**SHOTLEY LOW QUARTER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Held at St. John’s Hall, Snods Edge, Monday 2nd March 2020 @ 7.00 pm**

PRESENT: Vice Chair Cllr. M Perry: Cllr. R Amey, Cllr. P Crawford,

Cllr. N Oxley, & Cllr. G Stokoe

IN ATTENDANCE: Whittonstall Community Group Members – Christine Jewitt

and Anna Nicholson

MINUTES: Marian Green, Parish Clerk

Please note all Minutes are subject to approval at the next meeting.

**- PUBLIC-OPEN SESSION -**

**Vice Chair Perry** welcomed the WCG Members who were attending this evening in order to request an update on the progress of the new “NCC Speed Monitoring/Whittonstall traffic system”. – (See Agenda “4.1” below). - It was Agreed Clerk would urgently contact the NCC officer leading the project – (Neil Snowdon), to try and achieve some positive progress and an expected re-schedule plan. - General discussion took place with reference to the original published plans by NCC, where originally it was hoped some positive progress would have been achieved by the end of 2019. - This led on to the regular on-going car parking difficulties which continue to prevail daily, and although it was appreciated the owners of the Anchor Inn at Whittonstall have been exceptionally helpful & supportive of the situation to date, extension of their involvement could be detrimental to their livlihood as a local business operation. All parties present are painfully aware of how vital satisfactory car parking, and the lack of an appropriate safe solution for the school pupils has become, and is seen as a “local priority which must be addressed urgently”. – (see SLQPC Agenda “13” below). – All agreed any options to be considered would require the co-operation of a “local community partnership arrangement”, with probably some commercial intervention, which would be the subject of funding support. Cllr. Stokoe commented reliance on possible County Council involvement is highly unlikey, and the possibility of enquiries as to the purchase of land within the village vicinity for a car park facility, would appear realisticlly to be of ‘astronomical costs, and out of reach’, without acquiring a substantial commercial enterprise business funding.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**  – In the absence of Chair Taylor, Vice Chair Perry took

the Chair and commenced the meeting by recording his apologies and also that of

Cllr. Cook & C.Cllr. Horncastle.

2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**: Cllrs. are invited to declare any personal interests appearing on Agenda and nature of their interest. **Personal Interest** used where a member will be remaining & participate in debate & in any vote. **Personal & Prejudicial** interest used where a Member will be withdrawing from meeting for that item. Vice Chair Perry declared a personal interest at 6.1-W’Stall Traffic Prog. & Cllr. Amey at 4.2, Marley Tile Site.

3. **TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING on 3rd February 2020 Circulated as usual) -** Cllr. Crawford proposed acceptance, & Cllr. Amey, seconded the motion, - Vice Chair Perry then signed the Minutes as an accurate record

4 **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES on 3rd February 2020:**

4.1 **Kiln Pit Hill and Boundary Lane Wind Farm Community Benefits Funds**

Updates from Panel Repvts. – **Clerk reported** the appointment arranged for the Community Foundation/KPH Panel (Northumberland) representative initially expected to inspect the 2019 Fixed Asset Mtce funded sites and the new defib. Installation at Shotleyfield on 13/2/20 was cancelled (due to a personal family medical emergency). – Clerk will re-arrange and advise at next meeting.

Current KPH Projects update

**- SLQPC Defib. Units within Parish – possible on-going ‘consumable costs’**. Vice Chair Perry would firstly like to register the 4 defibrillators with the the North ~East Ambulance Service.   
The Parish Clerk would assist with information already held. Budget costs would then be researched for ongoing yearly maintenance.

Progress on 2018/9 projects

**-The 2 new Defibrillating units at Parish Licenced premises -** Clerk reported having requested NCC for their views on SLQPC proposals to utilize the £730 underspeand on a new KPH application, - i.e. - for the installation of - ‘Cost of Defib. Awareness notices’ proposed for manufacture and attachment to NCC highways structures,- (subject to NCC approval)’ – IT WAS AGREED to cancel the new KPH proposed application for this project, and return the £730 underspend demanded. – Cllr Cook will not be required to progress the proposed application. - Clerk awaits Chair’s instruction for issue of cheque. –

**Cllrs.**  **Cook, Taylor & Clerk for ACTION**.

**-2017/18 Completion of 1st Aid Training** **–**  following problems in achieving 2 further training sessions in 2019 – Cllr. Amey advised new arrangements for 2 sesssions to be held on 5th March 2020 at Manor House Inn, (where 2 x 12 trainee attendances had been booked), has had to be postponed – due to insufficient interest and response received. Cllr. Amey has arranged the cancellation within the terms of booking, and Clerk has cancelled the Red Cross payment cheque, & received a Credit for the invoices issued at £894 for audit purposes. **Cllr. Amey, & Clerk.**

Proposed New 2019/2020 KPHill Funding Applications

**- Parish Historical/heritage project**  – **DEFER TO NEXT MONTH**

**- Community Apple press –Advised 30/1/20 KPH Panel approval. –** Clerk confirmedthe £1,350KPH Grant funding was received on 13/2/20. It is envisaged this event may be organised in the morning of 4h October 2020 to co-incide with St John’s 2020 October Beer Festival. Cllr. Crawford will advise Clerk if and when equipment is to be ordered and purchased to progress the project. **Cllr. Crawford & Clerk for Action in due course.**

**-**  **A Parish photo. For 2020**  **- Confirm progress next month** - (E.T. to ask Sara Thew) ?

**- The NCC 20 mph Traffic Programme for Whittonstall** – Clk. Confirmed no further details have been issued from the NCC Highways Programme Team who are progressing the new proposals, however completion expected Spring 2020.As CWH was absent **there was no further information at present, and as stated earlier in the meeting –** Clerk will contact NCC Officer Snowdon to ascertain progress and current schedule of the project.

**-Speed Monitoring & traffic calming system at Snods Edge** – Cllr. Crawford, confirmed the “SWARCO” system is scheduled for installation currently, - weather permitting. Clerk confirmed the Financial funding of the grant of £4000 (£4k) by NCC to their Terms and Conditions was processed on 21/2/20 & that CWH advised the appropriate banking transfer is being activated. Clerk will advise Cllr. Crawford as soon as the funding has been deposited to SLQPC **C.Cllr.Horncastle/Cllr.Crawford/Chr. Taylor/Clerk for ACTION**

**- 2020 KPH Annual Maintenance Project -**  This annual project & first phase is due for commencement at May 2020, and funding of £600 has been received by SLQPC.

**4.2** **Marley Tile Site Redevelopment** – As recorded in 6/1/20 Minutes details of the NCC Strategic Planning Committee’s **Refusal decision** on 3/12/20 for this application have been reported in the February Parish Magazine and website. SLQPC await a response to the letter of enquiry sent to NCC Planning Department (via. C.Cllr Horncastle), requesting an attempt to be made to make this site safe, by raising the issue of using “possible legislation available” to demand the current owners to bear the responsibility of making improvements to this derelict site. It is hoped C.Cllr. Horncastle may be able to have this suggestion investigated by NCC and subsequently assess what action, or enforcement, if any, NCC are able to consider to achieve & progress this request. **Awaiting NCC Response**.

**5. CURRENT PARISH ISSUES FOR DISCCUSSION**:

**5.1 Parish Magazine insert for FEBRUARY 2020 –** Cllr. Cook provided the next entry- (to include progress on the Marley Tile Application). - In addition **Cllr. Crawford has volunteered to provide a report for the March Issu**e which would hopefully contain progress on the Snods Edge new Traffic Calming installation.

**5.2 NCC Education Programme – Proposed visit to SLQPC by Head of Education, Officer Wayne Daley –CWH had confirmed** he has raised the matter with Officer Daley and that he hoped a suitable date between February - April would be possible.  **In addition** – Cllr. Crawford wants to pursue the matter of unfair selection of children for ‘A’ levels at Q.E. High School. His suggestion is that the focus of this complaint should be the Chair of Governors. Cllr. Oxley considered it may be better to include other Parishes-(East Tynedale Forum was suggested - currently consisting of a group of 10 parishes incldg.SLQPC). **AWAITING ADVICE in due course.**

**5.3 Re-establish contact with current Northumbria Police and Farmwatch organisation – Clk reported** having discussed this matter with the Inspector involved – (Neighbourhood Northern Police and Crime Commissioner Pam.Briggs). Awaiting response regarding possible visit in April from a Her Taskforce Team. **DEFER TO MARCH/APRIL MTG.2020**

**5.4 Possible future ‘Neighbourhood Plan’ proposals. Does SLQPC want to participate in such a project ? DEFER TO APRIL MTG.2020**

**6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED & MATTERS FOR RESPONSE:**

**6.1** **Edmundbyers Parish Council request to SLQPC for our support in requesting a traffic lights system at Derwent Bridge (B6278).**  – Following description of the situation initially reported in SLQPC Minutes 04/11/19 & to date, –IT WAS AGREED UNANIMOUSLY– not to agree to the Edmundbyers Parish Council’s suggestion of requesting traffic lights on the Bridge. **Chair Taylor will instruct Clerk on SLQPC response** to Edmundbyers Parish Council to conclude the matter.

**6.3 Confirm Annual May Meeting changed to 4TH MAY 2020 –** Clerk to advise the usual list.

**6.4 Red Cross 1st Aid sessions scheduled for the Manor House Inn, on 5/3/20 CANCELLED –**

**7. RECEIVE ANY REPORTS FROM INDIVIDUAL PARISH COUNCILLORS:**

**7(a) Cllr. Oxley** raised concerns about the narrow Shotley Bridge. – see Feb. Minutes (7(b) – Clerk reported SLQPC has submitted our concern to Highways West & ‘highlighted the problem’ – As soon as a response is received it will be forwarded to Members.

**Awaiting NCC response.**

**8. HIGHWAY MATTERS**:

**8.1 - “Defib. Notices” for possible attachment to NCC Highway directional structures – This project currently being investigated by Cllr. Cook is to be postponed, (**due to£730 underspend demanded for return from the dual installation of the Defib units at Manor, and Anchor Inns last year.)

**9.** **NCC PLANNING APPLICATIONS – CURRENT PROGRESS & DECISIONS**:

**9(a)** NCC Ref.No.19/01574/VARYCO - (Bolbec Manor - Land West of Manor House Inn) -**Variation to** **Condition 2** – (**GRANTED** - no objections to re-position chalets & parking bays). However Case Officer & Enforcement Officer advise the new “bin store” shelter

“**is not in accordance with the approved plans** and will need to be built as per plans, or a further planning appln. Reqd.” – Date for progress has been set by NCC - **Awaiting further consultation**

**9(b)** NCC Ref.No.18/04514/VARYCO – Summerfield Farm – Variation of Condition 6 (doors

And Windows) pursuant to Plg.Permission 13/01496/VARYCO – A Sec. of State Appeal against NCC Refusal is in progress – **Awaiting Decision.**

**9(c)** NCC Ref.No.19/03064/FUL – Mr D Kemp - 1-4bedrm.agric.dwlg. adjct. To existg. Agric.bldg. Land NW Carterway Heads, N’land. -**Awaiting Decision.**

**9(d)** NCC Ref.No.19/03660/FUL –Mr S Dowson -Prop.Extn.to exstg.dwlg. Newlands Grange Cott. (“Willow Cott”)- Whittonstall, DH8 9LH – **GRANTED 6/2/20**

**9(e)** NCC Ref.19/04929/FUL – Mrs M Rogerson - Demotln. & Replmt. Of exstg.conservatory

At Springfield House, Mosswood,DH8 9BD – **GRANTED 20/2/20**

**9(f)** NCC Ref.20/001125/REM – Mr Teasdale, - Alex Clark Art, Ebchester – Members Discussed the project which were for ‘outline planning permission’ and AGREED in principal to no objection . – Cllr. Amey felt the building material should be in keeping with the area. Clerk was instructed to pass comments to NCC under usual process. **Awaiting Decision.**

**10. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED SINCE ISSUE OF AGENDA: (1) – New Planning Appln.**

**10.1** NCC Ref.20/00305/CCD- Ms. Leanne Barker, Whittonstall First School, Consett, DH8 9JN Northumberland. – Proposal to extend the existing school and increase the accomdtn. by 2 classrooms with associated cloak roroms and toilets. – Following inspection of application Members agreed to support this project & Clerk to pass comments to NCC as usual - **Awaiting Decision.**

**11.** **ANY OTHER PLANNING ISSUES FOR DISCUSISON:** None

**12.** **FINANCIAL MATTERS**:

**12(a) Financial status at 01/03/2020** was;- Clerk supplied statements as follows:- Community A/c £5,479 and Business A/c £4,517 providing a total of £9,996 be aware this total includes:-

- £600 KPH 2020 Mtce. Project – due to commence May 2020

- £1,350 KPH 2020 Apple Press project “ “ Autumn 2020

- £730 underspend for return to C/Fdtn. (for 2 x 2019 defib installations)

- £1,310 remaining for 2 additional 2018 KPH Residents 1st Aid Training sessions

Currently Postponed til later 2020

**12(b) Invoices for settlement at this meeting cover the following:-**

**Authorisation of Cheques & Invoice Vouchers** for payment (4 items – circa. £427)

£120.00 – PCC of Shotley St John’s (2020 Parish Magazine printing) Chq.No.101140 \*

£214.60 – Clks Salary – Mth 11 Feb. 2020 by S/Order 02/03/2020

£35.20 - Clks HMRC/PAYE for Feb. Mth 11 Chq.No.101141

£39.52 - Clks Exps. For January, 2020 – Chq.No.101142

\*NOTE Chq. No. 101139 for British Red Cross invoice value £862.80 was cancelled due to insufficient attendance, & Clk advised appropriate credit notes received for audit purposes.

**13.** **MATTERS FOR NOTE FOLLOWING ISSUE OF AGENDA –**

**13(a) Vice Chair Perry** reported there is a residents request from the village community of Whittonstall to raise the question of applying to arrange purchase of land at Whittonstall to provide a car park due to the on-going dangerous traffic congestion situation. As indicated at the commencement of his meeting whilst WCG members were present, this major issue is unlikely to receive County Council support and as experience has shown on a number of occasions is most likely to be achieved by a “local community/commercial led partnership arrangement” - (Issues considered are like to be ‘drop and go’ – but it was felt this current review of the situation may have been ‘spearheaded’ by a previous ‘possible offer contained in the Marley Tile Site planning application’ which was rejected by NCC Stratigic Committee on 3/12/19 ) – a solution is unlikely in the short term.

**13(b) Current national coronaviris issue. –** It was agreed SLQPC would continue to review the UK Government guidelines & advice issued by NALC on the situation.

**THE MEETING WAS DECLARED CLOSED AT 20.45 HRS**

**THE NEXT SHOTLEY LOW QUARTER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR**

**Monday on 6th APRIL, 2020 at 7 p.m. AT ST.JOHN’S HALL, SNODS EDGE.**

**These Minutes signed as an accurate record of Shotley Low Quarter Parish Council**

**Meeting which took place at 7.p.m. on Monday 2nd MARCH, 2020**

Chairman’s signature…………………………………………Date…………………………………………..