

Hurworth Parish Council

Minutes of the proceedings of the monthly meeting of Hurworth Parish Council held at Hurworth Grange, Hurworth –on-Tees, on Tuesday 13th April 2010 at 7.15pm.

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

Apologies: - Cllr I. White (illness), Cllr.I.Holme (holiday).

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

15 members of the public were also present.

211.00/10: 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, Vice Chairman HCA, Treasurer FOTC and assistant Secretary Village Hall Committee, and also Planning Application 10/00159/FUL.

Cllr. V.Hughes personal as a member of the Ramblers Association and also in regards to planning application 10/00159/FUL as a resident of Friars Pardon..

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

Cllr. J.Russell personal as a member of Hurworth Maths and Computing College PTA, member Riverwalk Campaign and member of FOTC

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.

Cllr. C.Pratt personal in respect of Hurworth House School by virtue of being Chairman Polam Hall Board of Governors

212.00/10 Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman advised that she and the Clerk had met with Officers from Darlington Borough Council in respect of issues raised at the March meeting and would feedback as the meeting progressed. She advised the meeting that unfortunately the Environment Agency have not attended the meeting but will be in attendance at the May meeting. Members of Council asked this to be the only item of business on the

Agenda for this meeting not directly associated with the Annual meeting of the Council.

213.00/10 Minutes of the meeting held on 9th March 2010.

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

214.00/10 Matters of Information

214.01/10 Seat dedication

A letter was received from Mrs. J.Burt on behalf of the family of the late Councillor Burt thanking the Council for dedicating the new seat outside of the College in his memory and for the recent naming ceremony.

215.02 Pot Holes

A letter from DBC advising they are undertaking a survey of the pot holes across the parish.

Resolved: - Clerk to write and request a copy of the results of the survey.

216.03/10 DBC Development framework

A card from DBC acknowledging receipt of Parish Councils comments on the proposed development framework.

216.04/10 Trees behind 28 The Green

Awaiting response from DBC regarding a site visit

216/05/10 PACT venues

A letter from PC Horner advising that the dates and venues are set by the PACT representatives and not him directly. Cllr Pattison agreed to raise the matter directly with PC Horner and report back to Council.

216/06 Tree works

The Clerk advised that a full planning application covering all works requested by the recent tree survey has been submitted. DBC have written asking for further information. Clerk has contacted both contractors for same.

Resolved:- To await outcome of planning application.

216/07 Litter bin Rockliffe Hall Bus stop

The Chairman advised DBC have no objection for this to be installed and so Clerk has confirmed order.

216/08 Hurworth House School

Letter received from above School advising once more firmer plans are available in respect of the merger with Polam Hall they feel unable to attend a meeting with the Council. However they do intend arranging a meeting in the near future.

216/09 Oxford Garage

A letter received in response to sponsorship for a Patrol Car for PCSO Angus was received from the above garage. Matter referred to Finance Committee for future consideration

216/10 Dog Control order

The Clerk advised DBC had confirmed the orders requested by the Council and all relevant paperwork is in the Council office. They will also be forwarded to the Auditor as part of the 2009 Audit. The Chairman reported on the discussions with DBC to provide the 2 dog bins agreed by Council on the village green. DBC are happy to install the bins but queried if the village green was the appropriate place. It was agreed to defer this matter to the June meeting.

216/11 Report of meeting with Rockcliffe Hall

The Chairman reported on the meeting recently held with the Chief Executive along with Cllr. C.Pratt, the Clerk and herself. The Chief Executive confirmed they would pay for the final publication of the Parish Plan. The residents of the houses on the estate are experiencing problems with refuse and recycling. She had raised the matter with DBC on their behalf .

217/00/10 Minutes of Annual Assembly held on 9th March 2010

The minutes from the above meeting were agreed and no actions were referred to Council to be undertaken.

Resolved: - To accept the minutes and refer them to 2011 Annual assembly for adoption.

218.00/10 Minutes of Clean Up and Hurworth Together meeting held on 10th March 2010.

The Clerk presented the minutes from the above meeting.

218.1/10 Parish Plan/Hurworth Together

Cllr. P.Allan gave an upto date report on the Parish Plan since the above meeting. The Plan has now been published (copy attached to minutes). He wished to thank on behalf of the Council Mr. J.Buxton for the support he gave throughout the project. Cllr Allan also referred to the proposed Hurworth Together meeting on May 12th. He advised that a group of Councillors/residents had met to discuss taking this forward. The name of Hurworth Together was not felt appropriate and they are looking at a name for the group. He advised this group had taken on board the organisation of the meeting and asked for confirmation of Cllr. J.Russell, Cllr. I.Holme and Cllr. P.Allan as the council representatives to this group. The members of the public being J.Buxton and N.Kyle.

Resolved: - To thank Mr. J.Buxton for his support with the Parish Plan and to circulate the final version. In respect of the Hurworth Together group it was agreed to nominate the 3 Councillors mentioned on an initial basis and place the Committee and confirm Council nominees at the Annual meeting for the forthcoming Civic year.

218.2/10 Parish Clean Up

Cllr J.Russell gave an update on the organisation of this event since the above meeting. She had undertaken a risk assessment and deposited it with the Clerk. A report by Cllr. I.Holme was also circulated to members. The Clerk advised he had written to our insurers requesting extra cover for the event but to date no reply. Cllr. Russell referred also to increasing publicity for the event. She had obtained a quote of approximately £50 to provide signs for either the entrances to the village or on the village green itself advertising the event. Cllr Russell also answered queries by individual members of the authority.

The Chairman also reported on the meeting she and the Clerk had attended with DBC in regards to the services they can provide to assist the project.

Resolved: - Minutes, and update reports accepted. It was also proposed Cllr. K.Pattison and seconded Cllr. P.Allan to purchase self supporting notices upto the value of £50 to go on the village green to advertise the event. This was carried 6 for, 1 against 3 abstentions.

219.00/10 Public Participation

The Clerk presented to the meeting a draft Protocol for public participation to be effective from the May Annual meeting. This will assist both members and the public when dealing with this area.

Resolved: - It was agreed to adopt the protocol.

The following members of the public raised issues with Council,

Mr. David Crisp and the issues raised at the last meeting in regards to the cemetery. He was extremely upset at the article in the newspaper criticising him and the subsequent response from members of the public infringing his privacy and also the inaccuracy of the report. The Chairman apologised but advised the Council have no influence over what members of the public report in regards to meetings.

Mr. David Brookes urged the Council to continue to oppose the developments at 22 Friars Pardon,

Mr. Andy Coates commented of people camping on the River bank at Hurworth Place.

220.00/10 Annual Audit

The Clerk advised the Annual Audit dates have been notified, first publishing date 15th May and final date of submission to BDO of 19th June.

Resolved: - to note the report and conform to dates as required.

221.00/10 The Grange pond

Cllr. K.Pattison advised the meeting that Cllr. J.Russell had arranged for a lecturer from East Durham College (Houghall) to attend a meeting of the FOTC to discuss a management plan for this area of the nature reserve which they were maintaining on

behalf of the Council. He agreed to report back to the Council when the management plan is available.

Resolved: - To note Cllr. K.Pattison report and await outcome.

222.00/10 Annual meeting/Polices/Dates of meetings

Members agreed to limit agenda items to urgent business only to allow the Annual meeting to focus on Council elections and the adoption of relevant polices members agreed to bring their own copies of polices. The Chairman also advised members they had agreed to discuss dates/times/venue of Council meetings in May to improve access for the public.

223/10/ Letter from Mr. J.Lawrie

The Clerk advised he had received a further letter from Mr. Lawrie asking if the Council conforms to the CDALC guidelines. He advised he was trying to set up a meeting with the resident to try and resolve this issue.

224.00/10 Accounts for Payment/Financial Report

The following accounts were approved for payment.

To	For	Amount £	Cheque No.
HCA	Photocopying	25.45	101981
Viking Direct	Stationery	23.70	101982
Eden landscape	Repair final 6 benches hurworth place	435.00	101983
G.Hepplewhite	Flowers J.Burt	14.98	101984
HCA	Printing/Room rental dog camp	65.00	101985
HCA	Refreshments seat dedication	25.75	101986
Friends of Rockcliffe Court	donation	50.00	101987
J.Robinson	Pipex 2 months dd now set up	34.08	101988
Royal mail	Freepost	71.35	101989
CDALC	Annual fees	385.06	101990
Viking Direct	stationery	180.83	101991
T.Murray	salary	327.14	101992
J.Robinson	salary	344.12	101993
Inland revenue	Ni/tax	340.57	101994
J.Robinson	Dec/April expenses	202.51	101995
Viking Direct	Stationery	23.70	101996
BT	Line rental	54.15	dd

A monthly total of £2603.39. The Chairman advised she had agreed between meetings to support financially the dog campaign both in printing and hall hire. This is covered by cheque number 101985. Council endorsed her actions. Approval was also given

once accounts finalised to pay the final grant to FOTC which is expected to be in the region of £1500.

Cllr. J.Russell queried the number of Viking Stationery invoices. The Clerk advised that due to the fact that all e-mails in and out of the Council are being copied along with normal copying the bill has risen. It was agreed to stop copying e-mails.

Cllr. P.Allan also reported to the meeting that he had submitted on behalf of the Council a bid for lottery funding to suspend the ceiling in The Fletcher Hall at the grange, the bid being in the region of £8,500. He also reported the Village Hall had been successful in obtaining a grant for £3000. He also advised the meeting the final sign off report for the nature reserve had been submitted to the funders and accepted. The Chairman thanked him for his report.

Resolved: - To approve accounts for payment and note additional reports.

225/10 HCA Accounts and Disability Access

The Clerk advised members he had a copy of the HCA Annual Accounts and they would be submitted to the Auditors as required. He also advised he had received a letter from the Chairman of HCA in respect of the grant for disability access. HCA were requesting to alter the priority order for the work to be undertaken. They were asking the ramp proposed to the front of the building be replaced as number one priority by a ramp being installed at the rear. This they believe and from the advice they have taken, is their preferred option. The refurbishment of the disabled toilet to remain number two. They have supplied costs for this matter.

Resolved:- In light of tenders being available the matter to be discussed as part of exempt information.

226.00/10 PACT meeting

Cllr. K.Pattison gave a report on the previous PACT meeting referring to the crime report and also to the appointment of Victoria Ord as the Darlington Neighbourhood Watch coordinator. There was discussion in regards to the use of speed humps and other traffic calming measures in the Parish.

Resolved: - Clerk to write to PC Horner in regards to speeding and Cllr K.Pattison to raise the matter with him via the PACT process.

227.00/10 Tree Wok application

The Clerk advised a full application for the work on the trees on the Village Green has been re-submitted. DBC have asked for additional information which he has forwarded to both contactors asking them to supply. They are also asking for a full Tree Preservation Order removal application to be made in respect of T26

Resolved: - report noted.

228.00/10 Councillor Resignation

The Chairman advised that Cllr I. White had written tendering his resignation form the Council effective after the Annual meeting on the 11th May.

Resolved: - To write to DBC advising of the resignation and declaring a vacancy as of 12th May 2010.

229.00/10 Highway matters

The following issues were raised:-

- 1) Wall at Croft House, Yuills to be contacted to repair
- 2) Pot Holes across the parish, awaiting DBC report

Resolved: - Clerk to follow up both issues.

230.00/10 Banks of River tees

Cllr. J.Russell advised that the undergrowth, hedges and bushes on the river bank in Hurworth Place require attention, but clearly this is now not able to take place till autumn. She advised she had raised the matter with DBC Cllr. Swainston and DBC are happy to undertake the work if the parish request it.

Resolved: - Clerk to write to DBC and authorise the work in September.

231.00/10 Dog Campaign

Cllr J.Russell gave an upto date report in regards to the Dog Fowling Campaign. There had been an excellent turn out at the public meeting and things are in progress and it is focussing on a bag to basics campaign. She also advised that she has 2 potential sponsors for dog bags to be distributed around the Parish. She will report back on the campaign progress at the June meeting.

232.00/10 Youth

Cllr. J.Russell reported on a series of meeting she has arranged with various agencies to address Youth provision in the Parish. She is also to attend the College Council meeting in April to discuss amongst other things a summer youth programme. She will report back to the Council in June.

233.00/10 Foam on the river tees

Cllr. J.Russell reported on incidents of foam once again appearing on the River Tees and that she had reported the matter to the Environment Agency. She has also written an article in regards to the matter for the newsletter.

Resolved: - To raise the matter with the environment Agency when they attend the May meeting.

233.00/10 Newsletter

The current edition was circulated to members, and HCA agreed to print and circulate before 24th April.

234.00/10 Request to plant crocus bulbs-All saints Church

All Saints church are to hold fund raising event on 26th June selling crocus bulbs, which they then wish to plant on the Village Green. Permission being sought to undertake this.

Resolved: - To welcome the initiative by the Church and to agree to them planting bulbs on the green.

235.00/10 Strawberry Fayre

The annual request for the Scouts Strawberry fayre on 9th July was received.

Resolved: to agree to the event subject to them insuring the event accordingly.

236.00/10 Allotment allocation.

An e-mail from Mr. G.Lawman complaining about the recent allocation of an allotment. The Clerk advised the allotment was allocated to the next person on the waiting list as per. Council policy.

Resolved: - to take no further action.

237.00/10 Boundary between Hurworth and Hurworth Place

An e-mail asking clarification of the boundary was received from Mr. G.Lawman as it is causing concern in respect of the GP surgery.

Resolved: - to DBC for clarification.

238.00/10 Resignation of Clerk

The Clerk declared an interest in regards to this matter and left the meeting. The minutes of this and the subsequent private part of the meeting were taken by the chairman and are attached to the minutes.

239.00/10 Planning Applications

10/00136/FUL installation of septic tank Rosa Villa Timmys lane Hurworth- no objection

10/00139/FUL Erection of conservatory to the rear of 24 The Wayside Hurworth- no objection

10/00054/FUL erection of raised timber decking area and rear summerhouse 16 Church Row, Hurworth.- no objection

10/00159/FUL erection of 1 dormer bungalow (revised schedule) 22 Friars Pardon Hurworth agreed to oppose this application on the same grounds as for the previous application.

10/00113/CU use of car park for holding car boot fairs, Darlington Football Club- no comment as permission now granted.

The meeting closed 9.50pm.