LOWICK PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Lowick Parish Council was held on 8th November 2018 at 7.00pm in Hedley Hall, Barmoor Castle

Present: JA Huddart, P Hanson, Mrs F Burn, Mrs L Bradbury, Mrs S Graham, Mrs MA Bell, Miss R Maitland, SA Mather, Mrs R Simpson (Headteacher Lowick & Holy Island CofE First Schools), J Lamb (Barmoor Castle)

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting, he thanked J Lamb for inviting the Parish Council to hold a meeting in Hedley Hall

2. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs A Worlock

3. There were no declarations of interest

4. The Chairman invited J Lamb to give a summary of the activities which take place in Hedley Hall and also plans for the Country Park. J Lamb said that the hall is used by those staying on the park for different events such as Yoga, flower arranging, a history course etc. The plan for the future of the castle is to work in conjunction with English Heritage and the County Council and develop 8 self-catering apartments. J Lamb said they also hope to develop a charitable trust. There are 2 full time employees as well as Nicola Moffat and Anne Lamb in the office, in addition up to 15 part time workers are used. He offered to show Parish Councillors around the park in better weather, and to have a look around a caravan at the end of the meeting.

5. The Chairman welcomed Mrs Rebecca Simpson who said that she had started working at the First School at Easter and that there has been rapid and exciting changes and that Lowick and Holy Island are now federated. She outlined the many activities the children have undertaken, including 4 visits to Holy Island in the first half of this term, painting remembrance rocks and including a name from the War Memorial on each rock. She invited anyone who could to attend the service at the War Memorial on 9th November at 2.00pm when the rocks will be placed. A nursery is being developed and the school is working with the Great North Maths Hub.

Pupils are currently working on a travelling through time project and any pictures, coins or memories would be welcome. Mrs Simpson said she is very keen to have links with people in the area and as far as she is concerned the school is safe and she would fight very hard to keep it. They have contact with a school in Suffolk and are doing a project with Durham University on mammals in Northumberland. Mrs Simpson said the school is getting involved in a lot of projects and that there are much warmer links with other schools now.

P Hanson said that he had raised the 20s plenty speed limit past the school at the recent joint NCC and Town/Parish/Community Councils meeting held in October and he was told that the plans for this would be agreed this financial year and would be implemented in the next financial year.

JA Huddart commented that the Parish Council would like to keep in touch with the school, he also expressed his gratitude to J Lamb and commented that he thought it was important for the Parish Council to know how local business works.

Mrs Simpson, J Lamb, Mrs J Lamb and Mrs N Moffat left the meeting
6. Minutes of previous meeting – these were agreed as being correct

7. Matters Arising
   - JA Huddart had circulated a Neighbourhood Plan boundary proposal
   - The Pinfold – Mrs S Graham expressed concern that donated stone would be non-matching. JA Huddart said he thought suitable stone could be sourced locally and he would contact the designer to see how much stone would be needed. JA Huddart also said that GM Craig will supply all the hardcore necessary
   - Andy Dean from Community Action Northumberland is happy to share housing survey information and he would like to come to a meeting. JA Huddart agreed to invite him to the January meeting
   - JA Huddart has responded to Mrs Colgan’s email and a copy of his response was circulated
   - JA Huddart understands that Councillor Lawrie no longer lives in the area
   - Transfer of Community Asset – P Hanson said he has been chasing Barry Wilson who still has to contact him with regard to the trees
   - Tree on the Common – Mrs L Bradbury reported that John Moor had looked at the tree and reported that some of it is on a transformer – the clerk to contact Scottish Power. J Moor would take the rubbish away and cut the tree into logs for a donation

8. Finance – Precept for 2019/20 - it was decided to discuss this at the January meeting. Possible expenditure items were discussed. The bus shelter roof is leaking and new notice boards are needed. P Hanson said he had put up a new timetable

9. Community Award – a number of nominations had been received and each was discussed. It was unanimously decided that this year’s recipients would be Peter Calder (proposed Mrs F Burn, seconded Mrs L Bradbury) and Mrs M Burn (proposed Mrs M Bell, seconded Mrs S Graham). JA Huddart agreed to order the plaques

10. Matters to report on potholes, repairs/maintenance to street lights/highways etc – the street light in Green Close needs to be changed to LED and it is on all day

11. Correspondence – a letter was received regarding a new right of way in Kyloe Woods

12. Any other business
   - Mrs S Graham said she thought it was a very good article in the Berwick Advertiser about Miss R Maitland becoming a Parish Councillor
   - JA Huddart said there would be a short service at 2.00pm in the Church to rededicate the Fenwick memorial in the church and this would be followed by a short service at the War Memorial in Lowick

13. Date of next meeting – 10th January 2019

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm