

Hurworth Parish Council

Minutes of the proceedings of the monthly meeting of Hurworth Parish Council held at Hurworth Grange, Hurworth –on-Tees, on Tuesday 13th January 2009 at 7pm.

Present: Cllr. I.Holme (Chairman), Cllr. P.Allan, Cllr. A. Gibson, Cllr. G.Hepplewhite, Cllr. P.Foster, Cllr. G.Lawman, Cllr. K.Pattison, Cllr. C.Pratt, Cllr. D.Parr.

Apologies: Cllr. B.Shukla, Cllr. V.Hughes, Cllr. I. White.

In Attendance: Borough Councillors Swainston and Dunstone, Police Community Service Officer J.Angus.

Parish Clerk, J.Robinson.

5 members of the public were also present.

4.00/09: Declaration of Interest

Nil

5.00/09: Minutes of the Monthly meeting held on 9th December 2008 and the Special meeting held on 5th January 2009.

Resolved: That the minutes and recommendations contained therein, be approved with the following amendment to the minutes of the 9th December 2008:-
101.00/08 should read newsletter not questionnaire.

6.00/09: Matters of Information

6.01/09: Verbal confirmation from the County Court that as of Wednesday 7th January no formal papers or application for an injunction against Hurworth Parish Council has been served. Council await written confirmation.

6.02/09: No confirmations from the Borough Council in respect of the dates for the installation of the bus stop, opposite the spar although at the last meeting Officers from the Borough advised late January. It was resolved the Clerk chase this matter up with the relevant Borough officer.

6.3/09 No response as yet to the letter seeking advice from the freedom of information officer at the Borough Council.

6.4/09 A letter from Hurworth Community Association in regards to the proposed Croft Road Fence scheme. It was resolved the Clerk meet with the relevant parties and prepare a report to be presented for discussion at the February meeting.

7.00/09 Chairman Remarks

The Chairman Councillor Holmes advised the members of the following:-

a) He wished on behalf of the Council to formally congratulate John Graham, former Deputy Head at the school, on receiving his MBE in the new years Honours list

- b) He advised that Darlington Borough Council have made public announcements that it is their intention to make significant capital investment into Hurworth Secondary school, something to be welcomed
- c) He also advised members he has been asked if members wished to attend the Borough Holocaust Memorial day on the 27th January to contact him for reservations.

8.00/09 Croft House redevelopment

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Nigel Bell representing Yuills Builders of Hartlepool. Mr. Bell gave an up to date presentation on their current proposals for the Croft House site and answered member's queries. Included in the discussion was a reference to a possible need by the developers to cross parish land in respect of water/drainage. This would involve a formal easement agreement. The Chairman advised Mr. Bell as this matter was not formally tabled for inclusion on this month's agenda no decisions could be taken. The meeting did however agree to request up to date copies of plans from the developers and to await a formal application for the easement to the Council. The Chairman thanked Mr. Bell and gave an open invitation to both he and his company to attend a future meeting when more detailed information was available.

9.00/09: Police Report

PCSO Angus advised members of the crimes committed within the parish over the previous month which included the following:-

3 Burglaries

1 Theft of a value in excess of £5000

2 Criminal damages

He also advised of a number of complaints in regards to youths damaging outdoor Christmas trees over the Christmas period. Also an issue in regards to the area were trees are being stored for re-cycling at The Grange. Clerk to ask Darlington Borough Council to remove all the remaining trees.

10.00/09: Public Participation

A member of the public referred to the Friends of Hurworth group, and asked if the council had contact details of their officers, membership numbers, meeting dates. The Chairman advised that no details were on file but that the Clerk would try and establish these details for the February meeting.

11.00/09 Parish Clerk/Quality Council status/CV of Clerk/Council queries

In response to members queries the Clerk tabled a written report covering the above topics including dates when the parish office will be open to the public.

Resolved:-

1. That a formal application for the Parish Clerk to undertake the CiLCA qualification be made
2. The remainder of the report is received.

12.00/09 Parish Plan

Cllr. P.Allan gave a report on the above. The initial leaflet has already been distributed and the follow up questionnaires are due to be circulated across the Parish from the 15th January. Darlington Borough Council has agreed to assist in the questionnaire analysis, and he is meeting with Rockcliffe Hall management to see if they will sponsor the process to a sum of £3000. The bill for printing to date was submitted.

Councillor Hepplewhite reported on a complaint she had received following the leaflet distribution from Mr. H.Knight. He is not happy that the public meeting is to be held in licensed premises. The Chairman advised that whilst the Parish Council are the main drivers of the project, it is being led by a committee of volunteers and the Parish Clerk will only be at the meeting in an observer capacity only.

Resolved:-

1. To pay the printing cost of £164.38
2. To reply to Mr. Knight in the same vein as reported by the Chairman
3. To receive regular reports on the progress of the project and to wait the final Action Plan.

The Chairman on behalf of the Council thanked Cllr. Allan and his colleagues for the work undertaken to date.

13.00/09 Nature reserve

Cllr. P.Allen reported on the current progress in respect of the above and advised he and Mr. J.Buxton will present an upto date report on the project to the February Parish Council meeting. In response to a query by Cllr. Lawman the Clerk advised a financial report will also be presented to the same meeting in respect of expenditure undertaken by the project to date.

14.00/09 Erosion of Village Green/Hawthorne hedge

A number of members expressed concern in regards to the state of Village and Parish land across the Parish and also around the entrances to Hurworth School as a result of indiscriminate parking.

Concern was also expressed at the cutting down and in part removal of the Hawthorne hedge at Manorhouse green.

Resolved:-

- 1) Signs to be erected along the Parish land/Greens advising no parking
- 2) A meeting be set up with Hurworth School to discuss parking issues
- 3) Darlington Borough Council be contacted to establish who is the land owner on Manorhouse were the Hawthorne hedge is situated and to establish who authorised the recent work
- 4)) to await a response from the Borough Council to the letter sent last month asking for advise in regards to placing stones on the edge of the Village Green.

15.00/09 Accounts for Payment

Resolved: that the following accounts be approved for payment:

SLCC	CiLCA Fee	£150.00
J.Robinson	Expenses	£15.30
J.Robinson	Salary (cover dec)	£117.60
J.Robinson	Salary	£279.20
T.Murray	Salary	£324.79
Inland Revenue	Tax/NI	£351.31

SLCC	SLCC Registration	£144.00
HCA	Photocopying	£20.05
Sense Centre Ltd	Printing	£164.38

A total £1566.63 agreed for payment.

16.00/09 Annual Parish Assembly

It was resolved the Annual Assembly be held on Tuesday 10th March 2009.

17.00/09 Seat Hurworth School

After discussion it was resolved to take no action on this matter at this time.

18.00/09 Croft School Consultation paper

Members discussed a consultation document from the above school wishing views on their proposal to open an additional nursery school.

Resolved: - to write back in support of the proposal

19.00/09 NALC Stepping Stones Conference

Resolved: - Not to attend this particular course, but to write to the County training Partnership to ask for details on both Councillor Introduction and Chairmanship courses.

20.00/09 Overhanging trees, Glebe estate

This matter was placed on the Agenda by Cllr. White whose apologies had been accepted.

Resolved: - to ask Cllr White to be specific about which tree he is referring to and for the Clerk to take the matter up with the relevant department at Darlington Borough Council.

21.00/09 Correspondence

21.01/09 The following items were received:-

Darlington Borough Council Sport Strategy
CLG Communities in Control consultation document

21.02/09 Newton Aycliffe Co-op regarding a burial on 17th November 2008

21.03/09 Hurworth Senior Citizens group in regards to the bus shelter, to respond that Council have been advised it will be in situ by January 31st 2009.

22.00/09 CPRE/Darlington Borough Land Assessment Document

After discussion in regards to this consultation document it was agreed to receive the document and to monitor the interpretation of site 38.

23.00/09 Planning applications

Member discussed the following applications and made no comment in respect of any application:-

- 1) 08/00926/FUL construction of 23 car park spaces, Middlesbrough FC training grounds, Rockcliffe Park, Hurworth Place

- 2) 08/00872/FUL erection of single storey extension and increase roof pitch, Lygon House, Neasham Road, Hurworth moor
- 3) 08/00905/FUL demolition of existing dwelling and erection of detached dormer bungalow 2 Mowbray Drive, Hurworth.
- 4) 08/00964/TF works to trees protected, Hurworth Grange Community Centre, Hurworth Road, Hurworth.

The following have received planning permission by the planning authority:-
08/00900/FUL conservatory Hill Farm, 12 bridge Road Darlington
08/00882/FUL variation planning condition 5 Caravan Park, Newbus Grange, Hurworth Road.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.