

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

## Meeting Minutes

### Action

### 1. Acceptance of Previous Minutes – 21st December 2015.

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 had been deferred pending completion of the work to the roads in the Main Belton House car park. 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.

Parking had increased slightly, perhaps as a result of the road works opposite the community orchard and on the Main House car park roads. Monitor over the summer season.

All

#### 2.3 Belton Crime Incidents - NHW.

Nothing to report since the last meeting.

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

The required remedial drainage work from 2012 had at last been carried out by LCC Highways who had installed two new drains in the area of flooding adjacent to Belton House wall, improved some existing drain surrounds and cleared all existing drain covers of debris and mud. It is hoped that these improvements will cure flooding problems. Improvement to be confirmed after heavy rain.

All

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

Alec exhibited the notice to be installed near the hedge on the right, at the start of the entrance path from the House grounds up to the Church entrance gate. This was approved by the villagers. The notice to be installed within the next 4-5 wks.

AG

#### 2.6 Lane Surface – Washdyke Lane.

Alec confirmed that he had talked to some of the lane residents on this matter and had agreed to put down some additional gravel as a one off, on this occasion. This should be done within the next few months.

AG

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

This had been in Manthorpe for some time but would be moved back for use in Belton in due course. Alec said that, in driving through Manthorpe the sign had not been working. Tony said that it had been that morning when he drove through. Michael advised that the sign only displayed the speed near to the road speed limit and above but the sign did actually record all speeds on its software. He suggested that it might be interesting when the sign was next in Belton to employ it towards the A607 slip road from Chandlers, first with the speed displaying and later with the display turned off in order to try to assess the effectiveness of the visual speed display.

MC

#### 2.8 Bonfires affecting Belton Village.

Nothing to report.

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

Alec said that he had had a look at this area and did not like the idea of such a hedge giving the appearance of a narrow enclosed road. Michael and Tony said that the NT (Robert Lievers they thought) had said that a hedge would be planted on the line of the old NT fence which had reached the end of its life, close to the road edge, as the Trust had removed the old fence and installed a new fence, well set back from the road edge, leaving a very wide grass margin to the road.

The Villagers had been pleased that a hedge would be planted as indicated as they did not want LCC Highways widening the road back towards the new fence position. Basically the Village wanted to know whether the Trust would be carrying out the work they had apparently specified.

Alec said that he had just appointed a new Outdoor Manager, Claire Barrett, responsible for Park and Gardens and he would have her investigate this matter to consider any action.

AG

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

Alec reported that the toilets and the cafe were now open and the whole Adventure Playground was thus fully open and operational. He said that there was some work to do on the paths where the hoggin surface was subject to freezing and expanding in cold weather with subsequent thawing out and collapse into mush as the day warmed up. Alec was planning to change the surface of the paths this year as a result of this problem.

AG

### 3. New Items

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

Tony raised the need for the usual coning off of Main St., during the horse trials to prevent indiscriminate parking. Alec said these matters were now the preserve of Bede Events limited. It was agreed that the NT and Tony would remind Bede of the necessity for these measures not to be overlooked.

AG/TH

### **3.2 Belton House – Parking - Roads Refurbishments – update.**

Tony asked for an update on progress with the above. Alec said that on 24<sup>th</sup> March the first phase would be adopted. The second phase, involving ashfelt road surface would be adopted by 8<sup>th</sup> April. Alec was asked if this work was compatible with the long term plan of moving the car park into the field nearer to the river. Alec said that this plan had proved problematic and the plan had been cancelled. It was likely that an emergency overflow area for the car park would be established beyond the current far end of the existing car park.

AG

### **4. AOB.**

#### **4.1 NT Preseason Meeting.**

Alec said that, in the past, Belton Villagers had been invited to the above when it had been held at a large venue but this had been discontinued when the meeting transferred to the much smaller Old School Village Hall. As attendance had lessened, Villagers were once again invited to attend on 21<sup>st</sup> March at 10.30.

#### **4.2 Old School Village Hall.**

Michael asked if this was running satisfactorily. Alec said that it was but he planned to install blinds to avoid sun dazzle in some circumstances and to introduce some more acoustic deadening measures.

AG

#### **4.3 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. The PCC had £30,000 towards the cost of around £80,000, excluding Vat and so had a £50,000 shortfall. Grant bodies were being approached. Alec advised a contact with Heritage Lincolnshire, to be explored.

TH

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

This was set as Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at 14.30hrs in the NT Managers Office..

The meeting concluded at 15.30 hrs.

A. Hopwell – 16th March 2016

Ref: Belton house liaison/villagemins27.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>