

## **Hurworth Parish Council**

**Minutes of the proceedings of the monthly meeting of Hurworth Parish Council held at Hurworth Grange, Hurworth –on-Tees, on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2009 at 7pm.**

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

**Apologies:** Cllr K.Pattison (holiday) Cllr I. White (illness)

**In Attendance:** Parish Clerk: J.Robinson, Cllr Dunstone and Cllr Swainstone

Andy Witton and 2 colleagues fro Darlington Borough Youth Service

10 members of the public were also present.

### **94.00/10: Declaration of Interest**

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

Cllr. P. Allan, personal in his role as Treasurer Hurworth Grange Social Club and member Village Hall Committee

Cllr. I.Holme personal in respect of being a Governor Hurworth College (Planning)

Cllr. P.Foster personal as sons business is in Forestry.

### **95.00/10 Chairman's Remarks**

The Chairman advised that due to the length of the Agenda there would be no Chairman's remarks. However she did wish to raise the issue of a planning application for 22 Friars Pardon which had only been received after the Agenda was circulated. It was agreed to hold a Special Council meeting on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November to discuss the matter.

### **96.00/10 Presentation to the Chairman**

On behalf of Hurworth History Society Cllr. V.Hughes presented a copy of their recently published book celebrating 40 years of Hurworth Grange and Community Association. On behalf of the Council the Chairman thanked Cllr Hughes and hoped the sales of the book would exceed their expectations.

### **97.00/10 Minutes of Monthly meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

**Resolved:** - The minutes and recommendations contained there in be approved

## **98.00/10 Matters of Information**

### **98.01/10 Highways matters**

All the points raised plus a copy of the minutes were sent to David Winstanley and to date no reply received.

## **99.0/10 Minutes of Special Parish Council held on September 8<sup>th</sup> 2009**

**Resolved:** - Minutes of meeting approved and confirmation of Flood Warden scheme meeting for 17<sup>th</sup> November.

### **100.00 Presentation by Darlington Borough Youth Service**

Mr. Andy Witton and colleagues from Darlington Borough Youth Services gave a presentation on the services they offer to young people in general across the Borough and more specifically in Hurworth. They referred to the Youth work centred on the Grange and also requested youth involvement in Hurworth Together and the Parish Plan. They work with all young people between the ages of 13 to 19.

**Resolved:** - To note the report and thank Andy Witton and colleagues for all the work they are undertaking in support of the Youth of Hurworth.

### **101.00/10 Police Report**

There was no police report submitted.

### **102.00/10 Highways Matters**

The Chairman advised minutes of the last meeting had been supplied to both Cllr. Lyonette and Mr Winstanley but as of yet no reply to the outstanding issues.

## **103.00/10 Minutes of Allotments Committee meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

The minutes and recommendations from the above meeting were submitted for approval.

**Resolved:** - To approve the minutes and resolutions contained there in.

### **104.00/10 Tree work, Village Green**

The Clerk advised that tenders are due back by 1<sup>st</sup> November and would be presented to the November Finance Committee.

### **105.00/10 Public participation**

A number of residents attended the meeting to raise concern in regards to the closure of a public right of way adjoining Croft Club. They advised the Council a considerable number of residents regularly walked this path and were now being prevented due to it being inaccessible. They had obtained nearly 100 witness statements from residents stating they had walked this path regularly for over 20 years. They asked members of the Parish Council to support them in their endeavours

to have this footpath reinstated. Both Borough Councillors urged the Council to support the public request.

### **106.00/10 Annual Audit**

The Clerk presented the External Auditor report for both Hurworth Parish Council and Hurworth and Neasham Joint Burial Board. Council noted the recommendations made by the internal Auditor formed the basis of the report and are being implemented.

**Resolved:** - To adopt the report and for the Finance Committee to continue to implement Internal Auditors recommendations.

### **107.00/10 Accounts for Payment/Financial Report**

J.Robinson/Viking Stationery £114.19 (101867)  
J.Robinson postage £18.00 (101868)  
BDO Stoy Haywood Audit fee £327.75 (101869)  
HCA Photocopying £43.45 (101870)  
J.Robinson skip hire strait lane allotments £116.00 (101871)  
Hurworth Village Hall grant £1300.00 (101872)  
T.Murray salary £329.30 (101873)  
J.Robinson salary £341.15 (101874)  
Inland Revenue £344.94 (101875)  
Westwood timber, nature reserve £460.00 (101876)  
Village Hall second phase of toilet repair £689.00 (101877)  
Royal British legion £25.00 (101878)

A total payment approval of £4108.78

The Clerk also presented the six monthly reports and also advised the national pay settlement had been confirmed at 1.5% for Mr. T.Murray and 1% for Mr. J.Robinson, both back dated to April 1<sup>st</sup> 2009. He also advised the meeting that he had closed both Joint Burial Accounts and transferred the balances into Hurworth Parish Accounts under a separate heading as agreed by Council.

The Chairman advised Council that the Village Hall had undertaken the refurbishment of the toilets as agreed but the bill had been an additional £689, this amount could be accommodated as the original estimates set aside for this project was £2000, and this total is now £1989.

**Resolved:** - To accept the six monthly reports and refer it to the Finance Committee for further consideration and to accept the national pay rise implementing same from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009. To also, increase the payment to the Village Hall by £689 to cover the second phase toilet refurbishment.

**108.00/10 Parish Newsletter**

Cllr. Mrs. Hughes presented a draft newsletter for member's consideration. The Chairman on behalf of Council thanked her for all the work she had done on the draft.

**Resolved:** - To defer any formal decision on the newsletter and its distribution to the sub-committee meetings on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**109.00/10 Village Seats**

A number of seats, totalling 8 have been repaired during August, and an additional 2 new ones have been ordered to be situated in front of Hurworth Community College and adjacent to Nattrass Garden Centre. The 2 seats will be within the £1000 budget.

It was proposed by Cllr. G.Lawman and seconded by Cllr. Foster that the Council approach the widow of former Cllr. R. Burt and ask if the seat in front of Hurworth School could be donated in his memory.

**Resolved:** - to note the report and to accept the proposal in respect of former Councillor Burt.

**110.00/10 Parish Plan and Hurworth Together.**

Both the Clerk and Cllr Allan tabled a report on the proposed way forward, including a public meeting to be held on the 13<sup>th</sup> November. Members were also asked to review the findings of the questionnaire and let the Clerk have their list of priorities by Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October to enable a report to be prepared for consideration at the meeting on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

**Resolved:** - To accept the report and the recommendations contained therein, and to ask the Parish Plan/Hurworth Together Committee to take the project forward to Action Plan stage.

**111.00/10 Parish Walkabout**

The minutes of the parish walkabout were presented. It was noted a meeting was to be arranged with officers from Darlington Council Environment department in respect of horticultural aspects in the village.

**Resolved:-** to proceed with the implementation of the recommendations and to bring back to Council any relevant estimates for work being undertaken.

**112.00/10 Dog Control order, Play area grange estate.**

Members were advised of 2 separate requests from residents of the above estate to implement a dog control order in respect of the children's play area on this estate.

**Resolved:** - the Parish Council to request Darlington Borough Council to implement a Dog Control order on this play area only.

**113.00/10 Public Right of Way Blind Lane/Croft Social Club**

The Clerk advised members this item had been placed on the agenda by Cllr. White who was ill, but he had supplied an e-mail on his concerns. The Darlington Borough Councillors had also expressed a desire for the Council to consider the blocking of this path. The Chairman reminded members of the previous discussion in Public participation in regards to this matter.

**Resolved:** - The Council to support the members of the Public and Borough Councillors in their endeavour to have this path reinstated.

**114.00/10 Member training events**

A series of training events had previously been circulated

**Resolved:** - To agree to the following,  
Cllr Hepplewhite and Cllr Allan to attend both Participatory Budgets and Precept management modules at a cost of £27 each member.

**115.00/10 Correspondence**

BSF Leaflet DCC

Low Dinsdale PC agreeing to Cllr Hepplewhite being CDALC Executive member for Darlington

Community transport

CDALC AGM on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October, Cllr Hepplewhite to attend

DCC statement of Community involvement

It makes sense graffiti remover

Minutes of police Consultative Committee

**Resolved:** - To receive all.

**116.00/10 Youth Allotment Scheme, The Grange**

Cllr G.Lawman reported to Council on the current proposal to establish Youth Allotments at The Grange

**Resolved:** - To accept the report and to support the proposal in principle.

**117.00/10 Valuation The Grange and Public Toilets.**

7 invitations to local estate agents had been circulated and only 1 returned, JW Wood, at a cost of £250 plus VAT.

The Chairman presented maps issued by Darlington Borough Council advising that plots of land previously thought to be owned by the Parish Council were infact

identified as either being owned by DBC or indeed by private individuals. One such plot being the public toilets previously maintained by the Parish Council.

**Resolved:** - To accept JW Wood quote and proceed with the valuation of The Grange. The Clerk to also consult both Land registry and DBC to resolve the issues in respect of disputed land.

#### **118.00/10 Monument Hurowrth**

The Clerk advised members the white chippings are shortly to be removed but Street Scene are unable to plant in this area as Highways have said any plants could in fact be a distraction for drivers coming out of Roundhill Junction. Several member expressed concern at this approach.

**Resolved:-** To write to DBC highways and request information/meeting in respect of this decision and to formally request the area be planted either by DBC or the Parish itself.

#### **119.00/10 Remembrance service**

**Resolved:** - To participate as Civic leaders and to purchase a poppy wreath at a cost of £25.

#### **120.00/10 mapping for Councils**

NALC advising Councils they can obtain a licence for Ordnance Survey maps at a cost of £55.

**Resolved:** - To apply for the licence.

#### **121.00/10 Girl Guide Flower bed**

A request was received from the Girl Guide Association asking Council plant a flower bed to celebrate their 100 Centenary

**Resolved:** - to advise them the Parish does not have any formal flower beds but will explore other ways of recognising this achievement and advise them accordingly.

#### **122.00/10 New Orchard The grange**

Cllr G.Lawman reported on discussion he was having with HCA and the Nature Reserve Project in respect of members of the public being allowed to scatter relative's ashes in the orchard area and also to sponsor trees in memory of relatives.

**Resolved:** - To note the report, and set up a meeting between HCA/Nature Reserve and Parish Council to discuss the various projects highlighted by Cllr Lawman and to establish who exactly is responsible for their approval and insurance.

#### **123.00/10 Planning Applications**

##### **Applications:-**

09/00677/DC erection of 8 apartments plus car parking Linden place, no objections.

**Approved by DBC:-**

09/00464/FUL loft conversion 3 Blind lane

**Refused by DBC:-**

09/0052/FUL 2 storey extension 33 Emerson Road

**Public Appeal:-**

09/2111815 Dormer Bungalow Skipbridge, agreed not to submit any additional comments to those submitted at original planning application stage.

**The meeting closed at 9.25pm.**