

Minutes from Meeting held on Monday, 27th November 2023
Headland Parish Council

Members Present: Shane Moore, Michael Jorgeson, Howard White, Ann Turner, Patricia Andrews, Andrew Hay, Samantha Lee, Julian Wenman, Ann Marie Waters, Martyn White, Amanda White, Michelle Ellett

Clerk: Michelle Ellett

1. Apologies: Graham Craddy & Robin Grant.

Shane Moore opened the meeting and informed members that Graham Craddy was unable to continue as Chair due to work commitments. Due to the absence of RG (Vice Chair), a new Chair needed to be appointed. Samantha Lee nominated herself and this was seconded. There being no objections, SL was appointed to Chair and proceeded to Chair the meeting.

2. Declaration of interest: None.

3. Minutes: It was noted that Community Skips was still being looked at, therefore, the Minutes from Monday, 30th October were approved subject to this amendment.

4. Finance Report: Report was circulated. There was a query regarding £4,000 being received from Hartlepool Carnival Committee and the invoice being paid to Reaction Fireworks of £4,800. SM confirmed that the £800 difference was VAT that is claimed back by the Parish Council.

5. Matters Arising:

5.1 Bins and Skips – MJ had contacted Garry Jones (HBC) regarding more bins around the town moor and it was looking to be around £500 per bin (to be supplied, fitted and maintained). In relation to skips, MJ was advised to contact the Fire Brigade or Thirteen Group regarding this. The big waste bins will be replaced in the Spring with one near the paddling pool Croft Gardens and a trial one at the light house corner. The seaweed was to be removed sometime over the next couple of weeks.

JW said that Thirteen Group were putting bins on the old hospital site so he could ask for 2 more free bins on behalf of the Parish Council.

SL suggested a clean-up day possibly taking place one weekend and it was suggested inviting someone from HBC to attend a meeting to discuss this. JW to look into the bulky waste service and MJ to continue to pursue bins and skips. An update to be given at the next meeting.

5.2 Update on Hanging Baskets – JW said there was a meeting scheduled for Friday (1st December) with Thirteen Group to discuss getting rid of waste and the issue of hanging baskets fits in with that.

5.3 Update on memorial options – HW said there was an option of having 1m cubed flower pots which flowers/plaques could be fixed to. He was awaiting prices and pictures of various options. An update to be given at next meeting.

6. Clerk's Report:

6.1 Update on Bank Signatories - Mandates had been submitted to update bank signatories.

6.2 Renewal of Scribe/Outsourcing of Payroll – Clerk suggested renewing Scribe to run the end of year reports and had contacted Scribe for training in the new year. Scribe does not have facility for running the payroll so Clerk was awaiting quotes on outsourcing the payroll. Clerk to update councillors once quotes had been received. Agreement was given for the renewal of Scribe.

6.3 Update of Councillor Contacts/Councillor Point of Contact for any questions – An updated list to be emailed to Councillors for checking/amending their details. The Chair/SM agreed to be point of contacts for clerk.

6.4 Register of Interest Outstanding Forms – Clerk had emailed the form to the 5 Councillors who had not completed it. The form is a legal document and must be completed.

7. Planning Applications: Details on the 3 planning applications had been emailed to Councillors. It was noted that Former Britmag Ltd (7.3) application was out of the Parish Council boundaries. There were no objections to the applications.

8. Update on Public Transport: MJ and RG attended a meeting in Central Library and the issue of transport links was being looked at. Various issues were being discussed. Hopefully, MJ and RG can keep developing this.

9. Update on Wintertide Festival: Feedback was very positive about the event and it was agreed that it is getting better every year. A lot of different accents were heard so people were coming out of town to attend the event which was good for the Headland.

At this point, Maxine Craig, volunteer of ERSG, was introduced to the meeting. She explained that the project aims to develop a large-scale public art campaign that will see the recreation of the 'Elephant Rock' off the north east coast of Hartlepool and the project will see further recognition of our Headland as a creative coastal environment. Discussion ensued with comments for and against the project. Maxine said there were a number of funders (including Joseph Rowntree Trust and Durham University) who had money to invest in developing closer communities and she was asking for permission to have those early conversations with funders. It would be the community that decides on the re-building of 'Elephant Rock' would be one small project in a big project but that it could create lots of opportunities for the Headland.

The Chair agreed to meet with Maxine outside of the meeting to look further into the this.

10. Update on planting of trees/wild flowers by Thirteen Group – JW said that birch/silver birch and cherry trees were being planted in the next few days on the former hospital site and it was hoped by March that it would start to look like a nice

place whereby families will be able to visit. It was hoped to renovate the St. Hilda's building. All this was being funded by Thirteen Group.

11. Armistice Parade: Again, it was agreed that it was a really good turnout. SM commented that it was good to see the younger generation attending and taking part. A member of the public commented that outside of the war memorial, it was very difficult to hear what was going on and whether this could be an improvement for next year. It was also noted that the gardener works so hard making the area good and wondered if he could be appreciated in some way. It was noted that he was employed by HBC and maybe a letter could be sent by HBC and a separate letter from the Parish Council to recognise that his work is really appreciated by the Parish Council. Chair/ME to sort.

12. Councillors Items for Future Agendas:

Joseph Rowntree Trust want to attend and speak about developing closer communities.

13. Ward Councillor Update: Brian Cowie was in attendance and informed that money had been allocated to St. Helen's School new build and there may be more information available at the next meeting.

14. Public Questions:

14.1 Information boards/model to remember Tea Gardens/Croft Gardens. Member of public to do some research on it. Possible Joseph Rowntree Trust funding?

14.2 Any update on Heritage status of Headland? SM to chase up.

14.3 More guest speakers to attend.

14.4 Any powers around traffic management especially when events on as impossible for emergency services to get through and traffic comes to a standstill. Feedback that to Bloomin Arts for next Wintertide Festival.

14.5 Any update on promenade? SM noted that once the Engineers Report had been completed, there will be information to share.

14.6 Chair thanked members of the public who attend and ask questions. Their attendance is appreciated.

15. Date of next meeting: Confirmed as Monday, 29th January 2024 at 6.45pm in Croft Room, Borough Buildings.

The meeting adjourned at 8.25 pm.