

## **Hurworth Parish Council**

### **Minutes of the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting of Hurworth Parish Council held at Hurworth Grange, Hurworth –on-Tees, on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> May 2011**

**Present:** Cllr. P.Foster, Cllr. K.Pattison, Cllr. V. Hughes, Cllr. J.Peacock, Cllr. I.Holme, Cllr. J.Russell. Cllr Norma Kyle, Cllr Tony Needham, Cllr J. Howard, Cllr J. Peacock,

#### **1. Apologies: - Cllr. C.Pratt**

**In Attendance:** Parish Clerk: P.Allan,

7 members of the public were also present.

#### **2. Chairman's Welcome**

In the absence of the Chair, Chris Pratt, Ken Pattison, Vice Chairman, presided. He welcomed all the councillors and in particular greeted the newly elected members.

#### **3. Acceptance of Office**

All councillors present at the meeting, signed there formal Acceptance of Office as Councillors, and also the Hurworth Parish Council Register.

#### **4. Declaration of Interests.**

All councillors present were given the declaration Form, and these will be completed and returned to the Clerk by 13<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

#### **5. Election of Chairman.**

At this point Cllr Peacock addressed the meeting, seeking assurance that the new Chairperson, when elected, will ensure that all decisions are correctly discussed and decided at the full Council Meetings, and that significant matters are not settled outside of the formal procedure. Ken Pattison, in his role as acting Chair, assured the meeting, that **he or anybody who might be elected, would have to follow procedure.**

Cllr Ken Pattison was elected as Chair**man** for the year 2011 -12, proposed by Ian Holme and seconded by John Howard.

#### **6 Election of Vice Chairman**

Cllr. Ian Holme was elected as Vice Chairman; proposed by Jill Russell and seconded by Jean Peacock.

#### **6. Casual Vacancy**

A vacancy for one councillor, to represent Hurworth Place has arisen, due to lack of candidates at the election. All other seats were filled, and no election was required.

The procedure for the adoption of a councillor to fill the vacancy was confirmed by DBC Town Hall Election section, and by Mr Steve Ragg at CDALC.

Two candidates had written to the council expressing their interest in taking up the position of parish councillor, to fill the vacancy. Ms Michelle Edwards and Mr Jeff Kemp.

Councillors were asked to agree upon four questions, which the council would ask each of the two candidates.

The questions which were asked were:-

1. What do you believe you can bring to the Parish Council?
2. What do you think is the role of the Parish Council in the community?
3. Do you have any specific role you would like to fulfil in the Parish Council?
4. Do you know of any legal impediment that would disqualify you from becoming a Parish Councillor?

The election session was conducted in camera, and the room was cleared. Each candidate was invited, independently to answer the questions, and then the council voted to make their selection.

The Chair thanked both candidates for their interest and participation.

Mr Jeff Kemp was duly elected and invited to join the council. He formally accepted the post, and signed the Acceptance form and register.

#### **7. Election of Finance Committee (Working Party)**

The council agreed that in future this should become a Working Group rather than a Committee.

It was agreed that all councillors should be part of the finance working Group, with a minimum quorum of four councillors.

#### **8. Election of HPC reps to Allotment Working Group**

Cllr Val Hughes, Cllr Jill Russell; Cllr Norma Kyle

#### **9. PACT Representative**

Cllr Ian Holme

#### **10. Trees and Open Spaces Representative**

Cllr John Howard

#### **11. Highways Representative**

Cllr Tony Needham

#### **12. Association representatives:-**

**Darlington P.C Association** - Cllr Hepplewhite and Cllr Foster

**DALC** - Cllr Hepplewhite and Cllr Foster

**Village Hall** – Cllr Peacock

**Hurworth Community Association** – Gill Hepplewhite

**Hurworth in Partnership** – Cllr Russell, Cllr Kyle, Cllr Holme and Cllr Needham

**13. Dates and venue for meetings – council Calendar.**

The meeting agreed that the monthly Council Meeting should be held on the first Thursday of each month, excluding August. Working Party meetings should be held on either Wednesday or Thursday evenings, and will be convened by the Clerk. It was agreed that there will be a Finance Working Party Meeting in May 2011, and another in November 2011.

The Communications Working Party was put into abeyance, as there is no current business.

The meeting closed at 8:20pm.