

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 March 2010 at 7.15pm.

Present: Cllr. G.Hepplewhite, Cllr. P.Allan, Cllr. P.Foster, Cllr. K.Pattison, Cllr. D.Parr, Cllr. V. Hughes, Cllr. I.Holme, Cllr. J.Peacock, Cllr. A. Gibson, Cllr. J.Russell.

Apologies: - Cllr I. White (illness), Cllr.C.Pratt (work commitments).

The Chairman advised that Cllr I. White had submitted a sick note to cover this absence and any future meetings. After discussion it was agreed to accept all apologies from Cllr I. White for the relevant 6 month period. The Chairman also asked members to support Cllr I. White during this time and to assist in attending meetings/duties on his behalf.

In Attendance: Parish Clerk: J.Robinson, Cllr Dunstone.

15 members of the public were also present.

191.00/10: 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 in regards to Village green tender for family connection

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. J.Peacock, personal by virtue of husband being Treasurer of Hurworth Community Association

Cllr. J.Peacock personal as a Governor of Hurworth Community School and co-ordinator of Right of Way campaign.

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.

192.00/10 Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman advised that she had attended 8 meetings over the last month. She welcomed formally to the meeting Cllr peacock, and also advised she had taken flowers and wine to Cllr K.Pattison after his recent operation. She also proposed to visit Cllr I. White and take a similar gift. Her actions were endorsed by the council.

193.00/10 Play builders

A presentation was given by Lisa Kwok of Groundwork Northeast in respect of the recent funding allocated by DBC to provide a new playground in Hurworth. They advised several sites had been suggested but they favoured the site on manor field. Groundwork are now keen to work with the Parish Council and residents in taking the project forward. Cllr. P.Foster asked if a site for a new play area had been considered for Hurworth Place and if the site at manor field was confirmed. Cllr G.Hepplewhite briefly informed the meeting of past issues in regards to manor field and had registered her disappointment that the Council had not been approached before any sites were considered. Groundwork agreed to discuss sites at the first joint meeting.

Resolved: - Clerk to liaise with Groundwork and arrange a joint meeting to take the project forward. All interested members to be invited to attend

The Chairman thanked the officer for attending and wished her and her colleagues well with this welcome project.

194.00/10 Minutes of Monthly meeting held on 9th February 2010

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

195.00/10 Matters of Information

195.01/10 Handy person scheme

A letter was received from DBC outlining the scheme they offer if the Council wished to take part.

195.02 Pot Holes

A letter from DBC acknowledging Council concerns regarding pot holes across the parish was received.

195.03/10 DBC Chief executive

A letter from DBC in regards to the parish precept was received. The letter advised DBC had no comments to make in regards to the recent setting of the parish precept and did not feel a joint meeting was necessary.

Resolved: - To receive and note content of letter.

195.04/10 Trees behind 28 The Green

A letter was received from the resident of the above house in response to the letter from DBC forwarded to him by the Council. The trees in question he states are hanging over the public footpath and are a health and safety issue.

Resolved:- to write to DBC and request a site visit.

195/05/10 Rockcliffe Hall

A meeting has been arranged for the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk with the Chairman of Rockcliffe Hall for Thursday 25th March.

195/06 Royal Garden Party

The Clerk advised Cllr. Hepplewhite was unsuccessful in the ballot to attend this years Garden party; the successful Councillors are from Sherburn Village and Pittington.

195/07 HCA Nomination

Resolved: - to nominate D.Baker as our tenant representative to HCA management committee.

196/00/10 Minutes of Finance meeting held on 1st march 2010.

The minutes from the above meeting were agreed and recommendations endorsed. Cllr. K.Pattison requested that it be noted he also asked for clarification from DBC in respect of what technical specification they would require for the village enhancement work as well as the contractors themselves. The Clerk advised this had been done. To date 1 contractor has forwarded their technical specification and references.

The Clerk also presented to Council the following documents for consideration:-
Council Risk Register,
Council Asset registers as of 1st March 2010
Review of Effectiveness of internal audit and procedures

During the discussion on these documents Cllr. K.Pattison suggested minutes of meetings in their draft form are placed on the Web-site. Cllr .A. Gibson also asked for clarification of the ownership of the public toilets and the adjoining building.

Resolved: - To accept the minutes and recommendations contained there in. In regards to the minutes members agreed not to publish minutes until endorsed by Full Council. In regards to the ownership of the public toilets the Clerk to investigate.

197.00/10 Minutes of Communications Working party held on 1st March 2010

Resolved: - To accept the minutes and recommendation there in. In regards to the Clerks report on the first issue of the Council newsletter, report was endorsed. Articles for the next edition to be to the Clerk no later than 15th march. (copy of report on file)

198.00/10 Minutes of Parish Plan meeting held on 1st March 2010

Resolved: - Minutes and recommendations agreed. The final draft plan to be advertised on the Web site for comment and subject to no observations made endorsed on March 24th 2010.

199.00/10 Public Participation

The Chairman advised the Council Mr. J.Lawrie had been invited to the Finance meeting but had not attended. His request to speak was also placed on the March agenda, but again was not present.

Resolved: - To leave the matter in abeyance.

The following members of the public addressed the meeting and the Chairman and Clerk responded on behalf of Council:-

Ms. M.Edwards spoke in regards to the Lease for The Grange and difficulties in obtaining grants. The Chairman advised all application for grants for The Grange must be channelled via the Clerk and then to Council.

Mr. S.Holme wished to thank the Council for all the support given to HCA and The Grange over the past year.

A resident of Manor Field expressed concern over dog fowling in the area and also requesting a specific area of the green for children's play. The Chairman advised this will be taken into account at the play builder meeting.

Mr Dewkes expressed concern in regards to the state of the Church yard and cemetery. He produced photographs for Council to consider. The Chairman requested Cllr. K.Pattison and Cllr D.Parr raise issues directly affecting the church with the PCC. The Clerk to take up urgently with DBC the state of the grounds and wall. A meeting with DBC Street Scene to be arranged.

Cllr. P.Allan requested permission to retain the photographs personally, Mr. Dewkes agreed.

Mrs. Dell asked it be minuted the thanks of residents for the Council objecting to the Croft House Planning Application. She also gave a brief report on the current situation. It was agreed the Clerk write to Phil Wilson MP and apprise him of the Councils objection.

200.00/10 Dog Bins Village green

The Clerk advised an e-mail from Ms. L.Scott, asking for dog bins which Council agreed to in October 2008 be implemented. It was suggested a general village tidy up be arranged by the Council. Cllr J.Peacock and Cllr J.Russell advised Council of the personal campaign they were sponsoring to 'clean up' the dog fowling issues across the Parish.

Resolved: - To proceed with the purchase of the 2 dog bins. To set up a working party to organise the village clean up,(meeting to be 10th March, members attending Cllrs Hepplewhite, Peacock, Allan and Russell). To also wish Cllr Peacock and Russell well with their campaign.

201.00/10 The Grange pond

Resolved: - As this matter was placed on the agenda at the request of Cllr I. White, who was not present, matter to be deferred to next meeting.

202.00/10 Complaint by Mr. G.Lawman in respect of By-Election.

The Clerk presented a written complaint in regards to the recent election and the conduct of an individual. The Clerk advised he had taken advice from the Returning Officer, the complaint had been noted by them and no further action required by Council.

Resolved: - The report of the Clerk noted.

203.00/10 Highways matters

Issues in regards to flooding and road surface in The Chase were raised
 Pot Holes on Emerson Road
 State of an un-adopted road, Blind Lane
 Parking outside of Spar Shop/1 hour waiting restriction in this area
 Lighting not working 45/46/47/48/49/50 Croft Road

Resolved: - Clerk to report same to DBC Highways and also Borough Councillors.

204.00/10 Right of Way Hurworth Place

Cllr. Russell requested this be removed from the agenda as this issue now resolved.

205.00/10 Seat Linden Court

Resolved:- subject to the agreement of DBC to the siting Council will adopt the donated seat.

206.00/10 Accounts for Payment/Financial Report

| To | For | Amount £ | Cheque No. |
|-----------------|------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| C.Allan | Delivery of newsletter | 75.00 | 101921 |
| G.Hepplewhite | Flowers A. Gibson | 9.29 | 101922 |
| HCA | Photocopying | 15.90 | 101923 |
| Viking Direct | Stamps/stationery | 226.26 | 101924 |
| NBC Security | CCTV grange | 1938.75 | 101925 |
| Eden Landscapes | Erecting signs village green | 150 | 101926 |
| T Murray | March Salary | 316.20 | 101927 |
| J.Robinson | March Salary | 344.12 | 101928 |
| Inland revenue | Tax/NI | 338.57 | 101929 |
| Total | | 3134.09 | |

We also pay PIPEX via direct debit which is £17.04 for March

The Clerk also advised a number of invoices will need to be paid before year end to comply with Council audit.

Resolved: - To approve accounts for payment and for additional invoices to be authorised by relevant signatories.

207/10 FOI

The Clerk reported to Council on advise recently received from DBC, CDALC Chief Executive and NALC. A review of Council publication scheme and FOI Policy will take place at the May meeting in line with advice given. At this meeting standing orders and other policies will be reviewed.

Resolved: - to accept Clerks report.

208.00/10 PACT meeting

The Chairman reported that Cllr. K. Pattison had spoken to her advising for the forthcoming meetings he may not be available to attend on behalf of Council and a substitute was needed.

Resolved: - To nominate Cllr. G. Hepplewhite and other members to attend as and when.

209.00/10 Hurworth School and Hurworth Community school.

Cllr. I. Holme reported on the progress towards the new school and the additional consultation process, and he urged to the Council to once again reaffirm via this process its support for the new school.

The Chairman also advised of recent press articles in regards to the merger of Polam Hall and Hurworth School. She had requested the clerk to write for further details.

Resolved: - To note both reports and to endorse both actions.

210.00/10 Wind farm

The Chairman advised that Cllr P. Allan had noticed in the draft LDF a proposed wind farm for Strssholme area of the Parish. She had also raised the issue at a recent meeting with DBC officials.

Resolved: - To write to DBC Planners for clarification.

190.00/10 Planning Applications

10/00060/FUL erection of single storey kitchen, utility room and lobby extension to side and rear 1 Burma moor Hurworth Moo

10/00063/FUL erection of conservatory to rear and conversion of existing outhouse to utility 66 Hurworth Road Hurworth Place

10/00010/LBC listed building consent for two storey rear extension, brick boundary wall and internal alterations 6a Blind lane Hurwroth

Refused

09/00888/TF tree works to 5 beeches 5 Croft Road Hurworth

Notice of planning Appeal Field OSGR E4294440 N5119270 Snipe lane for private gypsy site

Permission granted for the following

09/00903/TF willow tree crown reduction 19B Roundhill Road Darlington.

The meeting closed 9.38pm.