

## **Hurworth Parish Council**

### **Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at Hurworth Grange on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2017 starting at 7:00pm.**

**316. Those present:** Graham Wylie (Chair), Margaret Williams Paul Walters, Peter Foster, Jean Peacock. Dorothy Oughton, Elaine Hedley, Janine Forster, Richard Lawley

Also attending: Cllr Joe Kelley, Peter Allan (Parish Clerk), plus 4 members of the public.

#### **317. Apologies for absence**

Wilma Campbell, Cllr Lorraine Tostevin,

#### **318. Declaration of Interests**

Jean Peacock HCA

Graham Wylie Allotments

#### **319. Chairman's Address**

The Chair welcomed the councillors and the public.

He announced that two councillors have resigned from the council, namely David Wood and Carol Paylor. He thanked them both for the contributions they have made during their tenure with the council. He went on to say that David Wood will remain on the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party.

Darlington Borough Council will be putting up notices and displaying on their web site the two vacancies, and candidates should register their interest with the Electoral Department at the Town Hall.

**320. Minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2017** The Minutes having been distributed were accepted by the council. Proposed by Dorothy Oughton, and Seconded by Elaine Hedley.

#### **321. Matters Arising**

##### **1. Community Notice Boards.**

Paul Walters said that it was time the council made a decision about the location of the third Community Notice board. The most suitable two options being on the roadside near the Fish and Chip Shop, or on the grass area between the bus stand opposite the Spar shop and the road into the Green. A vote was taken and the location near opposite the Spar shop was selected by five votes to four.

**2. Insurance – potential claim.** The Chair informed the council that the documents regarding the potential claim at 16 Eden Close have been sent to Zurich Insurance Company, and we await their guidance.

3. Hurworth Grange lounge alterations. The letter requesting permission to modify the archway into the Hadwin Lounge has been received, and it was agreed that HPC will grant permission.

4. Meeting with Bellway Homes – The meeting has not been arranged, as two of the councillors who planned to attend have since resigned. The Clerk will now make an appointment and the meeting will be attended by Jean Peacock, Peter Foster, Dorothy Oughton and Elaine Hedley.

5. The Halloween Party has been arranged by Carol Paylor, and is already sold out, all tickets having been taken up. Carol has undertaken to run the event, and will be helped by Wilma Campbell.

### **322 Public Participation**

1. Mrs Powles read the following statement to the council:-

#### **Original document as distributed by Mrs Powles:-**

*To Hurworth Parish Council*

*Hurworth Grange*

*Croft Road*

*Hurworth Place*

*5 October 2017*

*To all Parish Councillors*

*Statement regarding the matter of Straight Lane Allotment 10b*

*Regarding this matter, a matter which all councillors are aware, as I have received a letter stating that further correspondence will be ignored - I have no alternative but to escalate this matter into the public domain.*

*I wish the council and the parish to know that I take this step reluctantly, but having reached no satisfactory conclusion I see no alternative.*

*For your benefit: Definition of a shed (Dictionary.Com) - a slight and rude structure built for shelter and/or storage.*

*Maureen Powles*

2. David Wood informed the council that he has had a meeting with Priory Hurworth House School and they have agreed to allow the two football teams to use their playing field for football practice and matches. The agreement reached entails the football club maintaining the playing field and arranging appropriate insurance cover.

Mr Wood referred to the council's approved project to work with Priory H H S and that £2000 had been allocated to this project. He requested that the council now contribute £1000 of this allocation, to allow them to purchase goal posts, nets, etc/

The council unanimously agreed, and the Clerk was instructed to provide a cheque for £1000 made out to Hurworth Junior F.C.

Paul Walters now addressed Mrs Powles statement and informed her that the documentation relating to her case and the correspondence from her Legal Adviser have been sent to our lawyer. They can both expect a letter from our lawyer within 14 days.

An objection was made regarding the Size of the Bellway notice boards. Cllr Joe Kelley agreed to investigate this. **Action Cllr Joe Kelley**

### **323. PACT Report**

Paul Walters reported as follows:-

Burglary ground	1	Rockliffe Hall grounds – theft of multiple items from Cricket
Criminal Damage	1	Outside the Spar shop – damage to bonnet of vehicle
Anti Social Behaviour	6 incidents	
Theft – general - condition	2	Strait Lane – theft of mobility scooter, later found in poor condition
		Rockliffe Hall – Male left without paying for stay.
RTC	2	The Green – vehicle bumped into parked vehicle - minor damage Strait Lane – Overturned vehicle blocked the road – no one hurt
Animal / Wildlife	2	Hurworth Road – dog on road, no owner Burma Road – 2 dogs on the road – spoke to the owner, he was in control of the dogs.
Other / Suspicious	2	Snipe Lane – Possible car off road near the location The Green – Male claiming to be an offender on rehabilitation, and attempting to sell items, but whilst doing so, he was quite abusive.

### 324. Allotment Report

Paul Walters reported:-

The council are advertising in the Parish Chronicle that residents who would like an allotment at Strait Lane should make their application now. The year-end often brings vacancies, and they should place their names on the Waiting List.

The dispute surrounding one allotment holder has been passed to our lawyers and should be resolved this month.

A skip will be delivered to Strait Lane allotments on the last Friday of October.

### 325. Planning Applications

Jean Peacock reported as follows:-

#### **Planning Report – 5<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

600 proposed dwellings on land opposite the Rugby Ground, Neasham Road (Barratts).

Update from Banks – Nothing definite at this time on the further investigation of the additional land to ascertain if it is suitable for further building will keep the Parish informed as soon as anything to report.

17/00840/CON HILL TOP FARM, NEASHAM ROAD

Discharge of Condition 4 & 2 ( external materials)

Doors, rooflights, windows (16/00939/FUL 22.11.16

14/00101/FUL **Granted 18/09/17**

#### 17/00824/FUL HURWORTH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Erection of a single storey extension to existing Sports Hall/Function Room.

#### 17/00876/FUL 21 THE WAYSIDE

Erection of single storey extension to rear (retrospective)

Despite requests to DBC, nothing appears to have been done regarding the modifications required at 30 The Green.

#### **326. Tree report**

Peter Foster said that all the trees are in good order, and there is nothing to report for September.

Janine Forster reported that she feels that one large tree near the Rockcliffe Hall entrance is in a dangerous condition. **Clerk to investigate whose responsibility it is.**

#### **327. Open Spaces**

As Wilma Campbell was absent, there was no report.

#### **328. Highways report**

Margaret Williams reported as follows:-

Highways report September 2017

Overall, speed records show a decrease in the number of speeding motorists at all monitors during September. However, the road outside the Academy on Hurworth Road still indicates that there is a need for traffic calming to be considered at this site

Monitor- Hurworth Rd towards Hurworth Place

43% of all drivers exceeded the 30 mph limit

Ave speed above limit is 32.4 mph Max speed recorded 75 mph on 23/9/2017

Monitor -Roundhill road incoming

23.9% of all drivers exceeded the 30 mph speed limit

Ave speed above limit is 33.0mph Max speed recorded 55 mph on 3/9/2017

Note - there were traffic lights and road works on this road during this period

Monitor - A167 Linden Court

27% of all drivers exceeded the 30 mph speed limit

Ave speed above limit is 33.5 mph Max speed recorded 60 mph on 3/9/2017

Re - parking of cars on the edge of Manorfield

Several cars have been parking with their wheels on Manorfield near the right hand bend on Westfield Drive. The problem has been reported to Priory School and at the moment, seems to have been solved.

#### **Road closure**

DBC are to carry out works at Church Row and Church View on 23rd October for one week. This will necessitate the closure of the road with diversions via Roundhill Road.

There are several street lamps out on Hurworth Road and the relevant departments have been made aware of this and the faults ( Northern Power ) and should be rectified in the near future.

### **SpeedWatch**

Elaine Hedley has taken over the role of SpeedWatch Co-ordinator, as Carol Paylor has left the council. The training for six more volunteers has been arranged for 18th October at 6:30pm at Hurworth Grange.

### **329. Parish Walks**

Janine Forster reported that there are no more walks organised at this time.

### **330. Press and Village Calendar**

Richard Lawley reported that the calendar is up to date, and that the co-operation with the Church newsletter is operational.

### **331. Neighbourhood Plan Working Party Update.**

It was agreed that Richard Lawley would take over as the HPC Representative on the Working Party.

The questionnaire is complete, and just awaiting the entry of the return by date. Richard agreed to ascertain this with Nigel Goddard, who will be the direct contact with the working Party.

HPC have requested three quotations for the printing of the questionnaire and the delivery to every household, farm and business in the Parish.

- a. Team Valley Group provided a quotation for £3480.00
- b. MT provided a quotation for £1865.00  
The delivery of the questionnaire quotation is £800.00  
Total cost £2665.00
- c. The quotation from Pronto Print has not yet been received. They appear to have a problem with the printing of the post-paid envelopes.

The council voted on the supplier of choice and unanimously voted to accept option b.

Action; Clerk to place the orders as soon as Richard Lawley provides the final version of the questionnaire including the return by date. **Action Richard Lawley and the Clerk.**

The Clerk informed the meeting that the grant finish date expired on 30<sup>th</sup> September, but an extension to 31<sup>st</sup> December as been confirmed.

### **332. Newsletter**

Elaine Hedley reported that most of the input has now been received, and the draft should be completed within one week. It is hoped to deliver the Chronicle along with the Church newsletter at the end of October. The latest PACT report is required for inclusion.

### **333. Grievance Committee Report**

The Chair reported that the Equality Report was sent to Mr White (Mrs Powles legal representative) within the 20 working day requirement.

The council will recommend that any disabled person who applies for an allotment in Hurworth, should consider the Grange allotments in preference to the Strait Lane allotments, as they are more disabled- friendly.

### **334. Matters of Interest**

#### **1. Building extension update.**

The clerk reported that the planning application has been submitted and we await the formal permission to build.

Hurworth Rogers Charitable Trust have awarded HCA with a grant of £5000, which covers the shortfall envisaged.

2. The circular pathway through the nature reserve is in progress and is expected to be finish by 11<sup>th</sup> October, on schedule.

### **335. Accounts Payable in September 2017**

The schedule having been distributed to all councillors, was accepted by the council.

#### **Accounts for Payment as at 30th September 2017**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Cheque No</u></b>	<b><u>Details</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
Eden Landscapes	102865	Handyman	65.00
M Powles	102866	Rent refund	15.00
E Hedley	102867	Travelling Exs	40.26
HGSC - CDALC buffet	102868	CDALC Buffet	50.00
G. Johnston Tree SER- VICES	102869	Treework	1588.50
B Green	102970	Allotment grass cutting	60.00
BDO Audit	102871	Annual audit	360.00
NWG Water	102872	Allotment water	41.55
N Power	102873	Christmas tree lighting	75.45
HCA Rates for year	102874	Hurworth Grange lighting	1654.38
Bob Iles	102875	Salary	358.10
P D Allan	102876	Salary	522.48
Inland Revenue	102877	PAYE	156.80
P D Allan	102878	Admin expenses and land registry fees.	68.30

HCA	102879	Newsletter and photocopying	111.36
T Help Technical D Alban	102880	Neighbourhood Plan	241.40
TalkTalk	DD	Communications	25.20
Barclays Bank	DD	Bank charges	2.30
TalkTalk	DD	Communications	23.13
BT Comms	DD	Communications	85.32
<b>Total Expenditure for September 2017</b>			<b>5544.53</b>

### **336. Financial report to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017.**

The Financial Report, having been distributed to all councillors prior to the meeting was accepted by the council.

Please see the addendum for the detailed report.

BDO the council's external auditors have signed off the financial accounts to 31st March 2017. They made the following observations:

1. The Minutes have not been initialled on every page. Upon inspection by Margaret Williams, last year's Chair, it is evident that every page was in fact initialled.
2. The auditors would like every page of the Minutes numbered, in addition to the paragraph numbering. This will be done in future.
- 3.

### **337. HPC web site and guestbook**

The Chair announced that he has taken over the operation of the Guestbook, and reported that there have been two messages, Viz:-

1. A complaint about a fire on an allotment during daytime hours. The allotment holder has been identified and he has apologised for this incident.
2. The second message was of a disparaging nature towards the council and individuals. The Guestbook should not be used as a Name and Share media, and hence this message was not published.

### **338. Association Reports**

Peter Foster has attended an Durham and Tees Valley Airport Meeting, and was pleased to inform the meeting that a new airline will be flying from the airport to Aberdeen as a regular service. This opens up a way to North Scotland and the islands.

### **339. Any Other Business (Non Financial)**

1. Dorothy Oughton has received enquiries about the movement of the seat from Goblin's Wood, it was thought to have been stolen. In fact, HPC moved it to the bay Horse location.
2. It was reported that a lot of cigarette ends are being thrown away outside the Grange patio area. It was suggested that suitable buckets or reciprocals are sited there to encourage tidiness. Action Clerk.

3. The memorial plaque on the Green requires repainting of the lettering as it is barely readable. **Clerk to investigate.**

4. Peter Foster stated that the requested litter bin to be located between the academy and the Mustard Tree has not been installed yet. **Clerk to follow up.**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7:58pm