

Ellingham Community Trust

Minutes: 12th January 2015

Ellingham Village Hall

Present: Gustav MacLeod (in the Chair), Robert Stuart, Christopher Watson, George Unwin, Stanley Calvert.

Apologies for Absence: Heather Cairns.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from 6th November amended as per decision at December meeting. Draft minutes of December meeting (previously circulated) approved and signed.

Matters Arising: Future meetings to be held on the third Thursday of the month. SC gave apologies for February and March meetings as he will be on holiday.

Treasurer's Report: *Bank Balances:* Deposit a/c £; Current a/c £ (total £). *Payments made in previous month:* . Payments to be made through bank: Cheques in lieu of log allocation under Solid Fuel Scheme approx. £4,500; Speed monitor cameras approx. £10,000; balance of school boiler £ .

Solid Fuel Scheme & LED Update: Logs – All ordered logs delivered. Trustees have had positive feedback from many parishioners regarding the scheme. There are 588 surplus packs of fuel. CW proposed allocating 6 packs to each applicant (91 in total); RS seconded proposal and trustees voted unanimously to go ahead with this. Remainder will be kept for December 2015 scheme.

Decision: *6 additional packs of briquettes to be allocated/delivered to households that submitted an application.*

LEDs - CW to ensure that sufficient GU10 bulbs are ordered to replace those ordered by every household in the parish. There are 150 B22s left – one to be given to each household that originally ordered. One resident has had two sets of faulty GU10s - they will be offered 8 x B22s instead. CW noted that the supplier has recalled the batch of GU10s from which the Community Trust received original order. Normal failure rate is 1% so it is believed that the whole batch must have been faulty.

Decision: *one B22 light bulb to be given to each household that originally ordered.*

Publication of Minutes in Parish Magazine and on Website: Discussion held regarding extent of information contained in summarised version of minutes which are published in magazine. SC suggested including only what is resolved, not details of the discussion. All agreed that names of individuals and discussion element to be removed where possible and only decisions published. Full minutes to be published on website.

Decision: *Magazine - ensure that names are removed from summarised minutes and where possible only publish decisions. Website – publish full minutes.*

School Boiler: SC reported that he posted letter regarding amendments in school legal agreement to Messrs Samuel Philips by first class mail on 5.1.15. Added clause to cover situation should school become an Academy and one for school governors to acknowledge having already received £11,730 of the boiler fund, as well as suggestions on the wording. As yet no response from Samuel Philips.

CW noted that December minutes stated money must be returned to Trust if agreement not signed and returned by 15th January. All agreed that due to delay which is not the fault of the school they should be allowed until end of January to sign. GM will contact Mr A Creedy (Ethical Partnerships) and request that he urges Samuel Philips to produce amended agreement as soon as possible. Noted that so far the delays have cost the Trust in the region of £15,000.00.

Decision: *GM to contact school regarding time extension for signature of agreement.*

MINUTES

GM to contact A Creedy regarding solicitors and amendment of agreement.

Broadband Update: Green cabinets near Preston on road to Ellingham are now reported as being live. Meeting to take place with Cybermoor on 21.1.15 to ascertain what if anything could be installed in the area to improve broadband to all parts of the parish, and also to find out whether Ellingham may receive funding in the second phase of the Cybermoor project. Previous advice had been that fibre would/could be installed around Ellingham village with other options for elsewhere in the parish (this was the same as the BT offer). GU added that Cybermoor had also said that fibre from the A1 towards Wandylaw could be utilised to benefit Ellingham village but they would require a guaranteed 33% minimum uptake to proceed with this. BT had offered to install another cabinet in Ellingham behind Ellingham Hall but this would require funding by the Trust (circa £35,000) and only a very small area would benefit from this. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding pros and cons of Superfast Broadband and how many residents or businesses would require or use the very high speeds that may become available, and therefore how much funding the Community Trust would consider worthwhile in putting towards any scheme.

GM circulated a draft poster for the forthcoming meeting with Cybermoor. It was agreed that the final paragraph and name (GM) should be removed before this was displayed on noticeboards.

Decision: GM to amend poster and circulate to trustees for display on noticeboards.

Await outcome of Cybermoor meeting.

GM to confirm Village Hall booked for 21st January.

Applications: There were no applications to be considered. Expression of interest made by the Leek Club to fund entertainment at social/fundraising events in the parish – they will submit formal application. Subject to approval by landowners an application for tree planting in Ellingham village may be submitted.

Dates of next meetings: All agreed to change meetings to third Thursday in the month – clerk will book hall. Meeting with Cybermoor to be held on Wednesday 21st January 2015 (with Cybermoor).

Next monthly meeting - Thursday 19th February

Minutes prepared by: Elspeth Gilliland