

Blindcrake Parish Council

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Blindcrake Parish Council

held at 7.30 on November 21st 2011 in Blindcrake Village Hall

- 1) **Apologies for absence:** Jackie Jackson had written to resign from the Council as she was leaving the Parish. The meeting resolved to write to her to thank her for her input and wish her well in the future.
Present: 8 councillors, County and Borough Councillor E. Nicholson and 2 parishioners.
- 2) **The Chairman was authorised to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on September 12th as a true record of that meeting.**
- 3) **Members to declare any interests they may have in any item on the agenda**
A. Prickett declared an interest in item 7 of the agenda.
- 4) **Adjournment of meeting: The Chairman will adjourn the meeting to allow parishioners an opportunity to ask questions and raise matters of interest.**
Solway Communications were not able to attend.
It was noted that the bus shelter needed the ivy cleaning off. H. Brough offered to do this if others would help.
- 5) **Maintenance and Matters of Report**
 - a) Police Matters: There had been no crimes in the village but residents should keep a look out for any nocturnal activity and secure sheds and oil tanks.
 - b) Low Farm Updates: Still very little work going on. A meeting was scheduled for Dec 7th.
 - c) Highway Stewards: Matters for: Flooding in Sunderland – this had been dealt with.
Grit bins – they had finally arrived, CTP Review: This was the list of priorities set out after meetings in 2008. It was felt the main items were still on the A595, the Moota road layout, the junctions at the quarry and Redmain and the T junction to Sunderland. There was a large pot hole on the A595 near the quarry junction.
 - d) Drainage on the village green. This seemed to be doing well and will be kept under observation. Some clay pipes were still working but needed rodding.
 - e) Village green: Conservation kerbing – this will be carried out in the spring. JT
 - f) Local transport provision: There had been no interest in a taxi service.
 - g) Footpath group: R. Berry reported on a successful first meeting. The first priority was the back lanning leading west. It was hoped to use the community pay back scheme
 - h) Possible notice board at Isel Old Park: It was agreed to buy a board similar to those at Isel and Sunderland. It would be erected by councillors. GF
 - i) Broadband Survey: The draft survey was approved and would be distributed before Christmas. RB/JS
 - j) Co-operative bulk buying of oil. It was felt that the administration involved would be too great for the potential saving. JS
 - k) Village snow plough: Snow ploughs were available for purchase that could fit on the front of a tractor. However there was an issue over the use of “red diesel” for non agricultural purposes. This had been raised with the NFU GF
- 6) **Correspondence:** Items had been circulated.

7) **Planning Matters:** Richmond Cottage (Sunderland): The meeting approved the application unanimously.

9) **Financial Matters:**

- a) Current financial report (hard copy circulated)
- b) Budget Forecast 2012-13: This included a 5% increase in the precept. Proposed by H. Brough and Seconded by J. Thompson. Approved unanimously
- c) Payment for grass cutting (£400): Approved unanimously.
It was agreed to advertise the grass cutting for the next 3 years in the Binsey Beacon and on the notice boards.
- d) Allotment for a Limestone Quarry Charity: The external auditor had pointed out that the Council should not directly receive the proceeds of the charity, despite this happening for longer than anyone can remember. It was thus resolved to set up a further bank account; the “Limestone Quarry Charity” with the Cumberland Building Society, the signatories will be D. Roberts, J. Thompson & H. Brough. The £301 already received this year will be transferred to the new account. Approved unanimously

10) **Future agenda items and date of next meeting**

The Clerk had received a letter from the PCC saying that some dangerous trees in the churchyard needed to be cut down at a cost of £700 and could the Council assist? The Clerk had taken advice from CALC on this matter.

Dates of meetings in 2012:

Jan 16th, March 19th