

BARDON MILL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING – TUESDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2016

	<p>Present Councillor’s S Furlong (Chair), G Gill, M Robson, S Galloway, P Mingard, J Oliver, G Walton, O Bengtson, County Councillor A Sharp. Mrs M Little – Clerk Mr Weatherson – Public Mr Sanderson & Mr Gates - NNPA</p>
16/42	None
16/43	<p>Representatives from NNPA Tony Gates the Chief Executive and Glen Sanderson the recently appointed Chair of the Northumberland National Park Authority attended the meeting to introduce themselves to the Councillors and answer any questions there may be about the work of the NNPA especially in our area. They confirmed that the NNPA would be undertaking a review of their local plan in the spring. Several issues were raised about the new SILL project, these issues are all still linked into the problems with the road network, the speed restrictions and the sight lines at junctions. C Cllr A Sharp advised the meeting that he and Cllr J Oliver had recently attended a useful meeting with representatives from NNPA and The National Trust who own the land to the right of the road leading up to the military road and some of the land on the North side of the road. It had been agreed at this meeting that;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The NNPA would lower the wall to the left and prune back a selection of small trees that are causing problems. The National Trust confirmed that they were quite happy for the wall to be lowered on the right hand side of the road to improve the sight lines and allow vehicles approaching from the East to be seen. ii. C Cllr Sharp confirmed that he had managed to get an agreement to extend the 40mph zone back to East Twice Brewed as had been originally requested. iii. Signs that currently direct visitors to the Once Brewed visitor centre and YHA Hostel would be covered up immediately and temporary signage would be put up during the construction period as it had been noted on more than one occasion that strangers to the area were confused by signs which led them to the construction site rather than the temporary visitor centres. <p>Mr Weatherson added at this point that his reasons for attending this evenings meeting were; as a farmer who farms to the North of the military road, he has the following concerns;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. No one is adhering to the 40mph speed limit. It was confirmed that this had already been flagged up as a problem and Northumbria Police had promised there would be more traffic cars patrolling and random use of their mobile speed cameras. ii. He felt that in addition to the alterations to the South side of the junction where the new SILL will be located, there needs to be alterations made to the junction on the North side of the road. In his opinion there needs to be two rows of trees removed back from the junction to improve the sight lines on this side. He pointed out that much of the traffic using these junctions are Agricultural vehicles and that the driver of a tractor with a front loader is a lot further back than a car driver, if he has to inch forward to see his vehicle is onto the road before he can see what is approaching. Mr Gates confirmed that the land in question belonged to

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The National Trust not the NNPA, however they are looking at this land together with a view to improving the pedestrian access, he confirmed that they would look into this issue at the same time.

iii. Mr Weatherson also wished to raise concerns about the condition of the roads on the North side of the Military Road, in particular the increased damage being caused by loaded Timber wagons since this had been designated as the route for timber extracted from Wark forest. C Cllr A Sharp agreed to have a look at the road condition and report back to NCC, he also stated that NCC were in discussion with the Forestry Commission about the issue. Mr Weatherson pointed out that he wasn't complaining about the wagons, it was the fact that the laybys and passing places on the road had not been upgraded to accommodate these changes and were now showing increased signs of damage that was the issue.

- There were no further matters relating to the NNPA Cllr Furlong thanked Mr Gates and Sanderson for attending the meeting and they left. Mr Weatherson also chose to leave at that point.

16/44 **Minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 8th December 2015**
Were read and approved.

16/45 **Matter Arising from the minutes of 8th December 2015.**

- Water running down Birkshaw Bank is still a problem. The digger has been up the bank and dug out and cleared all of the drains which means that some of the water is now going into drains rather than just running but this hasn't addressed the issue of stopping the flow. It was suggested that the problem is an old water pipe from the times that the pit was open that is so rotten that it just keeps bursting in different places. Cllr Furlong is to revert back to NCC about this issue.
- The clerk reported that she was still holding the £500.00 contribution towards installing external electrics at Redburn Park and the Village Hall. As suggested an email had been sent to ask who would be paying for this work and therefore who would like the contribution, Village Hall or Henshaw Parish Council, they are still waiting for the invoice and will be in touch, the cheque will be issued as soon as confirmation is received.
- Representatives from both Bardon Mill and Henshaw Parish Councils attended a public meeting at Haydon Bridge School. They felt that they were able to add some relevant points to the argument, asking for an updated time schedule for attending rural incidents in the whole of the rural area covered by the remaining appliances should Haydon Bridge be closed and Hexham moved to its planned location in the centre of town next to the hospital rather than its present location on the outskirts of the town.
- How can the lack of 24 hour cover at Haydon Bridge be an issue when neither Allendale or Haltwhistle offer this cover either.
- A figure for the cost of moving Hexham Fire Station was requested
- The costs of running Haydon Bridge Fire Station as published were questioned and actual costs requested.
- It was also noted that the station log recorded attendance at 677 incidents not the 189 that had been stated in the consultation document, the 189 were incidents in the Village and where the Haydon Bridge appliance was the primary call out as opposed to incidents where a second

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	appliance was required or cover needed because the primary appliance for a call was attending another incident therefore Haydon Bridge had to be used as second call.
16/46	Declaration of Interest None Declared
16/47	Public Questions Mr Weatherson's questions have already been addressed in 16/43.
16/48	Planning Applications Northumberland County Council - None
16/49	Planning Applications Northumberland National Park Authority -.None
16/50	Correspondence received since last meeting <p>A) A letter has been received from Henshaw Parish Council. They have been notified by NCC that from 01/04/16 they will have to cover the cost themselves of cutting the Village Greens at Henshaw, Tow House and Bardon Mill and also the grass at Redburn Park. NCC have quoted an annual figure of £3,000.00 for continuing with this service and after consideration HPC have accepted this as a competitive quote for the amount of work to be undertaken. HPC are writing to Bardon Mill PC to ask if they would be willing to contribute towards the cutting of Redburn Park and the Village Green at Bradon Mill outside the Pub and Village Store. They are identifying this as approx. 1/3 of the overall area to be cut therefore they are suggesting the annual cost to them will be £1,000.00. This matter was discussed and it was agreed that as all other costs relating to the park are split 2/3 Henshaw and 1/3 Bardon Mill then Bardon Mill could offer 1/3 of the cost of the grass cutting charge on an annual basis. This year that would be £333.00. This was duly approved and seconded.</p> <p>B) In response to the request from Bardon Mill for a contribution towards the cost of purchasing a brush cutting tractor mounted head, Henshaw Parish Council have raised more questions before they can make a decision. These queries related to storage, insurance, operation and ongoing repair and maintenance. These were all addressed and a response will be sent back. It was suggested that as the NNPA were keen to help wherever possible and as this piece of machinery if purchased could be used to maintain areas around the visitor centre and roads approaching it that they might consider contributing towards either the initial cost or if not the annual running cost. The clerk is to approach them and ask.</p>
16/51	Parish Website <p>Cllr Mingard confirmed that following his house move he now has access to internet again and is able to update and maintain the village website.</p> <p>Cllr Mingard reported that he has been approached by the history group who would like to operate their own website going forward and they have asked if they could have the information which is currently on the main Parish site. It was agreed that whilst the History Group were quite within their rights to operate their own site and the Parish Council would be quite happy to let them have a copy of all information currently showing on the main website they didn't want the information to be removed from the Parish Site completely.</p>

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	<p>Cllr Gill reported that there is Transparency Code funding of £350.00 for a laptop and £100.00 currently available. It was agreed to apply for this as the clerk currently stores all parish information on her own machine.</p>
16/52	<p>County Councillors Report County Councillor Alan Sharp had already updated the meeting on matters relating to the current topical issues as they had arisen throughout the meeting. In addition he pointed out that he was involved in the battle to get better broadband coverage for the area.</p>
16/53	<p>Reports on Financial Matters</p>
16/53.1	<p>The Balance at the bank is £4898.71 accounting for the £500.00 previously pledged to the Village Hall .</p>
16/53.2	<p>No monies have been received the first instalment of the 2016-17 precept £2,000.00 is due on 01/04/16</p>
16/53.3	<p>Cheques approved for payment were;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bardon Mill PCC – Room rent invoice £15.00 for 2 x meetings 1 had a mix up over keys. It was agreed to pay £30.00 for both as meeting had still gone ahead. - Clerks wages 6 months ended 31/03/16 £537.50 incl PAYE.
16/53.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requests received from local organisations for assistance were considered. It was agreed to make the following allowances; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. GNAA - £150.00 ii. Tynedale Hospice at Home - £100.00 iii. Young & Sweet/Youth Club - £100.00 iv. Tynedale CAB - £50.00 v. Haltwhistle Swimming & Leisure Centre - £100.00 vi. Bardon Mill with Henshaw Village Hall - £300.00
16/54	<p>Any other relevant business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is a tree fallen in the War Memorial Grounds – it has done no damage and Cllr Robson is happy to deal with it's removal. A question was raised about whether the War Memorial was covered under the insurance. This had been looked into at renewal and the clerk would look back through correspondence and report back to the next meeting. - There is a cattle grid on the Steel road at the junction of Whitfield/AllensGreen. This is now dangerous and is to be reported to NCC again.
	<p>Dates and times of next meeting There being no other business the meeting was closed at 8.45pm. The next meeting will be held on Tues 3rd May 2016 at 7.00pm in Henshaw Church Room.</p>

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