday 21 May 2018 – preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting – and brought forward because of the Bank Holiday

Confirmed as a true record
and signed by the Chairman

Date