



Action Notes

Date: Tuesday, 7 August 2018

Meeting type: Meeting to re-activate the National Trust/
Belton Village Liaison Meeting with new NT General Manager and
to promote NT/Belton relations

Location: General Manager's Office

Start time: 5.30 pm

End time: 6.30 pm

<p>Attendees and their role at the meeting:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ian Cooper, National Trust - General Manager (IC) 2. Note Taker: Deborah Thomas, Business Support Co-ordinator (DT) 3. Simon Syddall, Deputy Chairman, Belton Parish Council (SS) 4. Colin Thornton – Parish Councillor, Belton Parish Council (CT) 5. Tony Hopwell, Belton Villager (TH) 	
<p>Item No.</p>	<p>Item/Matters arising</p>	<p>Action for</p>
<p>1. 1.1</p>	<p><u>Re-activation of the Belton Village Liaison Meeting</u> Tony Hopwell advised the purpose of the meeting was to reinstate the Belton Village Liaison Meeting since the previous General Manager, Alec Gordon's retirement and to make contact with the new General Manager, Ian Cooper. He reported that the notes of the Belton Village Liaison Meeting are shared with the Belton Parish Council.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>2. 2.1 2.1.1</p>	<p><u>Matters for discussion</u> <u>Previous arrangements/concessions with Belton Village</u> <i>Complimentary access for Belton Villagers to Belton park, gardens and house:</i> Tony Hopwell advised that the previous arrangement with the National Trust was that Belton residents (not including visiting children) were allowed free admission to Belton House and grounds, provided they had proof of residency (i.e. Council tax bill etc.). Proof of residency was to be shown at the Belton House Gift Shop or the Visitor Reception building on arrival. Actions arising: The General Manager agreed that this arrangement could continue. Tony Hopwell agreed to provide an updated copy of the Resident list for the National Trust of all residents in the village who were eligible.</p>	<p>Agreed TH</p>

Item No.	Item/Matters arising	Action for
2.1.2	<p><i>Complimentary access to the Church for non NT for persons wishing to visit the Church for family of research reasons:</i></p> <p>Tony Hopwell advised there had previously been an arrangement between the National Trust and the Church for access to the church. He advised that this access is generally not requested more than once or twice a year.</p> <p>Actions arising: The General Manager advised that this arrangement could continue.</p>	Agreed.
2.1.3	<p><i>“No Parking” cones along Belton Main Street on Bank Holidays at busy periods or for events:</i></p> <p>Tony Hopwell advised that in the past the National Trust had put cones out during Bank Holidays, so as not to disrupt the flow of traffic through the village at peak times. He reported that the cones were not put out in the village during the previous Bank Holiday and he had concerns that another bank holiday was approaching.</p> <p>Actions arising: The General Manager advised that he would share the notes of the Belton Liaison Meeting with the Belton Senior Management Team to ensure that the cones were put out during future Bank Holidays.</p>	IC/SMT
2.1.4	<p><i>Sign “To the Church” to be maintained at the start of the path up to the Church:</i></p> <p>Tony Hopwell reported that the Church sign had been reinstated and was working very well, improving takings to the Church and offered his thanks for returning the sign to its position.</p>	Noted
2.2	<p><u>Inclusion of NT Belton House residents/staff in Belton Village Neighbourhood Watch listing and inclusion with crime notifications etc.</u></p> <p>2.2.1 Tony Hopwell explained that as part of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme he compiled a list of residents which he regularly updates and circulates to Belton residents. In line with GPDR legislation he had contacted the residents to obtain their consent for GPDR purposes to be added to this list. He asked if Catherine Granger, Jonathan Wilkinson and Lucy Chard, members of the Mansion Team who lived on site at Belton House, would like to be added to this list. He said the list helped encourage cohesion and community within the village of Belton and helped reduce crime.</p> <p>2.2.2 The General Manager advised Catherine, Jonathan and Lucy may be contacted via the National Trust email address to see if they would like to be added to this listing which was only used for the purpose of contact within Belton Village and Belton House.</p>	

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	<p>Actions arising: Tony Hopwell to email Catherine, Lucy and Jonathan at their National Trust email address to see if they would like to be added to the Belton Residential Listing.</p>	TH
2.3 2.3.1	<p><u>Second line of hedging along Five Gates Lane from Barkston Heath Lane</u> Tony Hopwell reported that the fence is 5ft back from the edge of the road and the hedge is currently behind the fence and not ideal. He understood the hedge should be in front. He believed that the previous General Manager (Alec Gordon) had passed responsibility to Claire Barrett, Outdoors Manager.</p>	
	<p>Actions arising: General Manager to speak with Facilities and Operational Support Manager to obtain update and move forward to resolve.</p>	IC
2.4	<p><u>Unsafe wall between Churchyard and Italian Garden – repair plans by NT</u> Tony Hopwell advised there were concerns about an unsafe wall and asked for an update.</p>	
	<p>Actions arising: The General Manager advised that the National Trust Building Surveyor was looking into this, and this work would be factored into a programme of works. Tony Hopwell asked if the Church could be kept informed of progress with this.</p>	IC
2.5	<p><u>Plans for future use of No.1 Main Street and The Forge</u></p>	
2.5.1	<p>Tony Hopwell asked what the National Trust’s plans were for the future use of No. 1 Main Street and the Forge. The premises had been used for long term rental in the past and the village’s preference would be for the premises to be used as long term rentals in the future.</p>	Noted
2.5.2	<p>The General Manager advised that the National Trust were currently carrying out a feasibility study on No.1 Main Street as the Trust needed to generate maximum income as there had been a lot of money spent on updating and repairing the property. He advised that many National Trust properties are now looking at Holiday Cottage let to generate income. The General Manager advised all present at the meeting that the Trust was looking to let The Forge as a standard rental property. However, the Blacksmith option was still being reviewed. Tony Hopwell advised that there had been noise generated from the property when it had been used as a Blacksmith’s premises in the past.</p>	Noted

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2.6 2.6.1 2.6.2	<p><u>Biomass Boiler Project – NT Woodyard</u></p> <p>Whilst appreciating that this matter was to be discussed at the 7pm meeting, Tony Hopwell wished to record that it was felt there had been a failure on the National Trust Belton House to keep the Belton village informed via the Belton Village Liaison Meeting on the Biomass project.</p> <p>Tony Hopwell informed the General Manager and those present at the meeting that the last Belton Village Liaison Meeting was held during August 2017 by the previous General Manager.</p>	Noted
2.7 2.7.1 2.7.2 2.7.3	<p><u>Old School Village Hall, Belton</u></p> <p><i>Refurbishment plans:</i></p> <p>Tony Hopwell asked what was happening as part of the Old School refurbishment plans. Deborah Thomas gave a brief update advising that the work that is being undertaken is part of the 5 yearly improvement work scheduled by the National Trust Building Surveyor. The work planned for the building included, opening up the fireplace in the Meeting Room, repainting of the building and repairs/improvements to the Main Hall wooden floor. Tony Hopwell asked if the floor would be varnished as part of this repair. Deborah Thomas advised she would feed back on this.</p> <p><i>Short notice bookings cancellations:</i></p> <p>Tony Hopwell advised that the lady who held regular Yoga classes at the Village Hall had in the past had classes cancelled at short-notice.</p> <p>Actions arising:</p> <p>To contact hirer and obtain customer feedback.</p> <p><i>Noise insulation of Meeting Room from Main Hall</i></p> <p>Tony Hopwell advised that noise transferred easily from the Main Hall to the Meeting Room and asked about soundproofing. The photographs of the buildings in the Belton Village in the Main Hall were acoustic panels which should absorb echo and noise but it was noted that when both rooms were hired noise could be heard from the Meeting Room to Main Hall and vice versa.</p>	DT IC/DT
2.8 2.8.1	<p><u>Notification to Belton Villagers of NT Belton House events</u></p> <p>Tony Hopwell advised that in the past communication of Belton House events and events at the Old School Village Hall had been good. However, he advised that the recent Biomass letter that had been circulated around the village had not been delivered to all in the village. There was discussion on how this could be resolved. It was agreed that the best way to achieve maximum communication in the village would be using the village email addresses.</p>	

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	<p>It was noted that there were only a few of the elderly residents who were not on the email, and they could have a leaflet drop.</p> <p>Actions arising: Tony Hopwell to email Deborah Thomas with updated email list for the village for NT use.</p>	TH
2.9 2.9.1	<p><u>Noise consideration for Belton Villagers with NT event planning e.g. Sept Open Air Cinema</u></p> <p>Tony Hopwell advised that when Belton had held the Spitfire Prom in the past the speakers were located in front of the house so that there was minimal noise disturbance to the village. However since the arrival of the Open Air Cinema to Belton House the village had noticed considerable noise increase. The noise was believed to be generated by the new location of the speakers. It was noted that the village did not receive as much noise nuisance when Bede are on site at Belton House for the Horse Trials.</p> <p>Actions arising: General Manager to review.</p>	IC
3. 3.1	<p><u>Any other business</u></p> <p><i>Constitution of the Belton Liaison Meeting:</i> It was agreed that two members from the Parish Council, the National Trust General Manager would attend future meetings. Deborah Thomas would be present at the meetings to take notes of the meetings going forward. Tony Hopwell advised that his attendance at the meetings was in a hand over capacity and he would be standing down from the Parish Council in a few months.</p> <p>The General Manager advised he was conscious there was big change, as the previous General Manager had been located in Belton Village. He informed the meeting that he would attend village events where possible.</p>	Noted
4. 4.1	<p><u>Date and time of next meeting</u></p> <p>It was agreed that the Belton Liaison Meetings be held close in date to the quarterly Parish Council meetings. The next meeting of the Parish Council was scheduled for 22nd November.</p> <p>Actions arising: All present at the meeting agreed that the next date for the Belton Village Liaison Meeting would be Monday, 19th November 2018 at 5.30 pm. Tony Hopwell and Simon Syddall would be attending the next meeting to represent the Parish Council.</p> <p>It was agreed that Tony Hopwell would prepare the Agenda. Meeting closed at 6.30 pm.</p>	Noted TH

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 – 8th November 2016.

1.1 The previous minutes were accepted with amendment to 2.4 NT hedge planting see below.

2. Matters Arising.

2.1 Parking at the Old School.

All work now completed.

2.2 Parking in Main Street.

Alec confirmed that the main part of Main Street would be coned at busy periods. This included the upcoming August Bank Holiday.

AG

2.3 Belton Crime Incidents - NHW.

Only one recent incident: - the break in to a shed at Bridgewater House with theft of contents.

2.4 NT Planting of Hedge along East side of Five Gates Lane.

Alec said that this would be done in the winter 2017/18 not August 17, on the left hand side, from the junction with Barkston Heath Lane up to the spinney.

AG

2.5 New Adventure Playground – Progress of Work.

Work on laying of a tarmac pebble and rubber frost resistant surface in the high volume usage area had been completed.

2.6 Old School Village Hall.

Further blinds had been installed. Further acoustic panels were a low priority for later installation.

AG

2.7 Church Tower Repairs.

Michael said the application to the National Heritage Lottery Fund had been rejected. Discussion with NHLF Nottingham office had suggested that an application under a different category might be better received. A new application had been prepared with greater scope, as suggested, fully covering items in the 2016 quinquennial survey. Application is pending.

MC/TH

The application for repair of the main Church gates and associated War Memorial is still in process with NHLF.

2.8 Larkfleet/Allison Homes Planning Application for 480 Homes at Manthorpe.

Larkfleet had appealed against the Council rejection of their planning application. Alec said the NT would support the Planers in opposing the appeal and had written setting out the objections to the proposal. All interested parties should once again object to the proposal at the appropriate time.

Villagers

2.9 Progress of the National Trust Estate Manager Organisation.

Alec said the Trust had now appointed Rachel Walker as the Estate Manager covering Lincolnshire and other Midlands areas. Rachel would be the contact for Towthorpe Farm matters.

NT

2.10 Belton Horse Trials.

Tony said that the 2017 trial seemed to go very well and village traffic arrangements had been excellent. The 2018 event was provisionally planned for 13th – 15th April.

3. New Items.

3.1 Western Power Works and Traffic Effects.

This was discussed and that WP were well behind schedule. The main works might be finished by 14th but it was thought that there was still work to do on the transformer at the bottom of Washdyke Lane.

3.2 New NT Tennant Details.

Tony had obtained these and would publish an updated resident's contact list shortly.

TH

3.3 Update on Village Concessionary Access to Belton House and Grounds.

Alec confirmed present arrangements apart from the main gate now opening at 6am and closing at 7pm.

TH

3.4 Availability of the Stables Restaurant for the Belton Christmas Lunch.

Alec said the work on the Stables may not start this year but if it did the 12 month work period would be covered by a restaurant in a Marquee at the front of the House.

4. Date and Time of Next Meeting.

This was set as Monday 13th Nov 2017 at 14.00hrs in the NT Managers Office.

The meeting concluded at 14.52 hrs.

A. Hopwell – 9th August 2017

Ref: Belton house liaison/villagemins31.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>