

Hurworth Parish Council

Minutes of the proceedings of the monthly meeting of Hurworth Parish Council held at Hurworth Grange, Hurworth –on-Tees, on Tuesday 9th February 2010 at 7.15pm.

Present: Cllr. G.Hepplewhite, Cllr. P.Allan, Cllr. P.Foster, Cllr. C.Pratt, Cllr. D.Parr, Cllr. V. Hughes, Cllr. I.Holme, Cllr. J.Peacock.

Apologies: - Cllr A. Gibson (illness), Cllr. K.Pattison (family event) Cllr. I. White (illness).

In Attendance: Parish Clerk: J.Robinson, Cllr Dunstone and Cllr. Swainstone. Nick Elliot DBC Rights of way officer was also present to address the meeting.

15 members of the public were also present.

168.00/10: 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, and also Low hail bridge

Cllr. V.Hughes personal as a member of the Ramblers Association.

Cllr. I.Holme as a Governor Hurworth Community School and also in respect of The Grange by virtue of father being Chairman.

Cllr. I. White had requested that all minutes carry a declaration on his behalf for personal and prejudicial if or if not present in regards to the Right of Way at Croft by virtue of his membership of Croft Social Club.

169.00/10 Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman advised that she had attended 4 meetings over the last month. She advised the Council had received a considerable number of Freedom of Information requests which the Clerk is currently dealing with. Cllr. Gibson has been taken into hospital and it was agreed to send him flowers on behalf of the Council.

170.00/10 Right of Way, Croft

The Chairman introduced Mr. N. Elliott Rights of Way officer for DBC who gave an upto date report on the Croft Footpath closure. Members requested advice in regards to their objection to this closure. There had also been a verbal request made by Mrs. J.Russell for Cllr. P.Foster to be elected on behalf of both the Council and objectors to represent both parties at the forthcoming Council meeting to discuss same.

Resolved: - To authorise the Clerk to formally lodge an objection to the closure of the footpath adjoining Croft Social Club on behalf of the Parish Council to DBC. To also

confirm the decision taken in December 2009 to authorise the Clerk to complete objection forms. Cllr. P.Foster to represent the Council at any forthcoming meetings.

171.00/10 Minutes of Monthly meeting held on 5th January 2010

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

172.00/10 Matters of Information

172.01/10 Parish Election

Notices of Poll and Timetable for the election have been displayed by the Clerk. A letter from G.Reed in regards to the lack of candidate literature was noted.

172.02 Pot Holes

A letter from DBC Assistant Director of Highways advising a survey has been undertaken across the Parish and remedial work has been undertaken. Member's expressed concern at the pot holes on Strait Lane, Neasham Road end.

Resolved: - To write to DBC thanking them for their report and advising them of the state of Strait lane road.

172.03/10 Utilities

A letter advising DBC are not prepared to supply information in regards to the siting of utilities on the Village green and the responsibility to note them lies with the contactors. The letter was noted.

172.04/10 Response Mr. G.Lawman

An e-mail from Mr. Lawman thanking the Council for their letter on his resignation as Councillor was received.

172/05/10 Car parking Church Row

A letter was received from DBC advising the land in front of the flats at Church lane is infact private parking for residents.

Resolved: - to note the letter and supply Cllr. I. White who had originally raised the matter with a copy of the letter.

172/06 Trees rear of 28 The Green

Letter from Senior Arboricultural Officer DBC advising the responsibility to have the trees inspected lies with the head teacher. Letter received.

172/07 Cllr Wallis Blog

Letter from Borough Solicitor received.

173/00/10 Minutes of Special meeting held on 19th January 2010.

The minutes from the above meeting were considered. Cllr. P.Allan requested the letter supporting the new School include a request for a youth club facility to be considered.

Resolved: - To accept the minutes and recommendations contained there in and to add the youth club request from Cllr P.Allan to the formal letter of reply.

174.00/10 Minutes of Allotments Committee held on 28th January 2010

Resolved: - To accept the minutes and recommendation there in.

175.00/10 Minutes of Communication meeting held on 1st February

A draft newsletter was tabled by the Committee and there was a debate in regards to the delivery of same.

Resolved: - Minutes and Final draft newsletter be adopted and sent for publication and the Clerk authorised to arrange delivery.

176.00/10 Public Participation

The Chairman advised the Council had received a letter from Mr. J.Lawrie requesting to speak to the Council in regards to the parish precept. She had advised the Clerk to inform Mr. Lawrie he would be called upon to speak first in public participation and that the Agenda would carry his name alongside. She believed this to be the appropriate place. Council endorsed her action.

The Clerk advised Mr. Lawrie had written advising he was not happy with this situation and wanted to address the Council only, making a statement, and no reply from members. A discussion took place where a number of members expressed concern that a statement could be made without the right of reply.

Resolved: - To invite Mr. Lawrie to either the finance Committee on 1st March or the full Council on the 9th March, to speak to the Council under public participation.

No members of the public wished to address the meeting. However members were advised that a member of the public had tried to attend the meeting but was unable to park close to the building and as he was disabled had left. Members were advised the HCA are to dedicate 1 disabled parking space once the snow has lifted and this should resolve the problem.

177.00/10 PWLB

The Clerk reported the PWLB half yearly statement showed the Council paying £51.02 from the principal and £207.60 Interest. The balance remaining on The Grange loan being £4884.75.

Resolved: - To seek a settlement figure from the PWLB.

178.00/10 Parish Council meeting venue

A detailed discussion took place in regards to the future meeting dates and venue. Linden Place is available, Rockliffe Hall have agreed to free usage and The Grange Hadwin Hall is free the 1st Thursday of the month. It was also suggested the meetings rotate across all venues

Resolved: - To consider the Venue and meeting dates at the May Annual meeting of Council.

179.00/10 Croft House Development

The Chairman advised a letter had been received from Yuill's as a result of the press article covering the last meeting. The Clerk and she had considered inviting Yuills to the meeting, but she had decided their letter was sufficient. The Chairman's actions were endorsed. There ensued a lengthy discussion on the letter. A letter in regards to Field OSGR E429931 Neasham Road from DBC.

Resolved: - No action to be taken and the original decision to object upheld. Letter from DBC received.

Separate to the above Cllr. P.Allan raised the issue of the letter in the Northern Echo from Cllr I. White and asked if this was Council policy. He was advised it was his personal opinion only.

180.00/10 Highways matters

A number of members raised the issue of dog fowling and state of the footpaths.

Resolved: - Clerk to report same to Street Scene..

181.00/10 PACT

The next meeting to be held on 24th February in Reading Rooms, Neasham.

182.00/10 Police Report

No written or verbal report presented.

183.00/10 Accounts for Payment/Financial Report

PWLB	6 monthly charges on Grange	258.62	
FOTC	Parish amount to nature reserve	1500	101913
SLCC	Yearly subscriptions	145	101914
CDALC	CILCA	190	101915
Identitag	Plaque for seat	15.52	101916
Viking Direct	Stationary/newsletter paper	201.69	101917
T Murray	January Salary	316.20	101918
J.Robinson	January Salary	344.12	101919
Inland revenue	Tax/NI	338.57	101920
Total		3309.72	

The Clerk also presented the financial report April to February report. It was also noted and agreed to pay for distribution of newsletter.

Resolved: - To accept the eleven months report and to authorise payment for the above.

184.00/10 Royal Garden party

Resolved: - To nominate Cllr. G.Hepplewhite.

185.00/10 meeting invitations

Incitation to attend Tees Valley Rural Summit on 24th February and NALC lunch at Durham on 10 September 2010

Resolved: - To note both invitations and to circulate NALC details to members nearer the time.

186.00/10 Low Hail Bridge

The Council had received an e-mail expressing concern at the state of the above public right of way. Mr. N.Elliott advised the meeting it was not a public right of way and remained in private hands.

Resolved: - To write to the parishioner advising of same.

187.00/10 Repatriation Service

Cllr. P.Foster asked if members would consider a Red Friday service in memory of those killed in Afghanistan, by flying a red flag every Friday. Several members spoke out in favour of some form of recognition but were not happy at the use of a red flag.

Resolved: - To fly the English Flag on the day any member of the Armed Forces are returned home from the Sedgefield Parliamentary Constituency area. Clerk to co-ordinate with Cllr. P.Foster.

188.00/10 Litter Bin Bus stop Rockcliffe hall

Cllr. I.Holme requested a litter bin be sited next to the Bus stop as above.

Resolved: - To purchase and site a litter bin at the above bus stop.

189.00/10 DBC Local development Framework

A draft of the above was received by the Council.

Resolved: - To circulate to all members and any response to be sent to the Clerk by Friday 26th February to allow a combined response to be sent.

190.00/10 Planning Applications

09/00888/tpo tree work 5 croft road Hurworth no objections

10/00044/TF tree works 44 Manor Road, no objection

It was noted the following applications had been granted planning permission

09/00790/FUL Erection of garage 16 Emerson Road.

It was also noted refusal of the application for 22 Friars Pardon.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.