

Hurworth Parish Council

Minutes of the proceedings of the Annual meeting of Hurworth Parish Council held at Hurworth Grange, Hurworth –on-Tees, on Tuesday 12th May 2009 at 7pm.

Present: Cllr. I.Holme (Chairman) Cllr. G.Hepplewhite, Cllr. P.Allan, Cllr. A. Gibson, 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 Swainstone

In Attendance: Borough Councillor Dunstone PCSO J.Angus
Representatives of Durham and Darlington Civil Contingency Unit

Parish Clerk: J.Robinson.

7 members of the public were also present.

1.00/10: 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. Also in respect of the accounts

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

Cllr. P.Foster, personal in respect of the accounts in respect of the accounts

Cllr. I.Holme personal in regards to any item involving The Grange and Hurworth Community Association

Cllr. G.Hepplewhite personal in respect of the accounts

2.00/10 Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman Cllr. I.Holme wished to place on record his thanks to all members, clerk and especially his Vice Chair Cllr Hepplewhite for all their support and assistance during his year. There had been many highlights over the year but perhaps the visit of HMS Hurworth and the Remembrance Day Service stood out.

3.00/10 Election of Chairman

Cllr. G.Hepplewhite was the only candidate nominated for the position of Chairman

Resolved: - To elect Cllr. G.Hepplewhite, as Chairman of Hurworth Parish Council for the 2009/10 municipal year.

Cllr. Hepplewhite then signed the declaration of acceptance of office. Cllr. Hepplewhite also at this point presented Cllr. I.Holme with a small gift of appreciation on behalf of the members of the Council.

4.00/10 Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr. C.Pratt was the only candidate nominated for the position of Vice Chairman

Resolved: - To elect Cllr. C.Pratt as Vice Chairman Hurworth Parish Council for the 2009/10 municipal year.

5.00/10 Police Report

PCSO J.Angus was welcomed to the meeting by the Chairman. He advised members of the following incidents that had taken place over the previous two months across the parish

- 1 incident of violence on the 1st May
- 4 Criminal damages, including damage to personal garages
- 3 burglaries of garages
- 6 incidents of Anti Social Behaviour
- 1 stolen vehicle
- 5 thefts in general.

He also responded to individual members concerns/queries, which included the following:-

- 1) Horses running loose on the highway. He advised that there had recently been 6 calls to respond to such incidents. The difficulty had been identifying the owners. He also advised the RSPCA are involved.
- 2) In response to questions from members PCSO Angus advised he no longer had the use of a car and relied upon spare vehicles in the police compound, public transport and lifts. Several members expressed serious concern at this and the potential problems this situation can create.

Resolved: -

- 1) The Clerk to write to the Chief Constable and Chair of the Police Authority expressing grave concern in regards to the lack of transport for PCSO Angus
- 2) To write to the RSPCA and seek advice from them in regards to the Horse issue.

6.00/10 Civil Contingency Unit

The Chairman welcomed Clare Balmont and Graham Lane from the above unit who gave a presentation to the meeting on their plans for any future flooding incidents. The Unit are looking for volunteers to both act as local contact points for information distribution and to also assist them when any flooding takes place. Members suggested a future meeting consider establishing a Flood Committee.

Resolved: - Clerk to follow up with a list of members who will act as local contacts. He is also to request further information and to produce an article on the topic for the forthcoming Annual Report and Village Notice boards.

7.00/10 Internal Committee elections

Finance Committee: - Chairman, Vice Chairman, Cllr G.Lawman, Cllr. D.Parr and Cllr. P.Allan, Cllr G.Hepplewhite to be Chairman

Communications Committee :- Chairman, Vice Chairman, Cllr I.Holme, Cllr K.Pattison, Cllr G.Lawman, Cllr K.Pattison to be Chairman

Appeals/Grievance Committee: - Vice Chairman, Cllrs D.Parr, P.Foster, V.Hughes, G.Lawman, B.Shukla, Cllr C.Pratt to be Chairman.

Final Committee: - Chairman, Cllrs. P.Allan, A. Gibson, I.Holme, K.Pattison, I. White, Cllr. G.Hepplewhite to be Chairman

Allotment Committee: - Chairman, Vice Chairman, Cllr. P.Foster, Cllr Hepplewhite to be Chairman

Joint Burial Board: - All members of Council and 2 representatives from Neasham Parish. Cllr G.Hepplewhite to be Chairman.

Parish Plan: - Committee membership to be elected at July Full Council when the correlated results are back from Darlington Council. Cllr Hepplewhite to be Chairman.

Parish Clerk to act as Clerk to all Committees.

8.00/10 Election of delegates to Outside Bodies

The following were elected

Hurworth Community Association

Cllr. G.Hepplewhite

Hurworth Village Hall

Cllr. K.Pattison

County Durham Association

Cllr. I.Holme

Darlington Parish Committee

Cllrs P.Foster, G.Hepplewhite + Clerk

Police Consultative Committee

Cllr. K.Pattison

Nature Reserve

Cllrs K.Pattison, P.Allan.

8.00/10 Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 12th April 2009

Resolved: - The minutes and recommendations contained therein, be approved.

9.00/10 Matters of Information

9.01/10 Bus service: - Members expressed disappointment at the lack of response from Darlington Borough Council. It was agreed to write to Cllr. Lyonette and request a meeting with him as the relevant Cabinet member

9.02/10 The Chairman advised members of an e-mail received by both her and the Clerk in regards to the 2 houses at the entrance to Rockcliffe Hall. The company have advised they will be used as training venues and office accommodation. The company advised parking should be resolved shortly. Cllr A. Gibson expressed his disappointment that this was not made clear at the planning application process as he had firmly believed they would be retained as residential accommodation.

9.03/10 The Clerk advised Officers from Darlington Borough Council are looking into the Parking issue and he suggested the matter be added to the proposed meeting with Cllr. Lyonette

9.04/10 Avon Court, the Clerk advised Officers from DBC had contacted him asking for exactly which streets on this estate/area did the Council wish to see drooped kerbs. It was the consensus of the meeting that all the streets in the vicinity needed dropped kerbs establishing.

9.05/10 Roundhill Road/Neasham entrance. Several members requested the Clerk write to the Borough Council and in particular to Cllr. Dunstone thank them for the excellent work that has been undertaken in regards to clearing up rubbish, debris and the improved brass cutting in these areas.

9.06/10 Lytch gates, Cllr. G.Lawman advised the gates have been repaired independent of intervention from Darlington Borough Council

9.07/10 Emerson Arms, Cllr Lawman tabled a letter he had received from Enterprise Inns and also a response from Darlington Borough Council advising on their policy in regards to cigarette related litter. Both items were received.

10.00/10 Highway matters

The following matters were raised by members:-

- a. Horses being ridden on footpaths
- b. A dog bin is required on the Glebe estate
- c. 2 dog bins required in the grounds of The Grange

Resolved: - Clerk to take all matters up with Darlington Borough Council.

11.00/10 Public participation

- a. A resident from Hurworth Place presented a report on behalf of a group of residents opposed to the redevelopment of Croft House
- b. A resident expressed concern in regards to speeding on the grange estate and asked for a 20 mph speed restriction to be considered. It was resolved the Clerk to seek advise in this regard from Darlington Borough Council.

12.00/10 Accounts for Payment/Financial Report

Hurworth History Society	£76.00
Hurworth Community Association	£1000 (£90 donation + £100 for Fun Day)
Buttercup Ceramics	£30.00 (gift for HMS Hurworth)
T.Murray wages	£305.87
J.Robinson wages	£337.51
Inland Revenue May tax/NI	£344.68
Inland Revenue Annual returns	£154.64
J.Robinson postage/diesel	£50.00 (£30 for postage £20 for diesel)
Hurworth Community Association	£620.00 (rent)

Hurworth Social Club visit of HMS Hurworth	£70.20
Hurworth Community Association photocopying	£29.00
Royal mail freepost for parish Plan	£43.10
I. White catering for HMS Hurworth	£80.85
Hurworth Social Club	£33.60
G.Hepplewhite Chairman's Allowance	£100.00
John Wade Skip Hire	£116.00

Total payments for the month of £3391.45

13.99/10 Hurworth Community Association Roof

The Clerk advised the Community Association had tried on our behalf to obtain additional quotes but all prospective bidders wished to remove the whole roof as opposed to the repair as discussed.

Resolved: - to accept the quote of Independent Roofing Systems at £562.00 + VAT.

14.00/10 Correspondence

The following items of correspondence were received:-

DRCC Quarterly Information

S.J.Danby Play scheme Limited brochure

15.00/10 Visit of HMS Hurworth

Cllr. I.Holme gave a brief report on the recent visit by the Crew of HMS Hurworth. He also advised the crew had donated one of the plates presented to them to be retained by the Parish. The Chairman thanked Cllr Holme and all members who had assisted in any way in the success of the visit.

Resolved: - To approach the HCA Social Club to see if the plate can be displayed on their wall.

16.00/10 Parish Plan

The Clerk advised the meeting that he had been approached by members asking for clarification on who was undertaking the collation of the results. Darlington Borough Council was approached at the start of the project and they agreed to undertake the task free of charge. Cllr. P.Allan confirmed the Clerks report. It was also noted that once the Parish Plan is finished it will need to be adopted by the Parish Council and a formal Committee to implement it established. It was agreed to elect this Committee in July.

17.00/10 Audit of Accounts

The Clerk circulated a draft statement of Annual Accounts. The final version to be considered at a Special meeting of Council to be held on Monday 1st June 2009.

18.00/10 Equality and Diversity Policy

A letter was received from the Equality and Diversity Commission advising on the legal role now placed on the Council.

Resolved:- The Clerk in conjunction with Cllr. V/.Hughes to prepare a draft Policy for consideration at the June Full Council.

19.00 Annual Strawberry Fayre

A letter was received from Hurworth Scouts requesting approval to hold their Annual Strawberry Fayre on the Village Green on the 10th July

Resolved: - Application approved

20.00/10 Pear tree behind Woodland way

A letter was received expressing concern at the nature Projects consideration of felling the pear tree in the grounds of the Grange. Members were advised this is no longer a proposal and the pear tree is to remain.

21.00/10 Minutes of Allotment Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd April were adopted and recommendations endorsed.

22.0/10 Minutes of Communication meeting held on 21st April

Minutes of the meeting were adopted and recommendations endorsed. Members Surgeries to commence June 2009.

23.00/10 Minutes of Croft Redevelopment meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st April were noted and agreed, it was noted that due to potential legal involvement and easement contracting, the minutes to be treat as confidential at this stage, and also at this time until Planning Application process has been considered no action to be taken. The Clerk advised members that the Full Planning application had only been received by the Council that morning. He advised members to defer any decision on this and the Gypsy site meeting, which also only arrived that morning to a special meeting.

Resolved: - It was agreed to add the two planning matters to the special meeting being held on June 1st.

24.00/10 Nature project

Cllr K.Pattison and Cllr P.Allan submitted a written report along with a report tabled by Mr. J.Buxton as to his reasons for stepping down from the project, they also answered members individual questions.

Resolved: - report to be noted and the clerk to write and thank Mr. Buxton for his service on this project.

25.00/10 Planning Applications

09/00223/FUL Conversion of Garage birch House, no objection

09/00227/FUL Two storey extension 4 Minster Walk, no objection

Notification from DBC of their approval for application 09/00165/FUL in regards to 44 Elmfield Road

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.