

Hurworth Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at Hurworth Grange, Hurworth – on-Tees, on Thursday 3rd October 2013 starting at 7.00pm.

Those present: Tony Winnett, Tony Needham, Ken Pattison, Jeff Kemp, Peter Foster, Jean Peacock, Chris Pratt, Margaret Williams

Also attending: Cllr Joe Kelly, Cllr M. Swainston, Andy Walker (Press) and Peter Allan (Parish Clerk)

73. Apologies for Absence

Ian Home (Wife in hospital), Val Hughes (Holiday), John Howard (Work)
Norma Kyle absent - (Unwell),

74. Declarations of Interest

Tony Winnett – HCA
Jean Peacock (HCA)

75. Chairman's Address

The Chairman has cancelled the visit of Cllr Bill Dixon (DBC) due to the small attendance of councillors at this meeting. Cllr Dixon has agreed to attend the November meeting.

The Chair made reference to the successful meeting held at the Town Hall with Cllr Dixon. This covered a variety of topics and Hurworth concerns, and it is already apparent that some positive actions have ensued.

76. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5th September 2013. The Minutes having been distributed were accepted, Proposed by Ken Pattison, Seconded by Chris Pratt.

77 Matters Arising,

- a. Martin Swainston reported that** the bus shelter roof will be repaired this week.
- b. Martin Swainston reported that** the trees at Bank Terrace are on private property, and hence must be resolved by the residents.
- c. Other Action Items** will be addressed within the agenda.

78. Public Participation

Sue Williams, from Hurworth Place expressed her concerns about flooding risks at Hurworth Place, and asked if there was somewhere that residents could store emergency sandbags and aqua stock kits.

It was agreed that the most suitable place would be in the toilet block opposite the Comet Inn. Mrs Williams will approach her contact in DBC, and the **Clerk will also try to make suitable arrangements.**

79. Planning Matters

- a. Jeff Kemp made the following report;

Subject: Planning Report for Sept 2013 Applications

Plan. Appl. No 13/00526/FUL

2 Gypsy plots each comprising pitches for 1 Static, 1 Touring Van and amenity buildings
Snipe Lane Hurworth Moor

Plan. Appl. No.13/00479/FuL

3 Gypsy plots each comprising pitches for 1static, 1 touring van and amenity buildings
Snipe Lane Hurworth Moor.

He attended the planning meeting to approve this and confirmed HPC concern that a safety hazard exists were such application continue to be approved.

DBC confirmed that these approvals were the last that could be approved on this site as instructed by the Highway Authority without major roadwork improvement to the access.

Plan. Appl. No. 13/00700/FUL

3 Gypsy plots each comprising pitches for 1 touring, 1 static and amenity buildings.
Snipe Lane Hurworth Moor

He recommend the council strongly object this application as above and trust will be rejected for the above reasons.He will attend the planning meeting.

Plan. Appl. No 13/00674/ FUL

Erection of a Livestock Building.
Rockcliffe Farm Blind Lane Hurworth

No objections

Plan. Appl. No 13/00725/FUL

Station Hotel 8 Hurworth Road Hurworth Place
Erection of a single storey extension to rear of building to form, staff room and 3 guest rooms.

No objections except to be in sympathy with existing building

80. Accounts for Payment

The Schedule of accounts for payment having been previously distributed to all councillors, was accepted by the council:-

Payment of Accounts**Sep-13**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Cheque Number</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Fosters	102341	Tree work	185.00
Peter Foster	102342	Expenses	24.40
MT Print	102343	Newsletter	553.00
Fresh Air equipment	102344	Exercise equipment project	5880.00
British Legion	102345	Poppy	45.00
Sue Webster	102346	Sept Salary	260.00
P.D.Allan	102347	Sept Salary	502.24
Inland Revenue	102348	August Salary	116.40
P.D.Allan	102449	Admin expenses - 2 months	90.57
M & M Services	102450	Tree work	90.00
Northumbrian Water	102451	Allotments	53.16
Barclays Bank	DD	Bank Charges	2.30
Talk Talk	DD	Comms	18.60
Talk Talk	DD	Comms	11.09
			7831.76

81. Financial Report

- a. The financial Report to 31st August 2013, having been previously distributed to all councillors was adopted by the council. Detailed Summary is below:-

LUE=Allocated

	Apr-13	May-13	Jun-13	Jul-13	Aug-13	Sep-13	Oct-13	Nov-13	Dec-13	Jan-14	Feb-14	Mar-14	Total	Budget 2013-14
Revenue	67238	102644	100790	94851	89363	83116	75214	68255	66036	53436	50796	50338	67238	102644
Precept 2013	38285												38285	38500
Other Income (vat)		50	682									2099	2831	0
Rent & Interest						11	900						911	911
Grants													0	0
Litter Picker Recharge)	2505						78	2581			2200		7364	4859
Allotment rent		40		15						860			915	915
Total Revenue for month	40790	90	682	15	0	11	978	2581	0	860	2200	2099	50306	45185
Expenditure	108028	102734	101472	94866	89363	83127	76192	70836	66036	54296	52996	52437	#####	147829
Salaries & NHI	1040	1100	1015	1080	1060	879	890	950	950	950	950	950	11814	13200
Gen. Admin Expenses	380	844	463	432	147	221	400	400	700	400	400	400	5187	8170
Trees and Open Spaces	1080		145		1474	275	400	1200	300	250	300	450	5874	6000
Section 137			1251	1000	0	45		900		250			3446	3000
Projects			3395	2430	2765	4900	1000	1200	7000	1000			23690	23500
Training				63	0		200				200		463	600
Newsletters	497					553			600			600	2250	2400
FOTC Support							1000						1000	1000
Paths/ Grit/ Heritage Trail									1500			500	2000	2500
Allotments			25	212	43	53	325				400		1058	1200
Capital Expenditure					259						258		517	517
Handyman							300	150	150	150	150	150	1050	1800
Country Fair 2013												500	500	500
Parish Plan										500			500	500
Election expenses							3222						3222	1500
/AT			327	286	499	987	200		1400					
Monthly total	2997	1944	6621	5503	6247	7913	7937	4800	12600	3500	2658	3550	62571	66387
Burial Fund – Ring fenced?	2387												2387	
Funds in Hand	102644	100790	94851	89363	83116	75214	68255	66036	53436	50796	50338	51274	54973	81442

- b. HCA Rent

For the past fifteen years or more, the Council have charged a rent of £900 to the HCA as their tenant, and at the same time donated £1000 to HCA. This practice appears outmoded, and gives a false impression of Section 137 Donations. It was agreed by the meeting that the revised rent will be £100, and no donation will be made.

- c. The Clerk reported that the car park project has been addressed and more than 100 new staples inserted by DBC. The contract is now considered

complete, and we will now release the retention and pay the balance of their account

82. Correspondence and Matters of Interest

- a. Members of the council have had a meeting with Rockliffe Hall regarding the English Seniors Golf Tournament to be held at their course on 4th to 6th October. The parking arrangements and traffic control all appear to be well organised, and we welcome this new event to the parish.
- b. HMS Hurworth is bringing it's crew of 45 sailors to Hurworth for the Remembrance Day service. They will be hosted by Hurworth Hunt and Rockliffe Hall on the Saturday, and attend All saints Church for the service on the Sunday. HPC will entertain them on Sunday evening, probably at the Grange, as the Emerson Arms room would not be able to cater for 80 people. A budget of £1000, (max £1500) has been established, proposed by Ken Pattison and Seconded by Chris Pratt, all voted in favour.
Invitations will be extended to appropriate residents in the parish.
- c. The council has received a letter from the Chairman of HCA, supporting the resurfacing of the road to the Grange, and intimating that they will make a contribution to the cost. However, they would like to see a copy of the project specification, and be allowed to make comments and suggestions.
Jeff Kemp gave a report, which included cost implication guidance, and also advice which he had received regarding this project. It is considered too late in the year to do this work, and the most appropriate time may be April or May of next year. Accordingly he recommended that this project be deferred until next year.
Jeff Kemp stressed the importance of selecting a contractor who will conform to the BS standards, for both the materials and actual implementation. This would doubtless increase the overall cost.
Tony Needham criticised the introduction of BS standards as the cost could increase by as much as fifty percent; a recent contract had been completed by a local contract to the council's satisfaction.
Ken Pattison showed his support for Jeff Kemp's approach, and stated that conforming to BS standards is vital, when spending public funds.
The project has been deferred. It was agreed that **the Clerk would now try to obtain a grant to cover this project cost. Clerk also to update HCA with this situation.**
- d. Councillor Swainston introduced the scheme of Darlington Safeguarding, and requested that HPC display notices on their notice boards to encourage support. The notices entitled 'Love me' love me not' will be displayed. Also an article will be contained in the next Parish Chronicle.
- e. A quotation was received from HCA believed to be for the requested extra CCTV camera to cover the allotments. The quoted price of £395 was accepted by HPC but discussions must first take place. **Clerk/KP action.**

83. PACT Meeting

Tony Winnett presented the PACT Meeting report, which was supplied by Ian Holme, who had Chaired the meeting.

Police and Communities Together: Meeting 26/9/2013
Hurworth Methodist Church Hall

Attendees:

PCSO John Angus
Ian Holme (Chair)

7 members of the public + 5 apologies

Police Report for July and August

Crimes: 0 Burglary
0 Violent Crimes
1 burglary "other" - rotovator stolen from Grange Allotments shed.
1 thefts from vehicles- catalytic converter stolen from van at Skipbridge garage.

1 Theft of motors vehicles from Stressholme golf club

3 Thefts- Pushchair and scooter from Cedar Mews
Rockliffe spa, items stolen from locker- person arrested with items.
"Oscars" wrought iron table stolen from front garden

2 Criminal damage- Stressholme golf club, greens damaged by chemicals
Hurworth school, windows broken

2 Anti-social behaviour- Strait Lane allotments- "words said" long, on-going issues.
Blackwell Grange golf club, Youths stealing golf balls and/or hitting them back down the fairway.

Speedwatch 30/8/2013 @ 10.30am Roundhill road
120 cars, 13 speeding

Open Discussion

PCSO Angus has been to the school this evening to advise parents of new pupils re parking in and around the school.

Hopefully this will pre-empt any problems with the new intake.

Farmwatch has taken place recently, with significant action needed in North Yorkshire area (principally poaching), our Parish was quiet.

He is aware of the forthcoming major golf tournament at Rockliffe and believes that suitable actions are in place to cope with the volume of visitors expected.

Update

Speeding on Neasham Rd; PCSO Angus re-iterated that he was unable to undertake a Speedwatch in this area due to H&S issues on this 60mph road.

The next meeting should have Chief Super. Graham Hall in attendance.

PACT Priorities

Remains as "common sense" approach to parking and traffic generally.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be on Thursday 31st October, 6.30pm at the Methodist Church Ha

84. Association Reports

Peter Foster had attended the DBC meeting, which discussed the new bus service. It is apparent that Hurworth residents are not availing themselves of this service. Cllr Kelley confirmed this, and expressed his disappointment. Cllr Kelley has now delivered leaflets, with timetables to try to increase interest. Peter Foster also reported that 'speeding' was a growing concern in the borough, and there was keen interest in the success rate of the Hurworth Speed Monitors, once they have been installed.

85. Highways

Tony Needham reported as follows:-

- a. Streetscene have been to Hurworth and cut the edges.
- b. There is still a problem at the area outside the Primary School. Streetscene has not accepted responsibility, and hence the area has become a mess. Apparently the DBC Estates Office has confirmed DBC responsibility
Action Brian Graham to be contacted again, Joe Kelley agreed to follow this up.
- c. The Grange play area needs a new children's swing, but DBC are not responding saying it could cost £1200, and they have no funds. It was agreed that the responsibility must remain with DBC, **Action Clerk to follow up.**

86. Allotments In the absence of Norma Kyle, the Clerk gave the following report:-

- a. There are 9 people waiting for allotments at Strait Lane, and 3 on the Waiting List for the Grange.
- b. There are two allotments which require attention. Clerk to contact the plot holders.
- c. A petition has been compiled at Strait Lane allotments canvassing for a change in the rules to allow plot holders to keep hens. At present there is not a sufficient majority to pursue this. Tony Sayers is going to get the feelings of Grange allotment holders.
- d. The Chair related details of initial discussions with Priory Group about developing new allotments on their playing field. The discussion was very fruitful, and the Clerk will draw up a more detailed plan. **Action Clerk and Chairman.**
- e. It was questioned why a 'representative of the Allotment Association' should be present at the Allotment Meeting. The rules state that the committee comprises 2 representatives from Strait Lane, 1 representative from Grange allotments, and 2 HPC representatives. Hence the Association representative should not be in attendance.
- f. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to all allotment holders re-stating the Allotment Rules on this matter, but also adding that HPC have an open mind regarding an allotment association. **Action Clerk**
- g. It was also agreed that the Minutes of Allotment Committee meetings should be posted on the HPC web site and also displayed on the allotment notice boards.

87. Projects.

- a. The exercise equipment has been installed and is proving to be successful.
- b. The speed monitors are progressing well. The posts should be installed within four weeks. The units are being held by Swarco, and they will submit an invoice at this time, which the council agreed to pay. The power supply for two of the poles needs

to be connected by NEDL which may take a further 8 weeks, but two units should be in operation soon after the poles are erected as these can be connected by DBC.

88. Tree Report

Peter Foster reported as follows:-

- a. The lighting from many of the street lights is being blocked by tree foliage. Residents will be asked to cut back their trees as necessary.
- b. A cherry tree in the church grounds needs pruning back before Remembrance Day as it is too low now to allow access to the cenotaph.
- c. The oak tree in the Grange, which has been the subject of resident complaints requires some remedial action. The Clerk has already applied for Planning Dept consent to 'fell or treat' the tree. This is considered a beautiful tree, which is in good health, two professional arborists having confirmed this; the council agreed that it will be crowned and pruned, and hope that it will live and prosper for many years to come. HCA are to be informed and must also inform their insurers of the situation and get their agreement. **Action: Clerk to advise Mr Scott and HCA.**

89. Flood action Update

Ken Pattison reported that very little actual progress has taken place.

Bill Westland is applying for another grant, as the first attempt failed. HPC has not been consulted and hence not injected data into the application.

Cllr Dixon has been made aware of the situation.

It was agreed that the Clerk, with Ken Pattison, will compile letter to Bill Westland and attempt to generate an action plan.

90. Any Other Business (Non Financial)

- a. Margaret Williams drew attention to the conduct of youths, from the Youth Club on Friday evenings, stressing the disgusting mess which they cause. Ken Pattison, who attends the Club reported that in most cases these were not youths from the Club, but that the Youth Leader has contacted parents of some of the troublemakers to come to the scene and sort their offspring out. There was a mixed reaction from parents.
- b. Jean Peacock reported that trees have been pruned on Grange estate and that residents have been dumping their offcuts in the play area in the central square.
- c. The Clerk raised the question of the Litter Picker. The council agreed that the existing person should continue with her job, on the reduced hours, as agreed. The trial period had proved successful, and therefore we will continue in this mode.

The meeting closed at 9:45pm

