

# **Hurworth Parish Council**

## **Minutes**

of the Meeting held on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> October in the Hadwin Lounge,  
Hurworth Grange, Hurworth on Tees.

### **271. Those attending:-**

Ken Pattison (Chairman), Ian Holme. Jean Peacock, Chris Pratt, Peter Foster  
Tony Needham; Jeff Kemp; John Howard; Gill Hepplewhite, Jill Russell,

also in attendance: - Joe Kelley (DBC Councillor), Peter Allan - Clerk

### **272 Apologies for absence:-**

Val Hughes, Norma Kyle.

### **273 Declarations of Interest:-**

None declared.

### **274 Minutes of the Meeting dated 1<sup>st</sup> September 2011.**

The minutes, having been pre-circulated, were agreed, and signed by the  
Chairman after confirmation by the council. Proposed by Jean Peacock and  
seconded by Ian Holme.

### **275 Matters Arising**

1. **Insurance Review:** The Chairman advised the meeting that a review is still in progress and should be concluded before the end of October. The Clerk confirmed that he had received confirmation that the Public Liability cover for the allotments is included in the current policy. **Action Chair and Clerk**
2. **Salt bins** – On today's agenda..
3. **Primary School visit:** Tony Needham is in touch with the school, and will be arranging a date soon. **Action Tony Needham.**

The Clerk reported that the new Headmaster of Hurworth House School has invited the PC to visit and have a tour of the school. Several council members indicated they would like to visit. **Action Clerk to make the arrangements.**

4. **Big Tree Plant:** Nothing to report as Norma Kyle was not present. The chair will comment later.

5. **National Association of Allotment Holders.** The Clerk reported that the application was submitted, and that we are now members.
6. **Croft House** The Chair reported that the special meeting had been held with Croft residents. He also stressed that if a meeting is to be held with Yuill's, this meeting should be in camera.  
.- Ian Holme stated that the meeting must be minuted in full, for future reference, particularly as the subject of easements may be covered.  
A proposal was tabled by Ian Holme and seconded by Jean Peacock that the meeting should be held in camera. This was agreed by the council.

## 276. Public Participation

Nobody from the public raised any matters.

## 277 . Financial Review and Accounts for Payment

1. In accordance with the council's practice, the financial accounts had already been distributed, showing the financial position as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

Gill Hepplewhite asked why the £3,000 for the Country Fair was no longer shown in the accounts. The Chair explained that as the Fair made a profit, this potential expenditure (being the underwriting of the event) was no longer required. The Clerk offered to go through the Financial Report, in detail, with Gill Hepplewhite, if she would find this helpful.

2. The Clerk reported that the PC has been awarded a grant from the Big Lottery of £6,800. This is to replace the windows and window frames in the Fletcher Hall.

The Chairman of the HCA has collected three quotations for the work in the Fletcher Hall, and has submitted these, along with their recommendation. The council agreed that the recommendation of the HCA should be adopted, and confirmed that the Clerk should raise the specific order with the chosen contractor, as soon as the grant is received. **Action Clerk to raise order.**

### 3. *Accounts for Payment;*

Sue Webster	Salary	£429.08
H.C.A.	Annual rent	£1000.00
P. D. Allan	Land registry and exs	£159.34
G' Hepplewhite	Meeting expenses	£55.50
Northumbrian Water	Strait Lane allotments	£22.67

Barclays bank	Charges	£2.30
Direct Debit	Talk Talk	£17.40
Direct Debit	Talk Talk	£10.61

4. The claim to reclaim the litter picker costs has been received.,  
£2436.26

## **278 Allotment Report**

**In the absence of Val Hughes there was no detailed report.**

The Clerk advised the meeting that Val Hughes as convened a meeting of the Allotment Committee for Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 7:00pm. Councillors are welcome to attend.

At the close of the meeting, Jill Russell is finding it difficult to attend the allotment meetings, and advised she would like to stand down, for the time being.

## **279 . Matters of Interest – Correspondence**

Other than the clerk's normal correspondence there was only one item from Dr Bagshaw offering to organise the Green Christmas tree with Bill Bramwell et al.

This offer was gratefully accepted by the Council, and the Clerk was asked to write to Dr Bagshaw and thank him.

**Action; the clerk.**

## **280 Hurworth Village Green**

The Chair reported that the work has been completed, and all the kerbing work has been done. Six boulders have been placed outside Hurworth House School, on the grass where we are unable to apply kerbing, as they could damage tree roots.

In general the residents have found approval with the work performed, but may not like the boulders being placed outside their houses. With this in mind the Chairman has postponed placing any further boulders at this time.

The final bill from DBC is expected to be circa £8,100, which is within the budget, and the Clerk is instructed to settle the account when it is rendered to the council.

There have been objections to the placing of boulders outside the corner house in Blind Lane. The Chair has had discussions with three parties, who all have conflicting ideas on the merits of trying to protect the grass and prevent vehicles damaging the land. A compromise has been reached, and the PC will erect three small 'no parking' signs. **Action Chris Pratt, Chair and Clerk**

Peter Foster reported that availability of the bulbs he is going to plant, has been delayed. He intends to fulfil this, in a voluntary capacity, as soon as possible. **Action Peter Foster**

All Saints Church PCC intend to formally apply to plant 8,000 bulbs on the Green, next springtime or early June 2012. Gill Hepplewhite expressed concern about the duplication of planting, and suggested the PC should construct a map identifying where plants have been planted. Jeff Kemp volunteered to produce this map and keep it up to date. The council were pleased to accept this offer. **Action Jeff Kemp**

## **281. PACT Report**

Ian Holme was unable, at the last minute, to attend the PACT Meeting, the Chairman attending and providing the following report.

### **PACT REPORT 28/09/11**

Crime July/Aug i.e. 2 months as there was no PACT meeting in August.

#### **MSG;**

Burglaries 0

Other 6

Vehicle theft 0

Theft from vehicle 1

Thefts 10 (lots of metal)

Criminal damage 6

Violent crimes 2 (young girls + Mum & Dad)

Anti Social 0

#### **H'worth/N'sham;**

Crimes 14

Burglary 1

Other 2

Vehicle theft 0

Theft from vehicle 1

Theft 5 (metal again)

**Criminal damage** 1 keying of 4 cars on Green (more were done but not reported. Police recommend all should be encouraged to report. John Angus trying to get more flexible shifts to try and catch culprits. More reporting would help him. CCTC considered to be not an option.

**Violent Crime** 1 (A person, seen in the area of the Bay Horse Inn, is thought to be associated with the keying. and may have been identified, Police are investigating.

#### **Speedwatch;**

MSG; 325 cars on two occasions 6 speeding.

H'worth; 136 on two occasions 10 speeding.

N'sham; 50 cars 1 speeding.

No letters issued.

### **General;**

Bridge at N'sham now to be closed from 10<sup>th</sup> Oct. Car park (20 cars) to be provided on Hurworth side for western access. Hourly minibus service to be provided to go around via MSG to Hurworth etc.

PACT meetings; stated HPC happy with meetings at MSG whilst bridge work lasted but thereafter should revert, This stated as being the intent but HPC must find somewhere to have meetings. (Action Clerk/IH?).

Youth club attended last week and discussions held with youngsters by PC Foley. John Angus to attend this Friday.

No sign of Special Constable.

### **Report**

Ken Pattison stated that he has joined the youth leader group, and will be on duty at the Youth Club on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October.

Cllr Joe Kelley reported the accident, which occurred on Roundhill Road, on 5<sup>th</sup> October, when a 13 year old was knocked down, and is in a bad condition.

It was agreed that the Clerk will arrange the delayed meeting with the Police to discuss traffic control in the parish. **Action Clerk to arrange the meeting, to be attended by Chairman, Clerk and Councillor Needham..**

### **282. Highways**

Tony Needham reported as follows:-

- **Westfield Drive Hedge & Grass Verge**

TN reported this is ongoing. Letters have been hand delivered to some residents of Westfield Drive and Mowbray Drive highlighting the disposal of garden waste on the site and asking for their co-operation in keeping the strip clear.

- **Belgrave Terrace/Baxby Terrace**

TN e-mailed DBC regarding the poor state of the pavements and is awaiting a reply.

- **Westfield Drive Resurfacing Work**

DBC letters were delivered to some residents advising that the road resurfacing work would take place on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October.

The new school building project should be completed by the end of October. Unfortunately inter-departmental liaison had not taken place within DBC and the demolition of the Junior School and the building of a new car park had been overlooked. This would mean more heavy traffic using Westfield Drive up until the end of the year resulting in further impact on a new road surface. TN informed Joe Kelley and Martin Swainston of this situation to see if they could persuade DBC to reschedule the resurfacing work until the New year. TN asked the Chairman for permission to allow Joe Kelley to give DBC's reply.

Cllr Kelly reported that after discussions with DBC Highways dept. the scheduled resurfacing of Westfield Drive will go ahead, as planned, starting this month. The alternative may have meant that funding would not be available, and the work could be delayed for a very long time. There are thirty road projects planned for October 2011, and we are advised to keep our place. Additionally DBC has stated that the resurfacing process has sufficient time to solidify correctly, and if there is any deterioration or recurrent damage, DBC will make good the road.

### **283. Trees**

John Howard reported that all the items under his supervision have been addressed, and residents informed of the outcome.

He is concerned that the work of rebuilding the wall at 8 The Green is correctly performed and proper care taken to protect the tree roots of the chestnut tree, which carries a TPO.

There is a complaint about a tree stump on the Green, and John Howard agreed to sort this out and provide a remedy.

In a letter from Phil Haines DBC Arborist, in response to a letter from the Clerk regarding trimming of trees on the Village Green, he states that the tress belong to Hurworth Parish Council, and that it is up to us to maintain them. John Howard advised that in order to do this we will require to submit a Planning Application for the tress which carry a TPO. **Action; Clerk** to submit a request to DBC Planning Dept requesting that HPC can trim trees (Standard application form to be used)

### **284 All Saints Church**

DBC has accepted responsibility for the fence in the closed area of the graveyard. Work is already in hand to construct a new fence; Westwood timber has been sub contracted to do this work.

HPC is responsible for the open section of the graveyard, and we have obtained two quotations to construct the remaining section of the fence. As the quotations are both under £500, the Clerk was asked to raise an order, after a final assessment by the Chairman and Tony Needham. **Action Clerk to raise the order.**

### **285 Salt Bins**

Ian Holme was pleased to report that we have, at last, received a detailed quotation for five salt bins. The cost quoted by DBC is as follows:-

Please find the quote for the provision of salt bins.

### Hurworth Salt bins

ITEM			TOTAL
Salt Bins	£812.50		£812.50
Delivery & Installation	£88.80		£88.80
Salt	£33.50		£33.50
VAT			£186.96
<b>Total</b>			<b>£1,121.76</b>

DBC notes:- " Our situation is as stated previously, provided that salt stocks allow and our own highway network and salt bins are complete then we would refill these salt bins. Our own network and facilities would take priority over any additional bins.

The price for filling the bins would be £83.30."

**Actions: Clerk to place the order with DBC. Clerk to write to Mrs Bell regretting that we cannot place a bin outside her house.**

### **286 Big Tree Plant**

Norma Kyle was not present at this meeting, but sent a short update to the Clerk. The Chair reported that Norma had attended the Country Fair, along with members of the FOTC, and had taken the opportunity to discuss the tree project with several residents.

In general she found that residents were interested and supported the campaign. They favoured fruit trees and small speciality trees.

### **287. Planning Applications**

- a. The Chairman outlined the new procedure for perusing all applications prior to the PC meeting, in order to devote more time to appraising each application. Jeff Kemp was appointed as the person to study and report on Planning. Jeff Kemp has experience with plans and technical matters.
- b. In future, all councillors will receive a list of incoming applications, and Jeff Kemp will add his comments, for your attention.

A motion was tabled by Jill Russell and seconded by Jean Peacock adopting this new system, which incorporated the proviso that the full council must agree if a 'comment' is to be raised with DBC.

The only application which received consideration is 8 The Green, as noted in 286 above, plus Tony Needham raised his concern about a wrought iron fence being constructed on top of the wall on a listed property. **Action John Howard** agreed to make further enquiries, and report back to Tony Needham.

### **270 AOB**

- a. Ian Holme asked the meeting to record their thanks to the committee of the Hurworth Country Fair, for their sterling and dedicated work.
- b. At the request of Gill Hepplewhite, and supported by Peter Foster, it was agreed that HPC should apply for membership of the Durham Tees Valley Airport Consultative Committee. **Action; Clerk to make the application.**  
In the event of obtaining membership, it was agreed that Gill Hepplewhite should be considered for HPC representative if she did not achieve the nomination to represent CDALC. Otherwise Peter Foster to be HPC nominated rep if elected.
- c. The Chairman reminded the council that it is customary on Remembrance Sunday, for the PC to be represented at All Saints Hurworth by the Chairman, and as the Vice Chairman will also be attending ASH, the Council was asked if any other councillor would like to attend the DBC service at Holy Trinity, Darlington representing HPC. They should let the clerk know, otherwise the clerk to let DBC know we would not have a rep. **Action; Clerk.**
- d. The Chairman brought to the attention of the council, Rob George's, DBC Countryside, Tree Corridor project. He asked the meeting to agree to offer support, in principle, and asked the **Clerk to convey this to Mr George.**
- e. The Chairman requested that 'Finance' be placed on the next meeting agenda, in preparation for a special meeting, in camera, to be scheduled in November to consider the 2012 allocations. Councillors were requested to consider next year, and be prepared to offer their suggestions / recommendations, for the next financial year.
- f. John Howard suggested that we should host a bonfire in the villages to celebrate Guy Fawkes Night. After discussion this was shelved for this year.

Meeting ended at 8:30pm.

Date of next meeting Thursday 3rd November at 7:00pm