

# **Hurworth Parish Council**

## **Minutes**

of the Meeting held on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2012 in the Hadwin Lounge,  
Hurworth Grange, Hurworth on Tees.

### **Those attending:-**

Ian Holme (Chairman),, Jean Peacock, Peter Foster, Val Hughes, Tony Winnett,  
John Howard, Chris Pratt, Tony Needham, Jeff Kemp. Ken Pattison, Norma Kyle.

also in attendance: - Joe Kelley (DBC Councillor), Martin Swainston (DBC Councillor)  
Tammy Guy-Jobson(Northern Echo), Peter Allan – Clerk,

### **1 Apologies for absence:-**

None,

Jill Russell was absent.

### **2. Declarations of Interest:-**

Jean Peacock P&P, Val Hughes P&P, Ian Holme Personal, all with regard to HCA matters.

### **3. Chairman's Remarks**

Ian Holme, the new Chairman, thanked Ken Pattison for the splendid job which he had accomplished in the past year, then thanked all the councillors and the Clerk for their support.

He welcomed back Martin Swainston, as the newly re-elected DBC Councillor for Hurworth Ward.

### **4. Minutes of the Meeting dated 5<sup>th</sup> April 2012**

The minutes, having been pre-circulated, were agreed, and signed by the Chairman after confirmation by the council. Proposed by Ken Pattison and seconded by Tony Winnett.

### **5. Matters Arising**

All matters arising will be covered in this meeting's agenda.

### **6. Public Participation**

Members of the public requested an update report about the Skateboard facility at the Grange. They specifically asked when it would be ready, whether the usage would be confined to a recreational area, with no car parking, and what surface was going to be laid.

The Chair read the following statement;

*“At April meeting it was agreed that IH and KP will meet with HCA officers to agree way forward following issues raised by their insurers.(see april minutes)*

*It has been agreed that the area will be resurfaced with a hard finish that will allow the area to continue to be used as it at present, but with a much improved surface.*

*It must be reiterated that the area used by skaters has never been at risk and this is all about making improvements which will benefit all users.*

*In terms of financing this work, an initial response to our grant application is due imminently, but an allowance has been made in our financial plans should this prove unsuccessful. “*

Quotations have been received to re-surface the area using a hard topped form of tarmac. Advice had been sought from Heighington P.C. and two contractors, who agreed that this surface would be appropriate.

Cllr Howard has assisted in getting further quotes which should be with us shortly and the intent is to have this improved area available asap.

Resident, Danny Calon, who has twenty years experience in skateboarding, made it clear that this type of surface would not be suitable, and it would be better to clean off the existing surface, remove the weeds, etc, and leave it as it is. This view was supported by other members of the public.

Danny Calon went on to inform the council that the only suitable surface would be concrete, and although this is expensive, he was aware of a grant for £10,000 to £20,000 which could be obtained for this rink. He stressed that this facility at the Grange, which is more than 40 years old, has unique features, and should be preserved.

Norma Kyle reported that parents were not happy about cars being parked on this recreational area. The Chair explained the HCA position with regard to insurance cover, and also to the health and safety regulations which would mean that everytime one youth uses the 'rink', two adults must be in attendance, one of who must have first aid competence. This is an unsustainable situation, and no parents have come forward to commit to undertaking this virtual.

Ken Pattison suggested that we should visit Heighington PC who have recently installed a MUGA and have plans in hand to construct a skateboard rink.

A Working Group was set up to further investigate all aspects of the skateboard project; names of this Group are Jeff Kemp, John Howard, Norma Kyle and Ken Pattison.

Val Hughes commented that it appears that none of the parents campaigning for the skateboard rink are members of the HCA, and they should consider joining.

The Chairman informed the public that HCA has already booked another mobile half day session, and that the council are prepared to book several more during the year. We are entitled to 4 free days, and the council may pay for some additional sessions.

## **7. Accounts for Payment**

## Accounts for Payment 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2012

The schedule of accounts for payment had already been circulated to all councillors, viz:

### **Accounts for Payment 30<sup>th</sup> April 2012**

Sue Webster	April Salary	£410.15
P.D Allan	April Salary	£522.70
Peter Foster	March expenses	£6.10
Peter Foster	April expenses	£9.76
Tony Needham	Allotment Expenses	£12.00
Tony Winnett	CPRE Subscription	£36.00
HCA	Photocopying	£3.90
TSC CAD	HP Printer cartridges	£119.94
P. D. Allan	March exs	£48.17
DD. Barclays bank	Charges	£4.60
Talk Talk	Direct Debit	£15.47
Talk Talk	Direct Debit	£18.60

All the accounts were accepted and the cheques were duly signed by Ian Holme and Ken Pattison.

## **8. Financial report**

In accordance with the council's practice, the financial accounts had already been distributed, showing the financial position as at 30<sup>th</sup> April, The Precept and DBC annual grant has now been received for the year 2012-13.

It was noted that the PC had held a Finance Committee Meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2012; this was held in camera.

## **9. Matters of Interest**

1. **Accessible Community Transport Meeting** on 23<sup>rd</sup> May at the Dolphin Centre. The following councillors committed to attend:-

- am session - John Howard
- pm session- Jeff Kemp
- evening - Ian Holme

### **Action Clerk to enrol councillors.**

2. Small and Medium Councils meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> May. No action.
3. Parking outside Comprehensive School, progress:-
  - The Clerk has had a meeting with John Angus, who has agreed to give parking tickets to illegally parked vehicles.
  - The Grange has been informed of the congestion and overspill onto their property. They are not concerned about this at present.

**Action: The Clerk** is to request DBC to put zig zag road markings on the opposite side of the road.

4. **Risk Analysis.** The Clerk informed the council that he would be circulating the updated risk Analysis, and that all councillors need study it, as they need to make the commitment to it, and it will be a minuted at the next PC Meeting.
5. **Localisation Bill (Localism)** The Clerk reported that the event for 7<sup>th</sup> June is being organised. Val Adams has confirmed, but Dave Coates has declined. Neasham PC and Low Dinsdale will be joining us, and Croft PC is still to be contacted. We may also invite Low Coniscliffe and Dalton PC.

KEN Pattison has contacted Leslie Millgate and arranged for her to attend and assist in bringing other suitable people. **Action: Ken Pattison.**

**Action: Clerk to liase with Steve Ragg** for support for the meeting.

**Action: Tony Winnett** to arrange representatives of CPRE to attend.

This meeting will be between 6:30pm and 7:30pm, prior to the Normal PC Meeting.

## 10. PACT Report

Ian Holme reported that there has only been one (bicycle) theft in the month of March.

Tony Needham added that youths had using the Primary School new car park for motor cycles and scooters. However, the police were addressing the problem.

## 11. Highways Report

Tony Needham advised the council that the DBC cutbacks would be affecting Hurworth this year. He has been advised of the following situation: - In discussion with Steve Brannan (DBC Head of Highways), I questioned him to find out the implications of the current budget cutbacks and what was in the pipeline for Hurworth Parish. I ascertained that there was a 5% reduction to their budget and, although this may seem small, when taking into account it has remained static for 5 years and 75% of the materials used are oil based, it has a significant impact.

The plans for Hurworth Parish are as follows:-

- 1) Elmfield Road and Ashfield Drive will be resurfaced.
- 2) The next stage of the regeneration of the footpaths in Friars Pardon will be completed.

No firm dates were available for the above 2 projects

- 3) Belgrave Terrace/Baxby Terrace resurfacing is in abeyance but may be implemented if there are sufficient left over funds .
- 4) There will be no footpath resurfacing work carried out (slurry method) as the whole slurry programme has been suspended for the year.

Two communications have been sent to DBC in the last fortnight. One stating our disappointment that Belgrave and Baxby Terrace are not in the work plan and another regarding the approx. 8m length of uncompleted footpath on The Green outside the Spar Shop, which has been the subject of several complaints. (A plan of the Green footpath showing that the refurbishment should have finished at the Roundhill Road corner and a copy of the e-mail sent to DBC was circulated). **Action Clerk** to follow up regarding the uncompleted work outside the Spar.

Jean Peacock drew attention to the scaffold which has been erected outside 10 Teesview, for several months, with no apparent work being done. **Action Clerk** to contact the DBC Building Inspectors to have it taken down.

Ken Pattison advised that he would be looking further into the Speed Indicators for the village. Tony Needham agreed to assist with this project.

## **12. Allotment Report**

Norma reported that John Edwards has volunteered to cut the grass at strait Lane allotments, and has been given a key to the council shed. Tony Needham and the Clerk also have keys.

An allotment Meeting has been called for 17<sup>th</sup> May at the Emerson Arms. **Norma Kyle and John Howard will attend representing the council.**

## **13. Planning Matters**

Jeff Kemp reported as follows:-

Further Planning Applications for April 2012

### **Planning App. No 12/00092/FUL**

Erection of a two storey side extension re submitted to modified plans 21 March

32 Friars Pardon Haworth Darlington DL2 2DZ

*No Comment.*

### **Planning App No 12/00285/FUL**

Installation of 325m high communication mast for VODAFONE

Clebe View Farm Roundhill Road Hurworth Dalington DL2 2EG

*No Comment*

### **Planning Appl No 12/00238/FUL**

Erection of two storey side extension and Garage.

62 Hurworth Road Hurworth Place Darlington DL2 2BW

No Comment

**Planning appl No 12/00227/FUL**

Extension to Garage, elevation alteration and paving of Driveway and parking.

Meadowbrook 2 Roudhill Farm ,Roudhill Road Darlington DL2 1QD

No Comment

**Planning App No 12/00279/FUL**

Change of use of farm land to form extension to existing private gypsy site for 2 additional pitches.

Objection remains

**14. . Tree Report**

John Howard stated - nothing new to report.

Big Tree Grant application. Norma Kyle would like to convene a meeting with John Howard and Ken Pattison to address and format the grant content. The date of 21<sup>st</sup> May during the day was agreed.

Ken Pattison informed the council that one condition of the grant process, is that the council must initially outlay the cost of the trees and work, but provided they comply with the grant award terms and conditions, the money will be refunded to the council, when the project is completed.

The Clerk reported that this project should be added to the Risk Assessment, in case the money becomes irrecoverable.

**15. Newsletter and PC web site**

Tony Winnett reported that the web site is in good shape, and Ken Pattison confirmed that our web name is safe until May 2013.

The June Newsletter is well in hand and he has received a lot of material. The closing date for entries will be the third week of May.

Tony Winnett requested that we upgrade our version of Spanglefish, to get more facilities. The meeting agreed, and asked Tony to go ahead and get it.

**16. Big Street Clean-up.** The council agreed not to proceed with a clean up this year.

**17. Association Reports**

Peter Foster stated that there was nothing of significance to report.

**18. Any other Business**

- a. Ian Holme said that some consideration has been given to the location of the MUGA. The Comprehensive School are in agreement, but there may be difficulties in obtaining a grant as the hours of access will be restricted. The Grange could be a good site, and the HCA had made positive overtures to early informal enquiries. Other sites could also be considered. It was agreed that a delegation visit Heighington PC, who have already installed a MUGA at a modest cost.

Meeting ended at 8:40 pm.

Date of next meeting Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2012 at 6:30pm, the PC meeting will be preceded by the presentation by Val Adams.