

Minutes of the meeting of Tasset and Greystead Parish Council held at Lanehead Village Hall on Wednesday 24th January 2018 at 7.30pm

PART I

Those Present J Morrison-Bell, (Chairman), M Walton, S Walton, D McCracken, G Armstrong, R Ward, T Kathiravel

In Attendance C Miller (Clerk), K Hersey

2018/01 Apologies for Absence

G Liddle

2018/02 Declaration of Interests

J Morrison-Bell declared an interest in planning applications.

2018/03 Meeting with Duncan Wise and Hilary Norton to discuss Kielder Living Wild Project

Funding had been allocated to improve the interpretation of Greenhaugh. With an existing Bastle Trail, it would be something to complement this, such as diversity of wildlife/habitats, which would not require a large amount of maintenance and would provide a service of orienteering people to the centre of the village. If the Parish Council are still happy for the project to go ahead, design and production would be taken care of, but information would need to be gathered. With no funding for footpath repairs, it was suggested directional signage would be to existing footpaths and on a circular loop of not more than two miles. M Walton's original thought had been directing down the hall back road, past hay meadow to bottom of hall road and back round the road on existing footpath, and this route would take in a lot of diversity of habitat. It would need to be simple for people to know where they are going. Other suggestion to be through Sidwood and to layby at Cleughead which provides good viewing. K Hersey attempting to get County Council not to cut verges too early, with National Park suggesting putting up smaller signs for stretches worth preserving, and to remind persons who cut verges not to cut until later in the season. Signs would detail why they are protected, with County Council to finance. The Kielder Living Wild Project budget would cover one panel, and it was agreed to create a smaller group of K Hersey, S Walton and D McCracken to make progress and who would report back to the PC. Realistically, the board should be in place by end of Summer. With the Wildlife Trust being involved in water voles, D McCracken asked if voles were moving to the parish - Wildlife Trust waiting for them to naturally settle. The National Park view of introduction of lynx queried, however D Wise replied they had not been invited to comment.

2018/04 Minutes of the previous meeting held 20th December 2017

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record, all in agreement.

2018/05 Matters arising from the previous meeting held 20th December 2017

There were no matters arising.

2018/06 Public Participation

K Hersey wished to see an organised litter pick, and there are particular issues on Donkleywood Road, T Kathiravel stated dog fouling also prevalent in this area, and it was agreed a litter pick would be organised for Saturday 7th April – hi viz jackets and pickers available – to meet 10am at the Hollybush, followed by refreshments at the Hollybush.

2018/07 Highway Matters

Potholes becoming a problem, which had been exacerbated with the recent flooding.

2018/08 Financial Matters

2018/08/01 The most recent financial accounts were accepted as a true record

2018/08/02 The following invoices were authorised for payment: C Miller December Salary, £285.07 & January Expenses £22.72 (575), HMRC £28.87

2018/08/3 Future expenditure to involve maintenance of orchard.

2018/09 Correspondence received

- Northumberland County Council – parking consultation
- CPRE – newsletter

2018/10 Planning

2018/10/01 Planning applications received: 18NP0005, Ms Parker, The Library, Tasset - Change of use from single dwelling house to dwelling house with first floor self-contained holiday flat (retrospective) and retention of external staircase. Installation of timber cladding to front elevation of property. Creation of balcony area for proposed flat to northern end of property and installation of parapet wall to eastern side with glazed panels to north and west. It was agreed to object over the lack of parking provision associated with the application, with it being in proximity to occupied dwellings

2018/10/02 Approval of planning applications: None received.

2018/10/03 To receive update on appeal regarding planning approval conditions stipulated Burnbank Farm, five two storey detached dwellings

No update.

2018/11 Reintroduction of Lynx to Kielder

TAG had forwarded the following update on the proposed reintroduction of lynx to Kielder. "A recent update on the Lynx UK Trust website gives a very upbeat assessment of progress towards the granting of its licence for the pilot scheme. We are still in the process of verifying the claims made through independent sources. The update is worth reading. Amongst other things, they say there are 'thousands' of pages of documentation to support their application, presumably from work completed between the Tasset public meeting (when feasibility work was about to start) and the submission date a few months later. They also say that there is on-going consultation in the area. Prior to that update there has been little new in the last few months, apart from the flurry about sheep kills which coincided with the escaped lynx in Wales. Lynx UK Trust is still operating as a CIC; recently its directors were reduced to two, (Mr and Mrs O'Donoghue). Nothing more to date had been heard of the University of Cumbria personnel who separated from the Trust in the summer, citing disagreement over 'governance issues' in that they wished to run the work as a charity. Contacts over the Border confirm that no application has yet been made to Scottish Natural Heritage, which given that any decision to release will be a joint one between it and Natural England, seems somewhat strange. The second of TAG's occasional talks on subjects relevant to the lynx reintroduction application takes place on Wednesday January 31st, when Forestry Commission ecologist, Tom Dearnley, will talk about best practice in species reintroduction and the IUCN guidelines. The evening will include details of the current on-going research into the feasibility of reintroducing the pine marten to Kielder. The talk starts at 7.30 pm in Tasset Village Hall."

2018/12 Orchard

One quote received, to be discussed in private.

2018/13 Donkleywood Lane

Clerk had emailed County Council officer with no response, and further works had been carried out within the parish. The mess left lying around creates problems, Clerk to attempt to find out how often such works are to be carried out.

2018/14 Reports

Wark Sports Club had organised the mobile phone mast, and had been offered a yearly rent or a lump sum of £30,000 and had accepted the one off payment. Mast had been installed by a company called Shared Access, and it was agreed J Morrison-Bell would make contact.

2018/15 Healthcare Issues

Nothing to report.

2018/16 Urgent Business

There was no urgent business.

2018/17 **Date of Next Meeting** - Wednesday 21st March 2018 at 730pm.

PART II

It is expected that matters included in this part of the Agenda will be dealt with in private. Any Reports referred to are enclosed for members and officers only and marked "Not for Publication".

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC: The Committee is invited to consider passing the following resolution: That under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items on the Agenda as they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 3 and 5 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the 1972 Act.

1, Information relating to any individual.

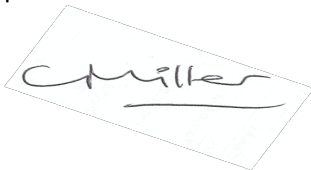
3, Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding the information)

5, Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

Cllr Morrison Bell proposed private session, Cllr McCracken seconded, all in agreement.

2018/18 **To receive/discuss quotes for Grasscutting at Orchard**

Two quotes had been requested, with one received. It was agreed to accept the quote for three total cuts annually, and path and circle to be cut once a month.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'C Miller', is enclosed within a thin, hand-drawn rectangular border. The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Claire Miller, Parish Clerk

The meeting closed at 830pm.