

Hurworth Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at Hurworth Grange, Hurworth –on-Tees, on Thursday 6th March 2014 starting at 7.00pm.

Those present: Tony Winnett, Peter Foster, Jean Peacock, Margaret Williams, Val Hughes, John Howard, Jeff Kemp, Ken Pattison. Norma Kyle, Ian Holme

Also attending: Cllr Joe Kelley, Cllr Martin Swainston, Peter Allan (Parish Clerk)

154. Apologies for Absence

Chris Pratt - (Away), Tony Needham (Holiday)

155. PACT Meeting

The meeting was well attended, with 10 members of the public in addition to the councillors. John Angus introduced PC Foley, who has been away in Afghanistan doing duty as a military volunteer.

Police Report:-

There have been 7 crimes in the February period, viz:

1 Burglary

3 Burglary other – shed break-ins

3 Thefts, one was a bicycle, one theft from a car and the other a trailer.

The arrest / solved rate in Hurworth parish is 49 percent, and rates highly in the borough and the country.

There was no Speedwatch in February. The police force now have ten laser guns for speed control, and these will be used in the parish in the future. It was noted that it is usually the residents who are caught speeding – so take heed.

There are reports of bad parking at the Primary School, and congestion at the Comprehensive School. Double yellow lines will be installed at Easter time at the Comprehensive School. The council are also pressing for double yellow lines at the Spar corner.

A suspicious white van has been sighted in the village, and investigations will follow.

A visual audit has been made of the Westfield Drive area, and a report submitted for attention.

Cllr Kemp gave a public ‘thank you’ to PC Foley for his service in Afghanistan, and welcomed his safe return.

156. Declarations of Interest

Tony Winnett – HCA & Planning

Jean Peacock – HCA & Village Hall

Val Hughes - HCA

John Howard - Planning

157. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6th February 2014

The Minutes having been distributed were accepted, Proposed by Peter Foster Seconded by John Howard.

158. Matters Arising,

1. Croft House; some residents of Hurworth Place expressed concern about the DBC web site, which is displaying the HPC Planning Report and not the official letter which raised specific concerns about the proposed development.

Ian Holme explained that the letter had been sent, as promised, and a further request made to DBC to display the letter on their Planning Application web site.

2. Financial Bond The bond has been drawn up with Santander, but the date of birth of each councillor is required to meet the Money Laundering legislation.
3. Hi-Viz jackets – Action: John Howard agreed to purchase 15 jackets, with HPC printed on the backs. **Action: John Howard.**

159. Public Participation

1. Mrs Lynn Wylie raised the residents' concerns about DBC's apparent intent to install log barriers to deter parking on the green belt outside the houses at the bottom of Strait Lane. This is a very congested area, with more cars to be parked than spaces to accommodate them.

In the past, the parish council had tried to assist the residents and had recommended a messed netting be laid, which protects the grass while providing an extended parking area. Unfortunately DBC had refused to accept this recommendation, stating it could create a health and safety hazard, which they would not insure. DBC also made it clear that this land belongs to them, and that the parish council could not alter or modify it.

The parish council are very sympathetic towards the residents of Strait Lane, and fully understand their problem, but are unable to assist. Cllr Swainston agreed to take the matter up with DBC and to support Mrs Wylie and the other residents. It was however pointed out that the council took a decision some time ago not to actively support particular measures for parking due to turning a green area into a parking lot, particularly at an entrance to the village, setting a precedent for other areas of the village and taking account of other villagers comments.

It was agreed that this matter will be discussed again at the next PC Meeting in April.

Action Clerk – Agenda item.

160. Accounts for Payment

The schedule of payments with details had been distributed to all councillors prior to the meeting. The council agreed the schedule and the cheques were approved and signed.

<u>Payment of Accounts</u>			<u>Feb-14</u>
<u>Name</u>	<u>Cheque No</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Graham Wylie	102397	Allotment repairs	30.00
Ken Pattison	102398	Entertaining Exs	30.15
Tony Winnett	102399	Travel exs bank bond	20.52
Hurworth Village Hall	102400	Contribution to summer concert	2000.00
Bob Iles	102401	Litter picker salaries	197.60
Peter Allan	102402	February salary	508.24
Inland Revenue	102403	PAYE	159.60
Viking	102404	Files and stationery	117.60
Peter Allan	102405	Admin exs, mileage bank bond, etc	£34.06
Bank Charges	DD	Bank charges	£2.30
TalkTalk	DD	Communications	£18.60
TalkTalk	DD	Communications	£14.53
Total			3133.20

Funds received

Sale of grave	All Saints Church	300.00
Allurement rents	Rent of plots for 2014	480.00
		<u>£780.00</u>

161 Financial Report

1. The Financial Report for the 11 months to 28th February 2014, having been previously distributed to all councillors, was agreed and accepted.

Please see addendum with Report details

2. 31st March is the council's year end, and the Clerk requested that the council confirm the appointment of Mr Fletcher as Internal Auditor; BDO are officially appointed as the External Auditors. This was agreed by the council.

162. Matters of Interest

1. Cllr Joe Kelley will be attending the Rural Crime seminar.
2. Four councillors and the Clerk will be attending an all-day course addressing Data Protection and Freedom of Information legislation. (TW, KP, VH, JH.)
3. The new lease between the council and HPC will be drafted, with agreed changes ready for the April meeting. **Action Clerk and Ken Pattison.**
4. Standards Board. A document has been received and circulated to all councillors inviting them to comment on the draft of the new Standard Board procedures. Ken Pattison has already submitted his comments, and agreed to share these with all other councillors, and then to send a composite observations letter to DBC. **Action Ken Pattison and Clerk.** Also the Clerk was asked to request an extension to allow councillors more time to draft their observations.

163. Planning report

Jeff Kemp, having circulated his report, gave the following report:-

Plan Appl No. 14/00086/FUL

Erection of a detached Dwelling House at the back and side of 7 Croft Road Hurworth Darlington DL22HD Access is by an existing unmade Road to the side of the property.

No comment

Plan App No. 14/00083/FUL

Change of husbandry farm land to Gypsy Caravan Site for the stationing of 24 touring caravans for residential occupation with associated hard standings for vehicles and erection of an amenity Block with 12 separate compartments.

Applications are never ending despite what we hear that the site is now full.

This will exacerbate an Existing dangerous traffic situation which caused the site earlier to be considered at its limit. An increase of this nature is approaching 40 percent increase. This is apparently phase 3 on phases 1 and 2 already approved ? (to my knowledge no such terminology was used on the previously approved applications)

The council is concerned about increased traffic entering and exiting from the main road. We refer to previous the Traffic Agency comments.

Plan Appl No. 14/00106/FUL

This is a re application for a wood holiday chalet at this position previously denied.

Nothing has fundamentally changed on this application and should be objected to for the same reasons as before.

Plan. Appl. No 14/00101

Revisions to approved plans for conversion of out buildings to form 3 dwellings (06/00053/FUL dated 21st Mar 2006) on Hill Top farm Roundhill Road Hurworth.

Comprising modified roof lights, and layout of units 2 and 3

No comment

The application for erection of Turbines at the Arena has been withdrawn 13/
00842/FUL

Application has been withdrawn.

Re positioning of Triple Garages behind Hurworth Cottage Croft Road granted permission **06/00355/FUL** for extensions to property.

No comment

Croft House

Concern still exists with some local residents wishing to retain the original building. We have already submitted a letter to DBC requesting more details.

Plan. Appl. No. 14/00139/FUL

Work to protected trees at No 1 The Chase

No comment

Plan. Appl. No. 14/00087

Installation of multi games area to be enclosed by a 3m high fence.

This to be on the existing Tarmac surface area of the old buildings on the old side entrance now closed.

Some objections already made by houses close to the grounds and the security implications.

The council would like to know whether the facilities of the MUGA will be available to the community outside of school hours.

163. Highways Report

In the absence of Tony Needham, the Chair said there was nothing to report.

However, Cllr Kelley informed the meeting that double yellow lines will be implemented at the Hurworth Comprehensive School The Clerk was asked to request similar lines at the Spar corner sweeping up into Roundhill Rd on both sides.

Peter Foster reported illegal tipping is taking place at Snipe Lane and also near the railway lines off Snipe Lane. The refuse dump is growing and DBC StreetScene need to be advised – **Action - Clerk.**

165. Speed Control Units

Ken Pattison updated the meeting –

The posts are all installed, and the power supply has been installed in the last month. Swarco will be installing the three speed monitors within the next two weeks.

A site meeting with the Swarco installation people, a DBC representative, Ken Pattison and Martin Harrison, who will be trained to move and re-install the units, will take place on Thurs 13th Mar to ensure there are no problems prior to installation. If all clear an installation date will be agreed.

The trees on Croft Road will need pruning to allow for the height of the units; **Action :-Peter Foster will be arranging this.**

166 Flood Action Report

A meeting took place at the Grange on Wed 5th Mar to discuss local problems at West End and Friars Pardon. Attendees were Joe Kelley (Chair), Ken Pattison, four reps from DBC/SBC, 2 from NW, 2 from Bedburn Trust, and four residents. After 90 mins discussion it was agreed in principle to reformat the gradient in Glebe Lane, put in a French drain/soakaway beside it, and attempt to break through the pipe culvert at the bottom of the Glebe. Funding of the former actions is for further prompt discussion.

167. Tree Report

Cllr Foster reported:-

1. There is a 70ft tree beside the path to the Primary School leaning at a 45degree angle. This is DBC responsibility;
2. There is a large tree in the Grange grounds, opposite to the Comprehensive School which is rotten. It is deemed dangerous and needs to come down. Action – **Clerk to inform Dave Coates at DBC and get permission to fell the tree.**
3. PeterFoster/Ken Pattison to confer on necessary trimming of trees along Croft Rd once the speed monitor is put in place. PF to provide the clerk with an estimate of cost to comply with the line of site for the speed monitor bearing in mind the height of branches coincident with the road edge should be a minimum 7.5 m, tapering back aesthetically. Helen Sullivan at Hurworth Cottage to be consulted by PF. **Action Peter Foster.**
4. The tree which is considered dangerous on Roundhill Road in leaning further. **Clerk to alert DBC.**
5. **Lych Gate. Guy Foster has still not received planning permission to prune the trees at Lych Gate. Action Peter Foster to follow up and accelerate the process.**

168. Allotments

Cllr Williams reported

All the rents for 2014 have now been received.

There are three people waiting for allotments at the Grange, and two at strait Lane.

There is one unallocated plot at Strait Lane and this will be allocated next week.

An Allotment Committee Meeting has been convened for 19th March at 7:15pm.

169. Association Reports

Jeff Kemp reported that he had attended the Small and Medium Councils meeting. The main topic was ‘the treatment of trees’. He brought back a document, which should assist HPC. This has been given to Peter Foster to study, and he and the Clerk are tasked with preparing a suitable procedural document for this council.

170. Any Other Business (Non-financial)

1. Peter Foster reported that all Guy foster’s tree equipment has been stolen. This may cause some delays in executing the outstanding work, including the scheduled tree planting.
2. Val Hughes suggested that there should be an Annual Meeting of the Hurworth and Neasham Burial Committee. **Action clerk to arrange if required.**

3. The Chairman advised that at the recent meeting of the Airport Committee, sixty percent of the poll were in favour of the proposed housing development plan. Rockliffe Hall has advised the parish council that the English Seniors Golf Championship will be held at Rockliffe in August and large crowds can be expected. They also advised that the lease on the small shop opposite the Spar is expiring, and they will be leaving those premises.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9:40pm