

Minutes of the Meeting of Haswell Parish Council held on

Wednesday 27th April 2022 at 6.30pm held at the Lisa Dixon Centre, Haswell.

Present: -

Cllrs C R Hood (Chair), E Major, O Gray, A Wainwright, J Wainwright, S Hartley & W Ramsey
County Cllrs C R Hood, J Miller, & I Cochrane, C Varty , L Hovells.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Parish Council.

1. Apologies

No apologies were received.

2. Code of Conduct

Members were reminded prior to the start of the meeting of the need to disclose any interests, prejudicial or personal, in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

3. The Minutes of the Meeting Held Wednesday 30th March 2022.

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true and correct record by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising

The action points from the meeting held on Wednesday 30th March were discussed as follows:

Action Point	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE	Action Status
8.1	Speed Indicators on Salters Lane – further enquiries to be made with Durham County Council.	Cllr Hood	OPEN
<i>Action</i>	<i>Cllr Hood reported that he has spoken to officers at Durham CC and it was unlikely that a speed indicator would be placed on Salters Lane due to the layout of the road and the need for 400metres clear unobstructed view as you approach the speed restriction zone. Councillors continue to be concerned about speeding between Shotton and South Hetton through Haswell. Councillor A Wainwright suggested the installation of rumble strips on the approach to the restricted 30 mile an hour zone. He also asked if there were any results</i>		

	<i>from the speed survey. Cllr Hood agreed to follow this up.</i>		
8.2	Painting of the race course fencing. Parish Council to obtain costings and consider funding.	Cllr Hood	OPEN
Action	<i>Cllr Hood is still looking into this matter</i>		
8.3	Demolished property on Front Street - awaiting an outcome from Durham County Council	Cllr Hood	OPEN
Action	<i>Cllr Hood is still awaiting a response from Durham County Council Officers. An official complaint has been made due to the length of time he has waited for a response.</i>		
8.4	Grey Horse – Further enquiries to be made with Durham County Council.	Cllr Hood	OPEN
Action	<i>Cllr Hood is still awaiting a response from Durham County Council Officers. An official complaint has been made due to the length of time he has waited for a response.</i>		
8.5	Community Event for Tyre Painting and further planters	Parish Council	CLOSED
Action	<i>Parish Councillors agreed that the tyre painting of existing and future tyre planters should be done by the Groundstaff.</i>		
8.6	Flooding – Haswell Plough and Mazine Tce	County Cllr Miller	OPEN
Action	<i>Cllr Miller stated that the flooding had been reported and that that he would chase it up</i>		
8.7	Pot Holes Richmond Tce / Pesspool Lane	Cllr Hood	CLOSED
Action	<i>Cllr Hood has reported the pot holes</i>		
8.8	Meeting with Groundstaff in the absence of a parish clerk	Cllr Gray	CLOSED
Action	<i>Cllr Gray reported that herself and Cllr Ramsey had met with the Groundstaff and had discussed and agreed on various issues moving forward.</i>		
8.9	Re – marking of football pitches	Cllr Ramsey	CLOSED
Action	<i>Cllr Ramsey reported that the re marking of the football pitches was in progress. Top soil and grass seed had been ordered.</i>		

8.10	Organise Queen's Jubilee Street Party Packs	Cllr Gray	CLOSED
Action	<i>Cllr Gray reported that the Jubilee street party packs were in progress and that she would be making them up ready to send out.</i>		
8.11	Football Team Changing Rooms – investigate fully fitted container	Cllr Ramsey	OPEN
Action	<i>Cllr Ramsey reported that he had been in contact with the company regarding the container. They need to know the exact specifications that the Parish Council require. The lead in time for a new container would be 3 or 4 months. For a second hand one it would be a few days. It was agreed that a meeting would be arranged between Cllr Gray, Cllr Ramsey and representatives from the football team to discuss the specifications. It was also raised that planning permission may be required. Cllr Hood to pursue this</i>		
8.12	Triangle of Land – Gloucester Tce – possible negotiation of cost	Cllr Hood	OPEN
Action	<i>Cllr Hood is looking into the option of a peppercorn rent rather than a purchase.</i>		

Resolved that the actions being taken were noted.

5. Police Report/Update

The Police were unable to attend the meeting but sent in the following report:

Total calls - 27

ASB – 0

Personal – 0

Nuisance – 0

Environmental – 0

Burglary – 3

- 04/04/22 – Mumbai – Entry gained to an empty business property – Closed, full investigation complete, no suspect identified.
- 13/04/22 – Hessewelle Crescent – Attempt via door to property with no entry gained. – Open Investigation
- 24/04/22 – Front Street – Entry gained and boiler and radiators taken from an empty property – Open investigation.

Criminal Damage- 0

Theft and Handling- 0

Vehicle- 7

- 23/04/22 – NOTE – all 7 incidents on the same date across Barnett Square, Pesspool Avenue and Windsor Terrace whereby tyres have been slashed on vehicles – All are sitting as Open Investigations at this time.

Other –

PACT Meeting details –

- 28th April – 6pm to 7pm - Haswell Pact meeting (face to face) – Lisa Dixon Centre (Mencap).

2nd May – 10am to 11am – Mobile Pact meeting – Howarth Terrace Car park, opposite the village green. NOTE – **This date is to be rearranged and posted on Seaham and Easington police Facebook page and also on Keep In The Know.**

RESOLVED the information given be noted.

6. Finance

Cllr Gray reported that all invoices received had been paid via visits to the bank as previously discussed.

Cllr Gray reported that there had still been no bank statement received so a reconciliation could not be undertaken. However, she had received a balance from the bank. The balance as at 27th April was £177,403.69.

Cllr Gray also raised the issue that we need 2 more signatories for the bank account.

Cllr Hood thanked Olwen for her support and assistance.

RESOLVED the actions being taken were noted.

7. Planning

There were no planning applications to consider.

8. CCTV

Cllr Hood suggested that the Parish Council install CCTV on all of their assets and facilities. This was in the light of issues that had arisen at South Hetton.

Councillors agreed that this would be good idea to pursue. Cllr Hood agreed to investigate the matter further and report back at a future meeting.

RESOLVED that Cllr Hood investigate the matter further and report back to the Parish Council at a later date.

9. Horticultural Meetings

Cllr Hood suggested that the Parish Council sets some further dates for the Horticultural Sub Committee meetings and that one of the Groundstaff is asked to attend.

Cllr Gray suggested that some of the meeting should be during the day when the Groundstaff are working.

Cllr Gray suggested speaking to one of the local nurseries to discuss having a contract with the Parish Council to grow plants for the Parish Council.

RESOLVED:

- **The next meeting of the Horticultural Sub Committee to take place on the 11th May 2022 and one of the Groundstaff to be invited.**
- **There would be flexibility around the times of future meetings**
- **Cllr Gray to speak to one of the local nurseries to discuss having a contract with the Parish Council to grow plants for the Parish Council**

8. Member's Reports

Cllr J Wainwright asked whether there was going to be a Carnival this year. Councillors agreed that they would like to have one. It was agreed that an Events Sub Committee meeting would take place after the Horticultural Sub Committee meeting on the 11th May 2022.

Cllr Major raised the issue of a large waggon and bus parking in the children's play area in Windsor Terrace. Cllr A Wainwright suggested that if it is causing an obstruction on the highway then the Parish Council could ask the Police to look into it. Cllr Hood agreed to pursue this issue.

Cllr Ramsey asked what was happening with the footpath between Haswell Plough and Shotton. Cllr Hood reported that Officers at Durham County Council are aware of it and that there was still 2 days to go until the petition ended.

Cllr Ramsey raised the issue of obtaining a larger container for the Groundstaff. It was agreed that Cllr Ramsey would investigate further into the costs.

Cllr Ramsey stated that the footpath between Haswell Plough (Mumbai) and Haswell was in a poor state as well as the path from the Blue House Pub down Durham Lane. Cllr Hood stated

that there was a report available regarding the County Council's plan for resurfacing and agreed to circulate it to Councillors.

Cllr Hood suggested that the Parish Council meetings should return to St Paul's Church in future. All Councillors agreed.

Cllr Hood reported that he had met with residents from the village about what sort of facilities that they would like to see in the village for children. One of the suggestions was a Pump Track. Councillors agreed for Cllr Hood to investigate this further and report back to the Parish Council at a future meeting.

Cllr Gray reported that the Parish Council had received a card from Treetops thanking them for the Christmas boxes that they provided.

RESOLVED that:

- **the contents of the reports be noted and actioned.**
- **Parish Council meetings would take place at St Paul's Church in future.**

9. County Councillor's Update Report

County Councillor Miller reported:

- the seats were getting installed at the locations agreed previously.
- He would chase up the flooding issue and fencing at Haswell Plough.

County Councillor Cochrane reported:

- He would like to thank everyone who helped with the Ukraine journey and to Cllr Gray for helping with the packing .
- The residents of the villages had donated masses of medical supplies.
- The journey was a huge success and they are going back on the 25th May 2022.
- He expressed his disappointment that the Government have not sorted out visas quickly enough.

County Councillor Hovels reported:

- A water safety campaign had been launched highlighting the dangers of cold water.
- A Community Trigger scheme had been launched working with the police whereby if an issue such as antisocial behaviour has been reported 3 times it would highlight a trigger point and would be given a higher priority.
- She had attended a Levelling Up meeting tonight—Newton Aycliffe is being considered.
- Congratulations to County Councillor Jake Miller for all of the excellent work he has done in respect of Ukraine.

County Councillor Varty reported:

- She had attended the Levelling Up meeting tonight and wanted to highlighted that all County Councillors who attended had fought for the issues in the villages to be considered and in particular the transport network.

County Councillor Hood reported :

As always, I am privileged to be working in partnership with this parish council and the residents of Haswell. Since my last report, and on behalf of Haswell, I have:

- Reported that repairs are needed on the potholes that are on Richmond Terrace (416880833) and Pesspool Lane (416881472) in Haswell.
- Reported the Flytipping that had taken place at the junction of Station Street and Kestrel Way in Haswell. This has been removed.
- Met with residents to discuss increasing recreational activities for children in Haswell.
- Attended the Easter Fair at St. Paul's Church in Haswell.
- Helped organise the new "Bowling Buddies" club with Haswell Parish Council and The Lisa Dixon Centre. It's free and open to everyone.

I would also like to take this opportunity to inform both Haswell Parish Council and the residents of Haswell about the proposals of the Joint Administration at Durham County Council of which I am part, in regards to the new DCC Office Building in Durham City. The proposals include:

- Selling the building at the Sands to Durham University to enable the development of its new state of the art business school.
- Developing a plot at Aykley Heads to build new civic space for DCC, including much needed conference facilities for the council and local businesses.
- Occupying office accommodation in a second building at Aykley Heads that is already under construction, which will also provide invaluable local support for the recently approved DLI development, which will include an arts and cultural offer, and a café and restaurant.
- Refurbishing the Grade 2 listed Stanley Customer Access Point to provide additional office accommodation elsewhere in the county.

All of the above would be paid from the profits of the sale and surplus would go back into the investment of County Durham as a whole.

On behalf of all three villages, I have also:

- Held a meeting to discuss the future work plan of the Children & Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- Attended Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board meeting at County Hall.

- Attended a meeting to discuss the new Selective Licensing scheme that started in County Durham on Friday 1st April 2022.
- Attended the April 2022 full cabinet meeting at County Hall.
- Reminded families of Durham County Council's increased offer to support families.
- Informed residents of DCCs extended opening hours at their Household Waste Recycling Centres across the county.
- Informed residents of the new "Children Travel Free" initiative on public bus journeys across County Durham.
- Promoted the local opportunities for children to receive a Covid-19 paediatric vaccination if their family so wish.
- Attended the April 2022 meeting of the Area Planning Committee (Central & East)
- Attended the April 2022 monthly meeting with the Peterlee Neighbourhood Police Team.
- Promoted fostering opportunities in County Durham with Durham County Council.
- Promoted apprenticeship opportunities with Durham County Council.
- Gave an update on the Council Tax Energy Rebate Scheme, with each house potentially receiving £150.
- Took a group of young people to the climbing centre at Teesdale Leisure Centre as part of Durham County Councils fun and food programme.
- Helped two separate social housing residents regarding getting their garden fence repaired.
- Had further discussions regarding target hardening plans for open areas in Shotton Colliery and South Hetton.

As always, the vast majority of my work has been on more personal issues that our residents have had in relation to residents' issues such as flytipping, littering, dog fouling, car parking, noise pollution etc. I continue to represent our residents and liaise with various officers, staff and departments, both at Durham County Council and external agencies. I am always available and if I can help you, your family or neighbours in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will take it forward.

RESOLVED the contents of the reports be noted.

10. Public Participation

The Chair invited members of the public to address the Parish Council on items of concern or interest.

A member of the public present raised the issue of the length of time it is taking to have planning permission considered at the Planning Committee. It was rumoured that they were only considering 2 applications at each Committee. The member of the public requested that County Councillors look into the matter. County Councillors agreed to look into the matter.

A member of the public present requested to know how the cycle path refurbishment was being funded. Cllr Hood confirmed that the scheme was being funded by Sustrans.

11. Date & Time of the Next Meeting

The next meeting shall be held on the 25th May 2022 at 6.30pm in the meeting room St Paul's Church.