

Ellingham Community Trust

Minutes: 8th November 2018

Ellingham Village Hall

Present: Heather Cairns, David Milne, Robert Stuart (in the Chair), George Unwin & Louis Fell.

Apologies for Absence: none

1. Approval of Minutes:

Draft minutes of 11th October 2018 approved. Proposed by Louis Fell and seconded by Robert Stuart.

2. Actions not dealt with under this agenda

3. Treasurer's Report

a. Treasurer's Reports

Louis Fell presented the Treasurers Report to the Trustees.

Treasury Account at £37, 085.60; Current Account £49,921.76; giving a total of £87,007.36. Payments out included £700.00 for seven Domestic Appliance Scheme applications, £299.09 for Insurance. Income is £2560.46 for RHI payments.

The trustees are aware that outstanding commitments remain for the Solid Fuel Scheme (approx. £30,000) and the two delayed projects (approx. £40,000) both of which are outside the influence of the trustees. This will give a total of approximately £20,000.

Trustees noted the current halting of the Wind Farm and confirmed that this does not affect payments to the Trust.

b. Annual Accounts

The Accounts were signed by Heather Cairns and Louis Fell.

4. Applications

a. Broadband – No update on the Application.

b. School – No update on the Application

c. Personal Development Grants. The two grants were discussed together. The application for Chris Hall was approved at £250. The application for Jack Hall was approved unanimously. The Trustees requested that the Clerk contact the applicant to offer the full grant amount of £400.

ACTION : Clerk to contact Jack Hall to offer the full grant.

d. Ellingham Village Hall. The Clerk reported on correspondence received regarding a potential application from Ellingham Village Hall and the lack of information received for this meeting. The Trustees confirmed that no information had been received and planned to look at any application in conjunction with a potential application from St Maurice's Church.

5. Update on Active Schemes

a. Domestic Appliance Scheme (DAS)

Seven DAS received in this period.

b. Solid Fuel Scheme

At the final count there were 71 applications for heat logs, 17 applications for hardwood, 7 applications for coal vouchers, 21 applications for £200 cash payments and 5 applications for £100 cash payments.

Louis Fell suggested that all of the payments should be raised to £200 to avoid Trustees having to challenge parishioners who may or may not have a solid fuel burner. The Trustees agreed to this principal. Louis Fell noted that Williamsons coal merchants have been paid and the vouchers are available to be claimed. 15 hard wood pallets have been delivered and two further hard wood pallets are expected. Louis Fell discussed the supply issues relating to the supply of heat logs. The new briquettes ordered are A5 size, and vacuum packed. There are 71 pallets of heat logs to deliver at a cost of £250 per pallet. The pallets will be collected and delivered to Chathill, Ellingham and Henhill Farms as usual. The cost of the scheme is £30,470 without the additional cost of the collection.

The Trustees noted that the number of applications was lower than last year at this point. The Trustees discussed the method of dissemination, and plan for the 2019 scheme to use a single sheet application form to be delivered alongside the Parish Magazine rather than inside it. The Clerk confirmed that the wrong form had been posted on the website. The Trustees discussed the wider impact of the scheme and agreed that it was a benefit to parishioners. The trustees discussed the unique nature of the scheme in relation to other wind farm schemes.

ACTION : Clerk to email those parishioners applying for Coal explaining the voucher process.

ACTION : Clerk to email those parishioner applying for heat logs confirming delivery in early December

c. Personal Development Grant application

Two applications in this period.

6. Any of Competent Business

Heather Cairns noted receipt of a letter from Eileen Duncan thanking the Trust for the grant for the Gentle Exercise class.

Heather Cairns noted that Northumberland County Council are looking at the Thursday bus. Concern was expressed about the potential lack of this bus service. Heather Cairns discussed the option of some form of voucher system for subsidised travel should the bus service be removed. Trustees agreed to encourage parishioners to make use of the bus service.

Heather Cairns and David Milne noted that Neighbourhood Plan committee receives a grant for their work, but that expenses may be more than the grant received.

The Trustees discussed the provision of the Ellingham Community Trust website in the light of the repeated failure to post the solid fuel form two years in a row. The Clerk referred to a paper submitted to the Trust in 2017 to take the running of the website inhouse. The Trustees asked the Clerk to progress this.

ACTION : Clerk to bring the running of the website in house.

7. Dates of the Next Meetings

Thursday 6th December 2018, 7pm in Ellingham Village Hall.

Thursday 10th January 2019, 7pm in Ellingham Village Hall.

MINUTES

Thursday 14th February 2019, 7pm in Ellingham Village Hall.

Thursday 14th March 2019, 7pm in Ellingham Village Hall.

Thursday 11th April 2019, 7pm in Ellingham Village Hall.

Thursday 9th May 2019, 7pm in Ellingham Village Hall.

Thursday 13th June 2019, 7pm in Ellingham Village Hall.

Thursday 11th July 2019, 7pm in Ellingham Village Hall.

Thursday 8th August 2019, 7pm in Ellingham Village Hall.

Thursday 12th September 2019, 7pm in Ellingham Village Hall.

Thursday 10th October 2019, AGM 7pm in Ellingham Village Hall with ordinary meeting following.

Thursday 14th November 2019, 7pm in Ellingham Village Hall.

Thursday 12th December 2019, 7pm in Ellingham Village Hall.

Minutes prepared by: Virginia Mayes-Wright