

Glanton Parish Council

A meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Memorial Hall, Glanton at 7.00pm on Monday 25th March 2024

Present:

Parish Councillors: Jon Radgick (Chairman); Mrs Susan Rogers; Jerry Dronsfield; John Lang; Angus Collingwood-Cameron; and Mrs Susan Collingwood-Cameron.

Minutes: Wendy Gains

Members of Public: Elaine Craze and Wendy Black.

1: Introduction

1.1: Welcome, apologies for absence and declarations of interest/grant of any dispensations

All were welcomed to the meeting.

Apologies for absence received from John Guiry; Craig Auchinachie; and Andrew McKendrick.

No declarations of interest.

1.2 Parishioners' Questions

1.2.1 Elaine Craze and Wendy Black were particularly interested in item **2.7 Update on a possible location for a children's playground**, as they are neighbours of the suggested site. Therefore item 2.7 was brought forward.

They stated that they thought the suggested site, behind houses on Mount View and The Causeway, was unsuitable for the following reasons:

- The site is remote with high hedges. An accident on site could go unnoticed.
- Older children using the site could lead to anti-social behaviour.
- Children have previously accessed adjoining gardens from the site.
- There is no parking near the site that wouldn't impinge on residents' parking.
- The surrounding gardens are the residents' private spaces and they wish to preserve that privacy.
- The area is too small.
- House values would decrease.
- They had already experienced some anti-social behaviour from teenage boys.

They also referred to an email from Phil Walton with similar objections. Jon Radgick acknowledged there had been 3 formal objections from Phil Walton, Elaine Craze and Wendy Black.

Members then discussed the proposed site. The following points were made:

- The St Peter's Chapel site had been made unviable by the granting of Planning Permission for the housing development.
- No other potential site has been identified.
- The proposed site is an awkward shape and is close to houses. It is very constricted.
- Playground suppliers have suggested a layout with two structures of play equipment with a safety surface. There would be room for a bench as well.
- The area could be a focus point for older children causing trouble.
- The support of neighbours and potential users would be needed.
- The children's playground at Powburn was currently used by Glanton residents.
- The playground would need to be maintained and managed by a group independent of the Parish Council (to be eligible for grants) and a previous playground venture had failed though lack of such support. Commitment from the Parish would be needed.

It was agreed that the Parish should be consulted regarding the need and support for a playground and the suitability of the suggested site. Jon Radgick will write an article for the Gleaner seeking feedback from the Parish.

1.3 Minutes of the previous meeting

1.3.1 The draft minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 29th January 2024 were agreed as a true record.

1.4 An update on matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting held on 29th January 2024

1.4.1 Norman Wright has acquired 6 sets of litter picking equipment from NCC. He has kept one and is using it around the village. The others are available for use from Jon Radgick.

2: Items for discussion and potential decisions

2.1 Reports from the County Councillor and the Police

No reports had been received.

2.2 Planning

2.2.1 Current planning applications.

2.2.1.1 23/01920/FUL The application for The Causeway development site has been permitted. A decision was taken that the objections were not material and therefore the decision could be made by Planning Officers under delegated authority instead of by the Area Planning Committee.

Jon Radgick will send a strong protest at the way the application was processed.

2.2.1.2 Tree Felling, 3 St Peter's Close: a 5 day notice had been issued stating there was evidence of movement around the roots and therefore the tree was dangerous and needed to come down. Jon Radgick objected, asking for a second opinion. The tree has been cut down.

2.2.2 Report on progress on the updating of the Parish Plan

Jon Radgick thanked the sub-committee for their 15 page report.

Angus Collingwood-Cameron reported that they had set out to review the plan 10 years on from the last review. A lot of actions had been completed and some were no longer relevant. The review had posed some questions and these were in bold in the document, e.g.: Repairs to footpath 3; More bulbs, etc on the bank; Reorganise mishmash of street signs. It was suggested that these points could be debated by the PC at the next meeting to see whether they should become Actions.

Angus Collingwood-Cameron also noted the village website is not being updated. Should there be a protocol for updating? Jon Radgick posts the PC agendas and minutes. No one is currently responsible for the rest of the site. Jon Radgick will advertise for a website administrator in the Gleaner.

It was noted that some outdoor lighting on some properties is very intrusive.

Sue Rogers noted that some residents may experience difficulties with deliveries of prescriptions from the GP surgeries they use in Alnwick, Rothbury and Wooler. Alnwick deliver prescriptions to the Post Office. Could a similar service be arranged with the others?

Council discussed whether the Plan should be rewritten. If so, a new survey would be required. It was considered a good historical record and useful in highlighting issues. It was agreed that the review was sufficient in itself. Questions on actions from the plan will be added to the agenda of the next Council meeting.

2.3 Highway Issues

2.3.1 Leak on West Turnpike west of Old School.

Jon Radgick queried if the leak was less pronounced but Angus Collingwood-Cameron noted that recent rainfall had been less and that no work had been undertaken.

2.3.2 Accident damage to sign on Powburn Road – reported to NCC for action.

2.4 Environmental Issues

2.4.1 Jerry Dronsfield noted that the rowan trees on the bank had produced suckers that need removing. He will undertake the work.

2.5 The former St Peter's Chapel Site

Remove from agenda following the planning application approval.

2.6 Shawdon Hall Estate / Northfield Farm Permissive Footpath

Shawdon Hall Estate Agents have changed. Now the Packard Family Office. Proposed path to be considered at the next board meeting.

2.7 Update on a possible location for children's playground

Covered under item 1.2 above.

3: Items for Information

3.1 Forthcoming village activities.

3.1.1 Possible beacon to mark 80th Anniversary of D Day? 6th June? Anything planned in Memorial Hall? Jon Radgick to investigate.

3.1.2 Easter Party in Memorial Hall, Easter Saturday.

3.1.3 Quiz Night, Friday 26th April, Memorial Hall. In aid of the Glanton Show.

3.2 Details of any meetings attended by Councillors or the clerk

None attended.

Parish Cluster meeting this week. Jon Radgick will be unavailable to attend.

3.3 Correspondence received

Parish Council has requested free official portrait of the King.

4: Administration

4.1 Finance

4.1.1 The current accounts for Financial Year 2023/2024 were noted.

4.2 Retirement of the clerk

No new applicants.

4.3 Details of items Councillors wish to raise at forthcoming meetings.

Andrew McKendrick wishes to discuss the Coquetdale Food Bank – carried forward to next meeting.

Jerry Dronsfield stated that the Whittingham school play area could not be used out of school hours as there was a Planning restriction on after school use. He asked if the Council could request a change to the restriction. It was noted that this would should come from Whittingham Parish Council or from the school or local residents

4.4 Dates of Forthcoming Meetings – all commencing at 7.00pm

- Monday 3rd June 2024
- Monday 29th July 2024
- Monday 30th September 2024
- Monday 25th November 2024

Signed

Chairman, Glanton Parish Council

Date

DRAFT