

Hurworth Parish Council

Minutes of the proceedings of the monthly meeting of Hurworth Parish Council held at Hurworth Grange, Hurworth –on-Tees, on Tuesday 10th March 2009 at 7pm.

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

Apologies: Borough Councillor Swainston.

In Attendance: Borough Councillor Dunstone, PC J.Brown

Parish Clerk: J.Robinson.

5 members of the public were also present.

42.00/09: Declaration of Interest

Cllr. I. White in regards to any matters affecting The Grange by virtue as Secretary of Community Association, in respect of both personal and prejudicial.

Cllr. D.Parr, personal and prejudicial in respect of The Grange due to part time employment.

Cllr. I.Holme, personal in respect of his Father being Chairman of the Grange Community Association.

Cllr. G.Hepplewhite in respect of payments to reimburse her for paying the prize money to Hurworth School for the Logo Competition.

Cllr. P.Foster in regards to the payment to his sons company for Forestry work undertaken by the Nature Project.

43.00/09: Minutes of the Monthly meeting held on 10th February 2009.

Resolved: That the minutes and recommendations contained therein, be approved, subject to the following alterations,

- a) Cllr. I. White declaration of interest be recorded as both personal and prejudicial
- b) The figure of Westwood fencing should read £1750 not £17500.

44.00/09: Matters of Information

44.01/09: Royal Garden Party

Unfortunately Cllr. C.Pratt's nomination was unsuccessful.

44.02/09 HMCS

The Clerk advised as of the 10th March 2009 no court injunction has been received by the Parish Council.

44.03/09 Croft Bridge

The Clerk advised the information supplied by Cllrs. Foster and Gibson was relayed to North Yorkshire County Council and no further communication from them has been received.

44.04/09 Yew tree, Nattrass Garden Centre

Notification from DBC that the matter is being dealt with

44/05 Barnard Castle School Buses

Notification from the above school Bursar, that their operator has been advised not to park on village green.

44/06 Grange allotments

The Chairman advised that since the last meeting he had received a number of concerns in regards to the safety of the wall at the above allotments.

Resolved; Clerk to instruct an engineer to examine the wall as a matter of urgency and for the matter to be discussed at the forthcoming Allotments meeting on Thursday 26th March.

45.00/09 Chairman Remarks

The Chairman advised most of his report had been covered by the Annual Assembly, but he did advise the winning Logo design will be available for the April meeting.

46.00/09: Police Report

PC J.Brown advised members of the crimes committed within the Parish over the previous month which included the following:-

7 reports of crime within the Parish which broke down to the following, 4 thefts, 2 non dwelling burglaries, 1 stolen Porsche car.

Members raised various issues in regards to speeding and road traffic within the Parish. The Chair also made reference to an agenda item to be discussed later in the meeting in respect of the Emerson Public House. PC Brown agreed to look into all matters and report back to the April meeting.

47.00/09 Efficiency of the Internal Audit/Power of Well Being

The Clerk presented to Council a paper he had prepared on the above topic. He advised members that part of the Audit process now incorporates this procedure. If it is not undertaken and presented to Full Council in March then a qualified audit will happen.

Members considered the document and raised questions in respect of various aspects to seek clarification.

Resolved:-

- a) To accept the report as submitted by the Clerk, members to submit any alterations they feel necessary to him by the 31st March
- b) To establish a Finance Sub-Committee, membership to be elected at the Annual Parish Council meeting in May

c) The Clerk to arrange Power of well being training via the DATPC.

48.00/09: Public Participation

48.01/09 Ms. Edwards raised the issue of lack of appropriate bus service to the Parish. It was agreed the Clerk take up the matter with the Borough Council and also Arriva.

48.02/09 Mr. Burton raised the issue of dropped kerbs in Avon Road estate. He advised the Borough Council had promised to install drop kerbs on this estate and to date none have happened. It was agreed the Parish Clerk take up the matter with Darlington Borough Council.

49.00/09 Accounts for Payment/Financial Report

Councillor Gibson, White and Lawman asked for clarification in regards to the authorisation process for contracts awarded via the nature project funding. Cllr P.Allen and the Chairman responded advising of the process set up in September 2008. Cllr. P.Allen also advised in response to Cllr. I. White question in regards to the bill for the Grange drainage that Rockcliffe Hall had undertaken the work on the Parishes behalf but the cost of materials was to fall to the Nature Reserve Account to pay for. After a vote of 9 for, 2 against and 1 abstention,

Resolved: that the following accounts be approved for payment:

T.Murray	£343.51
J.Robinson	£337.51
Inland Revenue	£354.14
G.Hepplewhite/Prizes	£30.00
J.Robinson postage/skip hire	£139.62
John Wade Skip Hire	£116.00
HCA Photocopying	£35.95
Rockcliffe Hall re. Drainage	£495.00
Fosters Forestry	£200.00
P.Walton Nature Reserve Plants	£300.00
Butterwick Trees	£309.47

A total £2661.20 agreed for payment.

50.00/09 Correspondence

The following items were received:-

- a) Standard Board for England Questionnaire, completed by the Chairman
- b) Copy of correspondence between DBC and Mrs. K.Spence
- c) Pension service asking if we employ a Mrs. Jackson, replied in the negative
- d) DBC Standards Committee Agenda for their meeting to be held on 16th March 2009

- e) Tees Valley Councils network, Ethical training day, May 8th 2009, 2 places allocated to Council. Cllr. Hepplewhite and 1 other to attend. Members to notify Clerk of their interest to enable places to be confirmed.
- f) LCR/NALC Quarterly magazine.

Resolved: - They be received.

51.00/09 Post Box Croft/Comet

The Clerk advised we still await a response from the Post Office Counters limited.

52.00/09 Horses on Village Green

The Clerk advised members of the quote obtained from Kipbridge Signs, at a cost of £18 per sign, which members considered at the February meeting.

Resolved: to purchase 10 signs as per the quote and to arrange a site meeting, to select where they are to be positioned once they arrive.

53.00/09 Lease for the Grange Community Association

The Clerk advise as of yet the lease has not as yet arrived.

Resolved:-

1. The Chairman and Vice Chairman be authorised to sign the lease on behalf of the Parish if it arrives between meetings and to forward it to the officers of the grange to complete.

54.00/09 Parish Plan

Cllr. P.Allen gave an upto date report on the progress of the above. Questionnaires are to be returned to the Parish Office by Friday 3rd April. He also asked Council to agree to pay the printing invoice if it arrives before the next meeting.

Resolved; to authorise the payment of the Prontaprint invoice between meetings, as long as it does not exceed the original estimate as previously agreed by Council.

55.00/09 Parish Liaison Group

At the February meeting Council agreed to appoint members to serve on the above group at the March meeting.

Resolved: To appoint Cllrs. P.Foster, P.Allen, I.Holme and G.Hepplewhite, the Clerk to arrange the meeting with Rockliffe Hall.

56.00/09 The Grange Community Association

Mr. S.Holme, Chairman of the above Association gave a brief report on the current activities of the Grange Community Association and submitted an upto date financial report. He concluded by thanking the parish Council for their support and donations of £4200 given during the past year.

The Chairman Cllr. Holmes thanked Mr. Holmes on behalf of the Parish and wished he and his Committee well for the coming year.

57.00/09 Croft House redevelopment

The Clerk advised he had written to Yuill's and requested a meeting to discuss the easement issue as requested by Council at its February meeting. Yuill's are more than happy to meet with Council and asked for a meeting to be arranged,

Resolved:

- 1) Cllrs G.Lawman, I.Holme, P.Allen, G.Hepplewhite, D.Parr, C.Pratt, K.Pattison and the Clerk attend
- 2) Meeting to be arranged for April

58.00/09 Residents Church Row

An anonymous letter had been received from residents of Church Row in respect of nuisance arising from the Emerson Arms Public House. Cllr. P.Allen also spoke of concerns raised by residents directly to him. The Chairman reminded members he had raised the matter earlier in the meeting during the police report and PC brown had advised he would look into the matter.

Resolved:

- 1) To await the reply from PC brown
- 2) Clerk to write to the Landlord and advise him of the letter and to ask if you would deal with the environmental issues raised
- 3) The Clerk to write to DBC and ask them to advice on their Policy in respect of Pub patrons and having to smoke in the open, their policy in regards to street cleaning etc.

59.00/09 Letter regarding overgrown hedges

A letter was received from a resident in respect of overgrown hedges and the main public paths.

Resolved: to reply to the resident advising, the matter is the responsibility of DBC and to forward the letter and Councils reply to the appropriate officer at DBC.

60.00/09 Darlington Association of Parish Council meeting

Resolved: Cllr. Hepplewhite attend on the Councils behalf

61.00/09 Lytch gate/memorial

Cllr. Lawman advised he had been approached by a resident offering assistance in repairing the above. The Clerk has written to DBC on the advice of the church to clarify who is responsible for the maintenance of both Lytch Gates and the Bus Shelter adjacent to the church. Cllr. Parr reported on concerns residents also have in regards to the white chippings around the memorial in the centre of the village. The Clerk advised he had also had a number of residents into the Parish Office complaining in a similar manner. He also advised he had written to DBC asking for clarification on why they were installed and if they could be replaced.

Resolved: Action of the Clerk endorsed.

62.00/09 Planning applications

Council considered the following applications and decisions made by Darlington Borough Council

- a) 09/00080/FUL 2 storey extension to 6 Westfield Drive, no objection (Cllr. I. White declared an interest)
- b) B) 08/00872/FUL Lygon House, withdrawn
- c) C) 09/00090/FUL first floor extension 24 Belgrave terrace, no objection
- d) D) 09/00061/FUL garage extension Meadow break, Roundhill Road, no objection
- e) 08/00892/FUL 14a Church Row, planning permission granted by DBC
- f) 08/009577/FUL Green Lane Farm, Hurworth Moor, permission granted by DBC
- g) 09/00005/FUL 12 West end, permission granted by DBC

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.10pm.