

Ellingham Community Trust

Minutes: 17th August 2017

Ellingham Village Hall

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

Apologies for Absence: none

1. Approval of Minutes: Draft minutes of 20th July 2017 (previously circulated) approved and signed.

2. Matters Arising:

All matters arising are to be covered under the items of the agenda.

3. Treasurer's Report & Windfarm Payment:

Treasury Account at £33,823.65; Current Account £49,454.56; giving a Total £83278.21. Wind Farm £41,325.81 payment has been received. Louis reported that between £16-£20k needs to be allocated for Solid Fuel Scheme and £5k should be allocated for the Domestic Appliance Scheme.

Following queries from the last meeting, Louis confirmed that the Hall is paid for directly; the Clerk has been provided with a new invoice contact and has invoiced. Louis confirmed that he was registered with Unity Trust. Louis is working with the Accountant on the End of Year Accounts. Louis reported that he will have draft accounts by the next meeting.

The Wind Farm requested further information about the Trust. Louis extended an invite to a future meeting, and requested the Clerk to send minutes in future.

ACTION : Clerk to send the minutes on to the Wind Farm contact in future.

4. Update on Active Schemes

Domestic Appliance Scheme: One payment has been made for the Domestic Appliance Scheme has been made. The Trustees remarked on the continuing popularity of the scheme.

Solid Fuel Scheme. Louis reported that he had emailed Verdo and a number of other companies to try to get a better deal for the Solid Fuel Scheme. Options include giving each household a full pallet (£250) making it more than the cash payment of £100 removing the difficulty of splitting the pallets. The Trustees noted that several more households have requested the cash instead of the logs. Louis suggested a three tier scheme; option one being a pallet of solid fuel; option two being cash equivalent for people with no fire; option three being a reduced cash payment for people who want cash but have a log burner.

ACTION : Louis to bring prices and options to the next meeting in preparation to launch the scheme and deliver from October 2017.

Bob noted that the remaining full pallet at Tynely has been split giving Chris his logs; and a full pallet remains at Chathill Farm. Bob suggested that the remaining half a pallet at Tynely is gifted to the new farmer at Tynely as a goodwill gesture thanking him for his considerable help with the 2016 deliveries. The Trustees agreed this. The remaining pallet at Chathill Farm will be distributed.

5. New Trustees

Heather noted that she will invite the next person on the list as agreed in at the previous meeting. Heather suggested that other people are invited to apply to join as Trustees at the next AGM. Potential Trustees will be asked to apply by letter or email to the Clerk detailing why they want to apply and what they can

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bring to the Trust. Trustees discussed the postponement of the AGM and agreed to reschedule to October 2017 rather than Spring 2018. The Trustees approved the AGM for the 12th October 2017. Louis reminded the Trustees that new Trustees will need to be registered with the Charities Commission & Companies House.

ACTION : Clerk to arrange AGM on 12th October 2017 & put notice into the Parish Magazine.

ACTION : Clerk to create poster for AGM on 12th October 2017 and distribute into village noticeboards including information about Trustee recruitment.

ACTION : Bob to book Ellingham Village Hall for 12th October 2017

6. AOB

Website : The Clerk noted that changes had been made to the website as requested. The Trustees approved the changes with a caveat about the Solid Fuel Application Form. The Clerk noted a request has been received to add the Neighbourhood Plan onto the Ellingham Community Trust website. Trustees instructed the Clerk to put Ray Cooper in touch with Bill Grisdale in order to attach the Neighbourhood Plan.

ACTION : Clerk to instruct that the Solid Fuel Scheme form is removed from come off but add a statement about the scheme being relaunched later in the year.

ACTION : Clerk to arrange new tab on website for Neighbourhood Plan

ACTION : Clerk to put Ray Cooper in touch with Bill Grisdale in order to attach the Neighbourhood Plan

Broadband : Heather reported back from THE Parish Council's discussion of the issue of Broadband for Ellingham area. A parish champion has been appointed for broadband. He will investigate fibre to the premise for the whole parish.

ACTION : Heather to provide an update at the next meeting.

Date of next meetings:

It was noted that the North Northumberland Local Area Council now meets on the third Thursday of the month. The Trustees agreed to move the Ellingham Community Trust meeting to the second Thursday of the month.

ACTION : Bob to inform the Village Hall Committee.

Dates : 14th September 2017, 7pm in Ellingham Village Hall; AGM 12th October 2017, 7pm in Ellingham Village Hall with an ordinary meeting following.

Minutes prepared by: Virginia Mayes-Wright