

HEVERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on Thursday 8 March 2018 in the Athenaeum, Leasgill at 7:30pm

Held in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972

Present : Councillors Adrian Bland (Chairman), Peter Clarke, Gordon Capstick, Tom Grindey, Brian Rendell, Iain Richards and Adele Shepherd; County Cllr. Roger Bingham; Malcolm Richardson (Parish Clerk) and 43 members of the public.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from District Cllr. Annie Rawlinson and PCSO 5342 Mark Leigh.

2. Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2017 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Chairman's Report

Cllr. Adrian Bland presented his report with regard to the activities of the Parish Council during 2017/18. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes.

4. Community Objectives from the Neighbourhood Plan

- a. Housing Mix including Affordable Housing:
The discussion was opened by Cllr. Clarke who referred to the closure of the school as it was no longer viable due to child numbers being very small and to the question as to how the possible formation of a Community Land Trust might alter the community. He introduced Fran Richardson from ACTion with Communities in Cumbria and Christopher Hutton (Community Led Housing Officer) and Amanda Pharaoh (Affordable Housing Officer) from South Lakeland District Council who explained the roles of ACT and SLDC and the possible assistance they could give. They then each gave their thoughts on the possible progression of the community objectives from the Neighbourhood Plan – including use of community assets; housing mix solutions including affordable housing and low cost home ownership for persons with a local connection; and a community land trust with grant funding. The question was asked as to what it would take to make Heversham a good place to live in 15 yrs time.
There followed a discussion with regard to the characteristics of the current population and problems for young families and downsizers.
- b. Community Activities including the use of the playground and the Old School:
Cllr. Rendell reported on the condition of the playground and the fact that it was coming to the end of its useful life and Mrs. Celia Wilkinson reported on the activities now available at the Old School.
- c. Footpaths and Pathways:
Mr. Bob Molloy reported on the formation of the Footpaths and Tracks Group and the work it had done to date. There followed a discussion with regard to the problems caused by dog poo not being picked up by dog owners.
- d. Public and Private Transport / Yellow Lines:
It was generally agreed that protecting the bus service was vital and there was no dissent with regard to the extension of the yellow lines to assist the buses to pass the pinch point.
- e. B4RN Broadband:
Cllr. Richards reported on the current position and the route problem. It was agreed that excellent broadband was a necessity for the village and especially young families and persons working from home.

5. Police Report

The police report forwarded by PCSO 5342 Mark Leigh was presented by the Clerk. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes.

6. The Athenaeum Report

Mr. Robin Sisson reported that the Athenaeum is still well used with several activities using the building. He said that the committee work well together and thanked them for their hard work.

7. County Councillor's Report

County Cllr. Roger Bingham reported on the County Council's budget and council tax share for 2018/19 and the additional 2% for Adult Care. He stated that the county's long troubled Children's Services have had an improving OFSTED assessment with the Adoption service being rated as outstanding. He also referred to the many problems in the past year with regard to flooding and road surfaces / potholes.

8. District Councillor's Report

District Cllr. Annie Rawlinson had given her apologies and there was no report.

9. Public Participation

A parishioner reported that since a "No Cold Calling Zone" had been set up no cold callers had been seen. Such zones were recommended. Other parishioners referred to pothole problems and the Chairman stated that these were regularly reported to the County Council Highways Dept. The question of improving the street lighting was also raised and the Chairman stated that this was under discussion by the Council.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Malcolm Richardson
Clerk to the Council