

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HAYDON PARISH COUNCIL AT 7.30PM ON THE 24th OF OCTOBER 2024, IN HAYDON BRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE.

Present : Cllrs E. Faulks, F. Fuller, B. Howard, K. Richardson, A. Sharp, T. Simmonds, and A. Suddes; members of the public and C. McGivern (mins).

1. Public participation –

- a) Sue and Mike Jackson said that 21 objections had been submitted to the planning application regarding the burger bar at the Anchor Hotel. They share a boundary wall the Anchor and due to the height of the van, anyone serving can see into their property. Cllr Thornhill said that the application had come to the PC as consultees and they would be interested in hearing the views of neighbours. Mr Jackson said that there were three main grounds for objection. Firstly, it is within the conservation area where others have had to follow planning controls, and it is not in keeping. Secondly, because the van and decking have reduced the area for parking with the Anchor car park, it has added to problems on John Martin Street. Thirdly the bright lights on the van and the smell of cooking fat cause a nuisance to neighbours. Cllr Sharp confirmed that he would call this application in, to ensure it goes to a planning committee meeting, at which members of the public will be allowed to speak.
- b) Adrian Brown, who explained that he and his wife are foster carers, said that he was trying to arrange a meeting with Cllr Sharp. Cllr Sharp will get in touch with him.
- c) Simon Curry asked about parking for staff at Anchor Court.

2. PC Stephanie Calf and Sgt Birchall –

Cllr Thornhill said that everyone had heard stories about disorder at the Anchor, and asked if there was anything the Police could add. PC Calf said that over the last 12 weeks no reports had been received. Cllr Sharp said that he had met with Inspector Kate Benson and asked if information was being relayed to the licensing team. PC Calf confirmed that this was the case. Cllr Sharp also said that people had complained to him about speeding cars and noise as people leave. Speed surveys had been conducted recently and this information will be passed to Sgt Birchall. PC Calf explained that over the next two months a joint operation will be carried out traffic/DVSA and themselves stopping vehicles that don't comply with safety regulations. This will also target nominals of interest in vehicles in West Tynedale.

There had been 3 reports of anti-social behaviour in the last 12 weeks. This is very low compared with other areas in the Tyne Valley. PC Calf confirmed that these included reports of shoplifting. Cllr Suddes asked if it was true that the Police would only get involved were goods with a value over £250 were stolen. She was assured that a crime was recorded in all cases and they were all looked at. Sgt Birchall added that if there was a cctv image, this would be circulated to get an id. Cllr Sharp asked about a Police presence on the street. Sgt Birchall said that this was resource dependant.

Concerns were raised about people taking drugs and then driving and posing a risk to others. Sgt Birchall suggested that this could be reported via Crimestoppers.

Cllr Thornhill said that the Police had an immense area to cover between the River Derwent and Catcleugh. He went on to say that in the past HB Matters had been used to remind people how to report any issues, (and this can be done anonymously), and he would do this again.

The Chair thanked PC Calf and Sgt Birchall for attending the meeting.

3. **Apologies** – were received from Cllrs A. Kirsopp, J. Keyte and J. Thompson.
4. **Declarations of interest** – none were received.
5. **Minutes of the previous meeting** – having been circulated were agreed and signed.
6. **Highways** –
 - a) Cigarette bin for the old bridge – this proposal was discussed and it was agreed that Cllr Howard would keep an eye on this for the next month and report to the next meeting.
 - b) Belmont Gardens – Problems with the road surface had been passed to NCC and issues with overhanging trees passed on to the school.
 - c) Flooding on road onto Mr Ninnim’s property – NCC had been in touch to say that work had been instructed in the area.
 - d) Drain at the war memorial – Cllr Howard said that repairs had been carried out at Station Cottages and he wondered if NCC had been looking at the wrong location. Another request will be sent to NCC.
 - e) Traffic on Church Street – Cllr Richardson reported on a recent incident when buses were stuck at both sides of the level crossing and the driver of a car could not get through. The road markings in this area were discussed. Cllr Sharp will request that the road markings are refreshed to see if this helps matters and Cllr Richardson requested that the situation be monitored.
 - f) Graffiti on the sign at the A686 /A69 junction - passed to Cllr Sharp.
7. **Report from Northumberland County Council** –
 - The white lines along Ratcliffe Road have now been repainted.
 - The plans for further work at this location will be circulated. Cllr Sharp hopes to have plans before the next meeting.
 - £1000 from the Community Chest has been agreed for the Scouts to replace tents and a trailer.
 - The sale of Haydon Lodge is still proceeding.
 - It was noted that the hedge within Innerhaugh Mews, but not at the play area, is on private land.
 - The Clerk said that insurance monies to replace the bins at Claire’s had been received, and she was waiting for advice from NCC on where to site the bins and the choice of bin. Cllr Sharp said that he would request that the damaged bins be removed.
 - The crown lifting of trees on Church Street has been done. A fresh camera survey of the drains here will also be requested.
 - Dropped kerbs have been installed on the estate, but sadly the resident who requested this has now passed away.
 - Shaftoe Academy had been in touch regarding the playing field at Shaftoe Green as they no longer want to pay for grass cutting. They are now trying to contact Youngs RPS.
8. **Lighting** – nothing to report.

9. Planning applications –

24/03233/FUL : Demolish and rebuild unstable rear wall; construction of single storey extension within rear yard; demolish garage and construction of single storey side extension - **OBJECTION** - this is to the material being used, ie timber cladding. This is out of keeping in the conservation area of the village. The Parish Council would prefer to see stone used, as on the side facing the applicant's garden.

24/02913/FUL : Retrospective - Installation of a food truck with illuminated signage Demolish and rebuild unstable rear wall; construction of single storey extension within rear yard; demolish garage and construction of single storey side extension and storage shed – Anchor Hotel – **OBJECTION** - for the following reasons -

1. The food truck is not in keeping with the conservation area.
2. The food truck and associated decking have taken away several parking spaces within the Anchor Hotel's car park and added to traffic problems on John Martin Street. Vehicles turning left out of the car park are now turning blind into the oncoming traffic.
3. The smell from the open food truck is creating a nuisance for neighbouring properties.
4. Bright lights on the food truck are causing a nuisance to neighbours; whilst the lights and the height of the truck mean that anyone working in it can see into an adjacent property, thus removing their privacy.

24/03236/FUL : Construction of side extension at Derwent Cottage – **NO OBJECTIONS**.

10. Accounts – as in the budget.

11. Correspondence –

- a) Christine Swaddle had contacted the PC about the road behind Belmont Gardens, bins at Claire's and the bus shelter at the East end of the village which she said looked very unsightly and unkempt.
- b) An email was received from Mr Yeatman about dog mess around the village. The PC are considering an additional poop bag dispenser on Shaftoe Green. The existing dispenser on the old bridge is being topped up regularly.
- c) The GITS had asked if the PC were happy for road closures to go ahead at New Year for the fireworks and this was agreed.
- d) An email was received from Chris Armstrong about problem areas in the village. Cllrs wondered if Mr Armstrong would be willing to create a business forum, which could for example liaise with the National Park to have local services in Haydon Bridge added to a display at the Sill.
- e) Alan Batey had reported damage to the John Martin trail sign near Shaftoe Academy. This will be repaired.
- f) The EA had emailed to explain that they would be carrying out clearance work behind the flood defence at Brigwood.
- g) Following a request from the external auditors for the PC to create and use gov.uk email addresses by 2025 the Clerk had contacted NALC for advice. They had replied saying "This is an issue we've picked up from other county officers as well and I can confirm that there is no expectation for councils to move to a .gov.uk

domain name by March 2025 ...As this keeps coming up, especially from councils that use Mazars, my colleague ... is raising this with the Joint Panel on Accountability and Governance (JPAG) to make sure communication on this topic goes out to the audit firms before they start work on the next AGAR returns.”

12. Parish projects –

- a) Cllr Faulks said that there had been no meeting of the Development Trust. The plaque in memory of Eileen Charlton was now in place and looks very smart.
- b) Butterfly decline – Cllr Fuller wondered what action the PC could take around the parish to try to boost butterfly numbers. Perhaps keeping areas free of pesticides. Cllr Suddes said that at Slaley they are not cutting the verges, and are putting up signs to explain why this is done. To be discussed at the next meeting.

13. Any other business –

- a) There was a collection for the poppy wreath.
- b) Cllr Robson enquired how the DT was planning to circulate the new Haydon Bridge newsletter. This will be available to download from the website. It was also suggested that the agenda for PC meetings could be posted on Haydon Bridge Matters. Members of the public should be reminded that they can only speak in the Public participation section at the beginning of the meeting.