

## **Blindcrake Parish Council**

### **The Minutes of the Meeting of the Blindcrake Parish Council held at 7.30 on November 21st 2016 in Blindcrake Village Hall**

1. **Apologies:** None
2. **The Chair was authorised to sign the Minutes of the September 2016 meeting as a true record of that meeting.**
3. **Members to declare any interests they may have in any item on the agenda:** UU Pipe Line – J. Marrs
4. **The Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow parishioners an opportunity to ask questions and raise matters of interest.** No matters raised.
5. **Maintenance and Matters of Report**
  - a) Police Matters: Apologies.
  - b) Highways Issues: CCC Highways had been asked for an update on local matters but had not replied. The Clerk would write again. The light opposite Blindcrake Hall was not working. The drainage issue caused by the broadband cable had not been repaired. The Sunderland sign at Isel Old Park had not been replaced.
  - c) Footpath group: No news.
  - d) Broadband: .Broadband to Sunderland, Isel and Old Park. Connecting Cumbria's remit is to provide superfast to as many premises as possible for the funding available, so small isolated communities will miss out. The other option for super fast is to set up a Community Fibre Partnership with BT and there is also a grant available (£350) towards the cost of an improved broadband service. The parish council have registered Sunderland with the CFP. We anticipate that we will have an indication of the level of funding shortfall by the end of Feb. 2017. We will then need to explore how we can make up this shortfall, this can include sorting out wayleaves, laying ducting and grants. We are continuing to explore ways of providing improve broadband speeds for Isel and Old Park.
  - e) The Green – Drainage: Nothing to report.
  - f) Lynwood (state of): We had been in contact with the agent, Stuart Woodhall, who had said there would be progress by the end of October but nothing appears to have happened.
  - g) Drainage issues at the east of Blindcrake: The Clerk had been in contact with the landowner who said the water went down a sink hole but since then some work appears to have been done to make the beck flow.
  - h) UU Pipeline: Andy Prickett reported on the NPA Planning Meeting. We had not received notification of the meeting but he was allowed to speak for 3 minutes. The owner of the Ghyll woods had not been consulted in any way about the pipeline going through his Ancient Woodlands. The Council agreed a list of conditions from a list provided by the NPA. There is concern about the amount of soil etc to be removed and the number of times the Ghyll road will be closed during the three year operation. Planning permission had been agreed which conditions of the planning approval needed further involvement from the parish council. Andy Prickett to circulate a draft email response to the LDNPA.
  - i) State of the Pound: It was hoped that the Children's Committee will weed the area and add more bark. They are looking for funding for play equipment
  - j) Parish Christmas tree: It was felt that there were too many problems with putting one up.
  - k) Ghyll Beck blocked at Meadow View: This had now been repaired by the land owner
  - l) Removal of phone boxes. The Clerk had written to Allerdale BC pointing out that we needed a landline contact due to the poor, or lack of mobile signal.
6. **Correspondence:** Had been sent via email.
7. **Planning Matters:** Holly Cottage, Sunderland – There were no issues with the improvements requested.

**8. Financial Matters:**

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|--------------------------------------|--|----------|
| a. Current financial position        | Approved   |          |
| b. Setting the precept for 2017-18   | It was agreed to increase this by 3% to allow extra funds for possible Broadband work. |          |
| c. Payment for grass cutting in 2016 | £720.00  | Approved |
| d. Payment for web hosting 2015-16   | £ 58.79  | Approved |
| e. Payment for External Audit        | £ 36.00  | Approved |

**m) Future agenda items and dates of future meetings**

January 23<sup>rd</sup>

Sue Buckwell noted that she had been in contact with the Environment Agency regarding two trees that had fallen into the Derwent up stream of Isel Bridge. This could cause a problem if they got caught in the bridge in times of flood. The EA were to deal with it.

It was also noted that there were dogs at Isel Old Park that were harassing cyclists and walkers. Councillors were to contact the owner.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_