

Present – Alec Gordon            National Trust – Lincolnshire.  
              Michael Coney        Belton Village representative.  
              Tony Hopwell            Belton Parish Councillor

## Meeting Minutes

Tony Hopwell and Michael Coney welcomed Alec back to Belton after his extended time away as Operations Director at the NT Birmingham office. Alec said he was glad to be back.

**Action**

### 1. Acceptance of Previous Minutes – 23rd February 2015

1.1 The minutes were gone through as below as Alec had not been at the last meeting.

### 2. Matters Arising.

#### 2.1 Parking at the Old School.

Alec said the plans to improve the roadway into and through the Wood Yard by tarmac the roadway and applying a spray tar and chipping surface finish had been confirmed to just cover the roadway into the Wood Yard. Tenders were coming in and work would take place in due course.

AG

On the parking area immediately to the left inside the entrance it was agreed that it was in place although there was some rubbish and a tree behind the parking area.

Michael Coney said that it would be good to have a tarmac road spur to the left as one entered, to service these parking bays to the left. Alec agreed in principle and would consider doing this.

A.G

There would not be a sign to the Wood Yard parking, to the left of the entrance as a resident and specifically asked there not to be.

Alec said that some rogue fly tipping in the Wood Yard was still occurring. Anyone witnessing this should report.

NT/Villagers

Generally, street parking at the Old School was generally much improved. This would be monitored

#### 2.2 Parking in Main Street.

Alec agreed that the Trust would cone the Main Street for expected major visitor days. They had not done so this Bank Holiday as it seemed pointless with reduced visitor numbers in the bad weather.

Michael said that currently there appeared to be no real problem although the reasons why were not apparent. Alec asked if the Church congregation were parking in the Wood yard as he had allowed. Michael said, no not in general. Villagers generally walked to Church and those parking were generally those who had some difficulty walking and wished to be as near the Church as possible but he thanked Alec for the Wood yard parking concession.

#### 2.3 Belton Crime Incidents - NHW.

Nothing to report from the Village although burglaries were being regularly reported around the area plus thefts of Church roof lead.

Tony had obtained approval from all Belton Village NHW members for the Village residents list of names, addresses and phone numbers to be supplied to the NT and into the public domain generally. Tony asked if the National Trust would like a copy since Ian Grafton had said they didn't want it. Alec said the NT would appreciate a copy to keep the NHW members abreast of relevant Trust activities. Tony said that Trust residents would receive a copy anyway as he was now supplying to all Village residents and he would send one to Debra for the NT.

T.H

#### **2.4 Road Flooding Opposite the Community Orchard.**

Tony said this was an inefficiency contest between the NT and LCC Highways with easements for the drain passage across the community orchard being sequentially submitted and rejected. Alec reminded Tony that negotiations involving easements and wayleaves are always protracted and expensive. He added that the latest Trust amendments had been submitted and not yet returned by LCC Highways. The Trust had a meeting with LCC Highways on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September to hopefully progress matters. This matter was outstanding with LCC Highways since 2012.

NT

#### **2.5 Directions to the Church for Church Visitors.**

Tony reiterated the previous minute re the apparent misunderstanding on this and referred to several back minutes (Mins19 min 3.1 Nov 2013 and Mins20 min 2.5 March 2014).

The NT had provided a very nice sign on the Church gates for which they were thanked but the minutes referred to, made it clear that what was requested was a direction sign of the style of the Old School Car Park, mounted at the start of the footpath to the Church. Alec said he would address this long standing issue.

A.G

#### **2.6 Lane Surface – Washdyke Lane.**

Tony revisited this minute - that the remedial work following the contractor traffic refurbishing Appletree Cottage had not reinstated the lane to the original standard. Alec said he would look at this.

A.G

#### **2.7 Reactive Speed Signs – Main Street.**

The sign was now back in Belton, was operating effectively and was reported as reducing traffic speed. There needed to be a hand back from the Manthorpe PC operating member and Michael was expecting to take over the Belton operation and downloading of traffic data. Alec expressed disappointment at the placing of the Day-Glo yellow surround to the sign in the conservation village. Tony said it was not permanent and would be moved to two other locations in Belton and also to Manthorpe and was a standard sign as deployed.

#### **2.8 Bonfires affecting Belton Village.**

Generally reasonable but the NT seemed to be back with bonfires at the Lake and the Wood yard. Alec said the NT would continue to burn waste that couldn't otherwise be disposed of, for example, horse chestnut leaves because of their diseased nature. Tony said that was accepted but consideration of the wind direction should be taken to avoid totally shrouding Belton Village residents in thick smoke.

A.G

#### **2.9 NT Planting of Hedge along East side of Five Gates Lane.**

Item 3.5 Minutes 23 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 15 and Minute 2.9 Minutes 24 15<sup>th</sup> June 15 refer – Ian Grafton.

Michael and Tony asked for a follow up on this.

A.G

#### **2.10 New Adventure Playground – Progress of Work.**

Power supply to the Cafe/Toilet block still awaiting agreement between Western Power and Belton Woods Hotel but agreement was expected within 3 wks.

Regarding the rework of the Tower and aerial walkways there has to be a “sign off” on the engineers modifications proposed. Work should then take 3wks and should be finished before half term.

A.G

Tony said that the tall slide had been the best item in the whole playground and many people had bemoaned its removal. Alec said that, in order to meet modern safety standards it had had to have the slide sides extended upwards with wooden panels to prevent children falling over the sides, it had deteriorated and had no longer been fit

for purpose. Alec said he would consider a new tall slide in the next review in 2 – 3yrs time.

A.G

**2.10 Belton Adventure Playground – Complaints – Waterloo Cottages**

Alec was dealing directly with the landlord of Waterloo Cottages on those issues.

A.G

**2.11 Church Service- St Peter & St Paul Church – Belton - 9th August 2015.**

Michael said this had gone well but there had been no NT visitors attending. Some NT staff had attended and Catherine Grainger had done a very good interview. Generally Michael was happy with the event and would consider another at some future time.

M.C

**3. Date and Time of Next Meeting.**

This was set as Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2015 at 14.00hrs in the NT Managers Office..

The meeting concluded at 3.14 p.m.

A. Hopwell - 5th September 2015

Ref: Belton house liaison/villagemins25.doc

Note: - Any resident wishing to have any item raised, please contact A.Hopwell or M.Coney on 578122 or 593952 respectively. These minutes are also available on the Parish Council Web Site <http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/beltonandmanthorpe>