



Broomhaugh & Riding Parish Council

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 12th November 2018 in the Supper Room, Parish Hall, Millfield Road, Riding Mill.

Councillors present:

Cllr. Andy Dunhill (Chairman)
Cllr. Jill Mills
Cllr. Brian Singer

Cllr. David McKenzie
Cllr. Eileen Carew (present until Minute 18/105)
Cllr. Christine Howe

Co-opted at the meeting:

Cllr. Pamela Bridges

Cllr. Pauline Mulholland

In attendance:

Mrs Anne Dale – County Councillor (present until Minute 18/105)
Mrs Catherine Harrison – Parish Clerk
2 members of the public were present.

Cllr. Dunhill opened the meeting at 7.36 pm.

18/95 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Mrs Pam Pryor, Chair of the Village Hall Trust.

18/96 Declaration of Interests

Cllr. Dunhill declared an interest in item 6(i) – Sports Club.

18/97 Co-option of Councillors

Mrs Pauline Mulholland and Mrs Pam Bridges both explained their relevant backgrounds and gave an overview of the experiences and skills they could bring to the Parish Council. A vote was held and it was unanimously agreed to co-opt them on to the Council. Both signed the requisite forms and were welcomed to the meeting.

(Mrs Mulholland – proposed Cllr. Dunhill, seconded Cllr. Mills,
Mrs Bridges – proposed Cllr. Dunhill, seconded Cllr. Carew)

ACTION: CH

Cllr. Dunhill also welcomed Cllr. Howe who was attending her first meeting having been co-opted at the October meeting in her absence.

18/98 Delegation of Responsibilities

The list of delegated responsibilities was circulated so that new councillors were aware of the different tasks undertaken. It was suggested that over the next few months they consider which areas would be of interest to them.

Cllr. Howe expressed a willingness to join the planning sub-group and this was unanimously agreed.

18/99 Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 1st October 2018

It was agreed that the minutes of the Council meeting were a true record and duly signed off by Cllr. Dunhill (Proposed: Cllr. Dunhill, seconded Cllr. McKenzie).

18/100 **Matters Arising**

(i) *Minutes 18/79 – Sports Club.*

A discussion was held regarding neighbour disturbance complaints and the suggestion to install a sign. The draft wording for the sign was discussed together with whether dog owners should be allowed to use the sports field. It was agreed that owners should be asked to only use the periphery of the field and the Clerk would amend the wording accordingly. Comments on the sign were still awaited from the Sports Club but once the text had been approved, the Clerk should obtain a price and circulate the details to all councillors.

ACTION: CH

A discussion was also held about the Sports Club's application for S106 funding to help fund a new pavilion. The Club had been successful in its first application to install electricity to the pavilion but the second application had been turned down as the County Council claimed the funds could only be used to improve Corbridge's facilities. The Sports Club had made an official complaint to the County Council - the outcome of which would be known shortly. Depending on the outcome of this complaint, Councillor Dale would support an appeal to the Ombudsman.

The Sports Club needed to use the first grant funding as soon as possible unless an extension could be arranged. Cllr. Singer should discuss this with the Club's representatives.

ACTION: BS

(ii) *Minute 18/80 – Millfield Road Bridge.*

The Clerk reported that BT Bell had identified three possible contractors and was briefing them about the work and expected to provide details of their quotes shortly.

(iii) *Minute 18/91(ii) – Pre-school garden.*

It was reported that work to tidy the old pre-school garden had been completed and the scouts had now taken over maintenance of this area displaying a lovely sign to indicate this.

(iv) *Minute 18/91(iii) – Changes to refuse collection routes and dates.*

It was noted that refuse collection days would not change in Riding Mill although collection times might be earlier and residents should present their bins for collection by 7 am.

(v) *18/93 – School bus drop-off issues.*

It was reported that parents of children attending Broomhaugh First School had received a letter asking them to not park on certain areas of Whiteside Bank and the Old Playground. The parking was being monitored daily but on occasion parents were still leaving their cars in unsuitable places and blocking the bus's route. The County Council would make a final decision shortly but, if it was deemed impossible to return the bus route to the Old Playground, Cllr. Dale indicated she would ask that the Council explore whether a school crossing patrol officer could be found to guide children over the main road.

18/101 **County Councillor Report**

Councillor Dale reported on the following issues:

Stepping Stones – repairs were underway to the landing stages by the stepping stones as well as the installation of steps down to the landing stages. The Parish Council was pleased that the work had finally been undertaken and it was agreed that a letter of thanks should be sent to the relevant officer once the repairs had been completed;

ACTION: CH

Broomhaugh roundabout -: shrubs had been cut back in the vicinity of the roundabout and this had greatly improved the sightlines;

Streetlights - Cllr. Dale was still working with residents to ensure baffles were fitted where required following the installation of the LED streetlights;

Pot holes - there were no major pot hole issues in Riding Mill but any problems should be reported to Cllr. Dale;

Blocked gullies - Cllr. Dale continued to liaise with residents and the County Council when blocked gullies were reported.

20 mph scheme – Cllr. Dale had received some complaints following the initial implementation of the 20 mph scheme (roundel figures had been marked on roads indicating speed limits). She asked that

everyone wait until the scheme had been fully implemented at which point any problems could be addressed; making changes to the Traffic Regulation Order at this point would only delay the scheme. *Local Transport Plan* – the County Council would shortly be holding a meeting to discuss the priorities for 2019-20 and Cllr. Dale would report back on the outcome of the PC's requests.

18/102 **Restoration of former Mill Pond**

Cllr. McKenzie submitted a report on behalf of the Riding Mill Play & Regeneration Group which together with the Tyne Rivers Trust had begun looking at the feasibility of restoring the former mill pond in Marchburn Lane. Initial discussions with TRT indicated that it should be possible but a more detailed feasibility study was required. Some funding for the feasibility study had been identified from Northumbrian Water and the Parish Council was asked to make a contribution. The Group was thanked for its report and the funding request would be considered alongside other capital expenditure projects at the December budget meeting.

ACTION: CH

18/103 **Handyman**

The Clerk reported that the new handyman's contract had commenced. He was currently working through a backlog of work identified from earlier in the year. To begin with he had cut back tree growth overhanging the road at the Spinney, cleaned both road bridges and treated them for moss, cleaned play equipment and washed the signs and mirrors.

It was agreed to approve his monthly standing order payment of £115 (proposed Cllr. Dunhill, seconded Cllr. Carew) and it was noted that the backlog of work would be invoiced for separately in due course.

18/104 **General Village Maintenance**

It was reported that blocked gullies remained a problem throughout the village and should be reported to Cllr. Dale. No other issues were noted.

Tree works: David Ballantyne, the PC's new tree surgeon, had reduced the overhanging branches of the oak tree opposite Broomhaugh First School as agreed (NB: Title to this land was unregistered and its ownership unknown so the PC had agreed to undertake the work on safety grounds). He had also cut back trees surrounding the playground and MUGA court and would shortly commence further work at the double tennis courts and in Marchburn woods.

18/105 **Finance / Insurance**

(a) Monthly accounts

(i) The following payments were authorised (Proposed Cllr. Dunhill, seconded Cllr. McKenzie):

Seymour Gardens & Trees - treatment of knotweed and mare's tail,	
Maintenance of planters and village gateway	£252.00
Seymour Gardens & Trees - tidy up of pre-school garden	£92.00
Robson Print – Remembrance Sunday: order of service	£92.00
SD Building Services – paving by War Memorial	£150.00
Catherine Harrison – October salary, £82.68 back pay, £20 home allowance	£551.13
Catherine Harrison – reimbursements: Postage £15, Land Registry fee £3,	
Rock salt £81.36	£99.36 (inc. VAT £13.56)
East Tynedale Forum – yearly subscription fee	£30.00
Unity Trust – quarterly bank payment	£18.00

Regular standing order:

Martin Stewart/Neetfleet – monthly handyman payment	£115.00
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(ii) The following receipts were noted:

Triodos - quarterly interest	£8.52
RM Allotment Association - 2 nd quarter rent	£48.88

(ii) *Budget report*

The Clerk highlighted the maintenance budget and referred to her previous explanation given at the October meeting. Further maintenance expenses were expected now that a new handyman had been appointed and was catching up on delayed tasks together with the tree work recently commissioned.

(b) *Yearly Budget*

It was noted that the yearly budget would be set at next month's meeting. Any ideas for capital expenditure projects should be notified to the Clerk and she would prepare an initial budget summary in advance of the meeting for Councillors to consider.

ACTION: ALL

(c) *S137 Grants*

(i) *Donation to the Royal British Legion – S137 donation*

It was unanimously agreed to make a £60 donation to the Royal British Legion (Proposed Cllr. Dunhill, seconded Cllr. Mills).

ACTION: CH

- (ii) It was noted that funding requests from local clubs and charities would be considered at the December meeting.

18/106 Planning

It was reported that:

- (i) the following planning applications was under consideration by NCC:
 - 18/03752/PRUTPO – Holmfield, Sandy Bank. Tree works.
- (ii) the following planning applications had been approved by NCC:
 - 18/02842/FUL – 3 Church Close. Single storey extension and alterations to the roof;
 - 18/3003/PRUTPO – 11 Church Close. Removal of deadwood from oak tree.

18/107 Correspondence

- (i) Letter from resident re football field – refer to Minute 18/100(i)
- (ii) Letter from Mrs Raeburn re stone walling by edible garden. Mrs Raeburn was concerned about the stability of the dry stone walls used at the edible garden. She suggested that the walls were cemented. Ray Dryden had been contacted and had agreed the walls could be improved for a sum not exceeding £200. It was unanimously agreed that he should be asked to go ahead with the work. The PC noted Mrs Raeburn's offer to help maintain the top section of the garden if the walls were improved which they gratefully accepted.

ACTION: CH

18/108 Minor Matters

(i) *WW1 Commemorations*

Cllr. Dunhill expressed his heartfelt thanks on behalf of the Parish Council to all those who had been involved in the Armistice centenary commemorations. It had been a truly memorable weekend and a fitting tribute to those who died in the First World War. Particular thanks were recorded to Geraldine Bruce, Susan Law and Penny MacLoughlin, who had co-ordinated the event and the Clerk was asked to send each a letter of thanks. She was also asked to write to the school and the scout group to thank them for their excellent contributions.

ACTION: CH

18/109 Date of Future Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council should be held on Monday 10th December 2018.
Venue: Church Cottage.

Meeting closed at 9.25 pm