

MINUTES OF HUMBLETON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

On THURSDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2016,

held at Maple Garage, Flinton

14.36 Present: Councillors: F Caley (FC) (Chair); L Brazier (LB); H Stannard (HS); J Hart (JH); N Broughton (NB) & J Burton (JB)

Officer: Mrs Vanessa Nolan

Residents: None

Non-residents: None

Apologies: H Jackson (HJ)

14.37 Public Forum

No attendees.

14.38 Declarations of Pecuniary & Non-Pecuniary Interests

Councillors Caley, Burton & Brazier declared an interest in Heron's trust as trustees.

Councillor Brazier declared an interest in the Flinton land.

Councillor Caley declared an interest in Rathlin Energy project.

14.39 Confirmation of Parish Council Minutes:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 19 November 2015 be signed as a true record – proposed JH, seconded HS.

14.40 Matters arising:

- a) i) Highway & Street Services issues – MUGA corner still an issue with the erosion on the corner.
- ii) 'Trod' from the Old School – budgetary constraints dictate whether possible, now Old School boarded up access to the recreation field an issue using the 'trod'. Clerk written to ERYC at higher level and also wrote to John Holtby to ask for assistance in raising this issue. No response from either to date – Clerk to keep chasing.
- iii) Speeding – ERYC rejected HS husbands request for reducing speed limit, but will consider in the future. No speeding vehicles advised to clerk to date.
- iv) Ivy on the Humbleton bus shelter – clerk raised with ERYC, awaiting response.
- v) Clerk has raised concerns to ERYC about the state of the trees at the west entrance to the village, with the tree falling down last autumn and the amount of ivy on the trees. These trees are ERYC responsibility. Awaiting a response.
- vi) Planter at south entrance to the village – ERYC approved the move of the planter to near the current name plate (on opposite of the road). Clerk to contact farmer to ensure location not a

problem. Clerk to put out an appeal in the newsletter for bricks and someone to build a simple replacement planter.

vii) Flinton land collapse, FC completed some work on the drain to help with drainage issues.

- b) Parish Clock – no change – War Memorials Fund have said we can apply for grant, however we need to have the Diocese Faculty in place – applied for with the help of Susan Walker, now awaiting response.
- c) Emergency plan – Training update being considered by Councillor Caley with provider – c/f to next meeting.
- d) Police Reports / Neighbourhood Watch – little crime reporting locally, Flinton had a horsebox stolen and dumped; police still have concerns about poaching in the area. Clerk had requested new neighbourhood signs for both villages from ERYC – awaiting response. It was suggested that the Clerk explore CCTV options for both villages.
- e) Maintenance schedule – weeds in church, Clerk to arrange with contractor. It was noted that the Green Lane dyke had been cleared and the church hedges cut; the pumps had been checked by Maple Garage. The dyke at the west entrance is to be cleared bi-annually in future.
- f) Friends of Humbleton – Christmas light switch on 5 December, was held in the Church due to the bad weather – had a very successful evening, well supported by the residents. New tree in place. Thanks went to Susan Walker for the use of the church for the event.
- g) Heron’s Trust – no meeting held since last Parish Meeting.
- h) Memorial for crash of RAF Lancaster plane from World War Two – faculty received, plaque ordered. Susan Walker suggested date w/c 24 May as nearest to the incident date to hold an unveiling. Clerk to discuss with HJ and then arrange accordingly.
- i) West Newton & Rathlin Energy – meeting held on 3 February, Clerk attended. Rathlin had hoped to have their Environment Agency (EA) permits by meeting but not yet received. However only 4 public comments / observations submitted to the EA. Crawberry Hill now abandoned and will be maintained for 4 years. West Newton A (WNA) is being monitored, but West Newton B (WNB) is the focus for testing. WNA testing indicated a gas field, however the well was not in the optimal location, hence the need for WNB. Rathlin confirmed that contrary to social media reports no mini-fracking had taken place at West Newton. Rathlin advised that anyone who wants independent confirmation can contact the EA and ask for an update on the site. The next meeting will be later in the year when EA permits have been received and will be a short while prior to the drilling at WNB.
- j) Phone box – Clerk has approached BT for their ‘free paint’ pack so we can paint the phone box – to appeal for help in the next newsletter. A quote has been received from ERYC to install the defib at £314 + VAT. RESOLVED that Clerk to apply for grant funding for defib. Clerk to explore adoption of Flinton phone box and defib grants for installation.

- k) Flinton land lease agreement – length of term agreed at 5 years, Clerk to enquire about legal costs for such an agreement.
- l) Suggestion box – Clerk purchased and once the defib is fitted in the phone box, then the suggestion box will be fitted.
- m) Transparency Regulations on external audit – correspondence received from Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments Limited regarding the need to consider opting-in or out of external audit arrangements by 31 March 2016. Every authority still has a legal obligation to complete and publish an annual financial return irrespective of whether they opt-in or opt-out. The decision to opt-in or out of SAAA, a properly constituted meeting must be held and a decision made and recorded. If we opt out then we must appoint our own external auditor, despite being an exempt authority. As we are an exempt authority, there are no fees to pay, nor any action required. However if we receive a request for a Limited Assurance Audit, this can be provided at a lower cost than if we had to appoint our own auditor. If notification to opt-out is not received by 31 March, the authority will be deemed to have opted-in for a five year period and there will be no option to opt out again until March 2022. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk notify SAAAT that Humbleton remain in the SAAA regarding external audit arrangements.
- n) Neighbourhood Plan – despite request for feedback from residents in the newsletter nothing has been forthcoming. It was agreed that the Clerk arrange for a residents meeting in the church at a mutually convenient date to get some feedback from residents and to circulate flyers accordingly.

14.41 Correspondence

Thanks from Mr & Mrs Hart and Mr Lamb for their Christmas gifts. An email had been received from ERYC about a ‘clean up weekend’ to get ready for the Queen’s 90th birthday. Clerk to apply to ERYC for equipment and to ask for help in the newsletter for the weekend of 4th March.

14.42 Accounts

- a) Payments approved to V Nolan for fee & expenses £424.69 (including, ink cartridges, pensioner gifts, printer, letter box and postage costs); HMRC £35 for PAYE and ERYC Supplies £11.50 for stationery supplies.
- b) Payments already made and approved retrospectively – East Riding Coal Supply – 2014 christmas gifts for pensioners £125; Broker Network Limited – insurance for 2016 £267.86; DA & CA Buckton – flailing church hedges £67.20 and S Martinson & Sons – Green Lane dyke sludge cleared £72.00.
- b) Financial statement of accounts circulated prior to meeting.
- c) Bank reconciliation & bank statements circulated – at 28 January - £3,384.18 Lloyds and £1,816.78 NSI.

14.43 Planning

Tansterne Biomass application approved by ERYC.

14.44 AOB

- a) Street lighting – Humbleton lights replaced with LED lights except The Green light – Clerk to explore with ERYC. Clerk to find out when Flinton lights to be upgraded.
- b) Flinton post box – grass verge being eroded by Royal Mail parking – Clerk to raise issue.
- c) Flinton hedges – concerns raised about the hedges making walking on the paths difficult to walk past. Clerk to raise with Street Services.

14.45 Date of next meeting

Thursday 26 May 2016 at 7pm at Maple Garage, Flinton including AGM.