

## **Hurworth Parish Council**

### **Minutes of the proceedings of the Monthly Meeting of Hurworth Parish Council, held at Hurworth Grange, Hurworth-on-Tees on Thursday 3rd June 2010 at 7pm.**

**Present:** Cllr. C. Pratt (Chairman), Cllr K. Pattinson (Vice Chairman), Cllr P. Foster, Cllr D. Parr, Cllr J. Peacock, Cllr Hepplewhite

**Apologies:** Cllr A. Gibson, Cllr P. Allan, Cllr J. Russell, Cllr V. Hughes

**In Attendance:** Parish Clerk: Sheila Sibbald, Outgoing Parish Clerk: John Robinson, Cllr M. Swainston, Cllr Dunstone, Matthew from Youth Services.

10 members of the public were also present

**2.00/11: Declarations of Interest:** Cllr D. Parr - Item 9. Cllr K. Pattison - Item 9. Cllr Foster - Item 10

#### **3.00/11: Chairman's Remarks:**

**4.00/11:** Chairman welcomed the new Parish Clerk, Sheila Sibbald

**5.00/11:** Minutes of the last meeting held 11th May 2010 were agreed by Councillors

**6.00/11:** Finance Committee have copy of full audit. Summary given to other Councillors.

The audit highlighted the following:

- 1) The need to confirm that all Councillors are able to work well together and get on amicably
- 2) Christmas Tree lights - check VAT
- 3) Section 137 payments for CCTV and repairs to Grange roof - declare Grange repair fund making Section 137 unnecessary.
- 4) 60p too much VAT paid
- 5) 1 alteration to spreadsheet
- 6) History society invoice missing
- 7) Skip for Community Association - need original invoice for VAT

Accounts show £9,000 surplus, however this amount partly comprises the £5,000 allocated for kerbs on the green and is carried forward and £2,144.96 transferred from the Burial Board. Burial Board monies were transferred as it was uneconomic as a separate account.

External audit – 2 alterations to the submitted form agreed and the 3<sup>rd</sup> was not to be changed as the figure for assets is correct

A Finance Sub Committee meeting was agreed for 22nd June 2010 at 7pm.

**7.00/11: Matters arising from previous meeting:** Matthew from youth services at DBC stated there had been problems so the centre was not currently being used but they have a mobile facility which engages with young people. There is a summer programme of events which he will send us, some events are to be held at the Grange, some events in Darlington - transport will be arranged. From now till September and onwards there will be someone in Hurworth School for anyone wanting to contact him or the team. There should be some night time events. Having given this information Matthew left the meeting.

The Newsletter was discussed, next edition due in September 2010. Contributions need to be in place by July.

E mail practices and procedures need to be put in place to ensure no-one circulates anything inappropriate which brings Hurworth Parish Council into disrepute.

Letter received from Rockcliffe Hall re £50  
Discussed the lack of progress on the kerbs around the Green , suggested that we just go ahead regardless of a response from DBC and install them. The Chairman and Vice Chairman suggested we wait for DBC to come back to us. Parish Clerk to do a reminder letter to DBC.

Letter from Hurworth School - Polam Hall and Hurworth School are not merging when Hurworth School closes. Hurworth School are going to share Polam Hall's site.

Tree 28 - any decisions to remove this tree must be made via the school. Parish Clerk to arrange a meeting with the Head Teacher to discuss matter further.

**8.00/11: Public Participation:** Issue of footpaths at Hurworth Place - Belgrave Terrace and Belgrave Way in particular. Pavements are crumbling in places. Why can't the Parish Council get a grant for upgrading the disabled access when they can get one for lowering the ceiling in the Fletcher Building. Croft House - Ongoing objections re flooding issues and proposed new houses to be built by Yuill. Full planning won't go ahead until the Environment Agency have completed their investigations. Current plans were circulated. Public thanked the Parish Council for their continuing support on this matter.

**9.00/11: Account/Grants/Donations:** Request for Parish Council to donate money for the Crocus bulbs which are to be planted in the village. As this will enhance the village the sum of £50 was agreed. Proposed by Cllr Foster and seconded by Cllr Pratt. Cllr Pattison declared an interest in this item. Requeat from the Senior Citizens Club for a donation. Whilst it was agreed that it was a good cause Cllr Pattison thought it could cause problems if we give to one organisation and not another in the future. Cllr Pattison thought a policy on donations should be agreed. John Robinson stated that another Parish set a budget of say £500 for donations in any one year and that it was allocated on a first come first served basis to avoid any suggestions of "favouritism" towards anyone. To be discused at the Finance Committee meeting.

**10.00/11: Tree work application:** T.26 outside Emmerson's cottage. Fosters have been given the contract to remove it, waiting for green sheet and recommendations to be done.

**11.00/11: Highway matters:** Cllr Peacock has received a request from the lolipop lady asking if the layby near the railing can be left clear so that she can see traffic clearly. Who owns the layby was asked - Parish Clerk to write to the Highways Department to find out.  
Potholes in Hurworth Road which had been filled in are now holes again.  
Entrance to village where traffic calming measures begin are in a bad state of repair and have been vandalised, knocked down at the Fish Restaurant end.  
Temporary arrow sign is ignored. Parish Clerk to write to Highways Department on this.

**12.00/11: PACT report:** Three thefts, three incidents of rowdism, and 2 incidents of criminal damage were reported. The Parish website gives all this information. At the meeting for The Parish Plan, Inspector said we could have a Special Constable for £500 per year. Durham Police Authority will provide the necessary training. Need to obtain more information on this, Inspector to be invited to next meeting in July, Parish Clerk to do letter. Middleton St George unhappy with lack of police presence but like the idea of a Special Constable. Issue of speeding traffic raised, sleeping policemen discussed and this will be discussed further at July meeting with Inspector. Cllr Foster stated that he thinks we pay rates for adequate policing.

**13.00/11: Christmas Tree:** Meeting agreed to letter from Dr Ian Bagshaw

**14.00/11: North Yorkshire Mineral Survey:** Check information on the website. Parish Clerk to advise Councillors of website address.

**15.00/11: Minutes of Playbuilder Meeting:** Cllr Hepplewhite read letter received on this. Manorfields, Westfields Drive and Upgate are possible sites. Lisa was asked to look at these sites as soon as possible as grant monies have to be used before march 2011. See letter for more details. Lisa to take forward with Cllr Allan, to establish current position and see if the Parish Council need to do anything now. Parish Clerk to write to Lisa, copy to Cllr Ian Thompson DBC. We do not want to lose funding. NB What is the legislation re fencing for play areas, can they be open areas? Need information on legislation. Parish Clerk to research.

**16.00/11: Chairman's Board:** Cllr Foster has drawn up a list of Councillors, it will cost £150 to get a board roughly the size of the banners in the hall. Matter to be discussed at the Finance Committee meeting.

**17.00/11: Local Development Framework:** Paperwork on this received.

**18.00/11: Report on Tidy Up day:** Neither Cllr Holme or Cllr Russell present, to carry forward.

**19.00/11: Dog Fouling campaign:** Cllrs Peacock and Russell have put a leaflet through all doors. Cllr Peacock would like the mat mentioned in the newsletter to reinforce.

**20.00/11: Planning Applications:** 07/00152/RM2 Croft House - Parish Clerk to write to Yuill reiterating objections.

10/000591/FUL Burma Road - DBC Cllr ?  
said DBC were serving notice on them, objection based on  
traffic implications.

10/00271/FUL 62 Friars Pardon - no  
objections, approved.

10/00139/FUL 24 The Wayside -check  
website for any objections.

Planning appeal Southfields/Snipe Lane -  
Parish Clerk to find original objection letter and send to DBC.

A further meeting is being held 17/6/2010  
re any further objections should anyone wish to attend

**Chairman concluded meeting at 8.45pm**