

Present – Alec Gordon      National Trust - General Manager - Lincolnshire.  
Michael Coney      Belton Village representative.  
Tony Hopwell      Belton Village representative.

## Meeting Minutes

### Action

### 1. Acceptance of Previous Minutes – 15th March 2016.

1.1 The previous minutes were accepted unanimously.

### 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 tarmacing the roadway and applying a spray tar and chipping surface finish were to be completed this year. The work on the roads in the main Belton House car park was largely finished but a few issues still needed to be resolved. The possible road spur to the left, inside the wood yard entrance would still be considered when the time came and depended on funds being available.

AG

#### 2.2 Parking in Main Street.

This was generally not a problem at the moment. The Village did not mind a few cars parked up Main Street from the Forge to the Alms Houses as this slowed the traffic. Tony Hopwell said that the deployment of traffic cones by the National Trust, from before the Forge and up to the Alms Houses, on popular visitor days such as Bank Holidays had improved the parking immensely and was greatly appreciated. Tony said however that although he had not been in Belton on the last Bank Holiday it had been reported that the cones had not come much beyond the Forge and there had consequently been significant parking in Main Street which caused some problem. Alec said that the cones had been deployed from the A607 main road to just beyond the Forge, presumably to maintain the traffic flow there. He would address the issue of providing more cones up Main Street to the Alms Houses for the future.

AG

#### 2.3 Belton Crime Incidents - NHW.

Nothing to report since the last meeting.

#### 2.4 Directions to the Church for Church Visitors.

The new direction sign to the Church was now in place. Alec asked if it was having an effect. Michael said that it was very difficult to judge.

#### 2.5 Lane Surface – Washdyke Lane.

Alec said the additional gravel had not yet been put down but this would be done.

AG

#### 2.6 Reactive Speed Signs – Main Street.

This sign is now being alternated between Manthorpe and Belton by the Parish Council.

B&M PC

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

Alec said that the new Outdoor Manager, Claire Barrett, responsible for Park and Gardens had not had time to investigate this matter to consider any action. The matter was thus on-going.

AG

#### 2.8 New Adventure Playground – Progress of Work.

The playground work was finished apart from attention to the surface of the paths which was planned for later in the year in order that they were not so affected by frost.

AG

Alec said that in the latest survey for the first three months of this year Belton had the highest visitor enjoyment rating of all National Trust properties in the Midlands.

#### 2.9 Belton Horse Trials: Traffic/Parking Restrictions in Belton Main Street.

Tony said that Bede Events had successfully deployed traffic cones in Belton and prevented parking congestion. The event seemed to have gone well apart from the weather. Alec commented that all the horse boxes had had to be towed off the site at the finish and the wet ground had cut up badly.

#### 2.10 Belton House – Parking - Roads Refurbishments – update.

Alec said that the roads refurbishment was effectively finished but there were a couple of standing water areas over clay which had to be addressed and some reseeding had failed to grow and would need remedial action.

AG

#### 2.11 NT Pre-season/Autumn Meeting.

Tony said that some villagers had attended the pre-season meeting at the Old School Village Hall and found it interesting and informative. Alec said that Villagers were invited to the autumn meeting of which there would be four due to numbers. Villagers were welcome to attend either the 8<sup>th</sup> Oct am, 9<sup>th</sup> Oct pm, all day 14<sup>th</sup> Oct or all day 16<sup>th</sup> Oct. Villagers should advise attendance to Deborah Thomas at the office which date they wished to attend. E-mail [deborah.thomas@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:deborah.thomas@nationaltrust.org.uk)

#### 2.12 Old School Village Hall.

Alec said that the order was out to install blinds to avoid sun dazzle and more acoustic panels. The work was awaited.

AG

#### 2.13 Church Tower Repairs.

Michael advised that the PCC were working to obtain grants for the replacement of heavily eroded stone on all faces of the Church tower. Michael said that charity funding was proving hard

to obtain. Land fill grants had been suspended probably due to the the level of applications. Other charities were earning virtually nothing on their assets due to the current low interest environment and were consequently awarding small amounts. It appeared that an approach will have to be made to the Heritage Lottery Fund. The application process is onerous and two applications have been rejected from Belton in the past.

MC/TH

### **3. AOB.**

#### **3.1 Village Hall Defibrillator.**

Michael said that the National Trust now had this installed. The National Trust had provided training on heart resuscitation using the defibrillator for some staff, volunteers and villagers. Villagers, Michael Coney, Tony Hopwell, Howard Pell and Rose Pell had attended. Michael suggested the Village should be made fully aware of this installation and contact details for those trained. This was agreed, with Michael to produce a small card with details and Michael and Tony to distribute to the Village.

MC/TH

#### **4. Date and Time of Next Meeting.**

This was set as Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 14.00hrs in the NT Managers Office.

The meeting concluded at 16.40 hrs.

A. Hopwell – 7th July 2016

Ref: Belton house liaison/villagemins28.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>