

## Minutes of a Meeting of Carham Parish Council held in St Cuthbert's Church, Carham on Tuesday 13 March 2019

- 065 **Present:** Cllrs Mrs A Lauder, Ms V Poland, Mr P Feerick, Mr W Potts, Mr J Jobson, Mr J Court, Councillor A Murray and Mrs A Changleng (Clerk) in attendance.
- 066 **Apologies:** None.
- 067 **Chair's Welcome:** Cllr Lauder welcomed new residents of Wark to the meeting and thanked Janet Chubb for organizing an interesting and successful Footpaths Walk on 2 March between East Learmouth to Barley Hill. Cllr Court was also thanked for putting up new plaques on the trees planted during the years of the Queen's Golden and Diamond Jubilees and the Millennium. Clive Hallam-Baker will be putting a map of Border battles and audio equipment in the Carham phone box for visitors to the Battle of Carham site.
- 068 **Declarations of Interest:** None
- 069 **Parishioners' Questions:** None
- 070 The **Minutes** of the Meeting on 8 January were approved as read and signed.
- 071 **Matters Arising:** No response to date about the grit bin and finger posts. Cllr Murray will enquire about the purchase of the grit bin. Cllr Jobson is still to carry out his survey about the bottle bank.
- 072 **Correspondence:**
- Thank you letters received from GNAAS and CAN for charitable donations.
  - NALC eNews and CAN eNews
  - North East War Memorials Project
  - Northumberland Local Plan
  - North Northumberland Local Area Council on Thursday 21 February
- 073 **Planning Applications:**  
*Proposal:* Remove both Bridge Abutments and create 1 in 2.5 embankments  
*Location:* Railway Bridge North East of East Learmouth Farm Cottages C21 West Learmouth Junction to Barelees Junction, Branxton  
*Applicant:* Mr Dave Fisher (AMCO on behalf of Highways England)
- An objection will be made by Carham Parish Council because the demolition of the abutments will destroy part of our Victorian heritage and a landscape of the kind that NCC's Core Strategy seeks to preserve. The defunct Alnwick to Cornhill railway line is of particular interest to railway enthusiasts due to the quality of their buildings and their associated structures. Councillors concluded the only reason for removal is the cost effective option when compared to future maintenance, which eliminates all future safety risks.
- Proposal:* Proposed demolition of existing farmhouse and erection of replacement farmhouse including outbuilding and associated works  
*Location:* West Moneylaws Cottage U1013 The Hagg Junction to East Moneylaws Junction, Cornhill  
*Applicant:* Mr Matthew Lee
- After discussion there is no objection but it is noted that this is a significant development.
- Listed building consent and conversion of a redundant dovecot into a small holiday let at Reedsford Farm has been granted.

The Clerk will contact Mr Laing of East Learmouth Farm to ask if he intends to replace the hedge removed some time ago when new poles were being erected.

- 074 **Local Plan:** Carham Parish Council considered the Draft Local Plan and also considered a number of documents which had been provided jointly by the Northumberland and Newcastle Society and the Campaign to Protect Rural England. These documents explained concerns about the content of the Local Plan in so far as it affects the areas deemed suitable for wind turbines in the county. Carham Parish Council agreed with their view that NCC's identification of suitable areas for Wind Turbine Development is deficient; unjustified; ineffective; inconsistent with national policy and ignores the views of affected local communities. It was agreed to support the representations filed by the N&NSoc. and CPRE.

Cllr Poland was concerned that the Local Plan, once adopted, will be the starting point for the assessment of all planning applications. It will sit alongside any made neighbourhood plans which have equivalent status in the decision making process. It implies that NCC must listen to the views (as set out in a Parish Council's neighbourhood plan) of a Parish Council that has a neighbourhood plan, but there is no requirement for it to give equivalent consideration to the views of a Parish Council that does not have a neighbourhood plan. In other words, the Local Plan is creating two classes of Parish Councils.

- 075 **Wark Play Park:** The date for the tidy-up has been set for Saturday 6 April and the Clerk will put a poster on the notice board in Wark asking for volunteers to help. Cllr Lauder has been advised it is too dangerous to remove the broken limb only from the tree overlooking the park and the tree should be taken down due to its condition. Ownership of the ground it stands on is unknown therefore it will be reported to Environmental Services. The Clerk is making enquiries about the cost of Wet Pour and will ask a representative from the company to visit the park to clarify what is required.

- 076 **Finance:** There is £3,013.53 in the bank. A cheque for £50 was signed for the Carham Community Website. Cllr Poland is taking over the website from Alan Cater on 1 April and will be meeting him to ensure a smooth handover.

- 077 **Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 14 May 2019 in St Cuthbert's Church, Carham at 6.30pm. This will be an Ordinary Meeting and the Annual Assembly.**