

Hurworth Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Hurworth Grange on Thursday, 6th June 2019

Parish Councillors Present:-

Elaine Hedley, Peter Foster, Dorothy Oughton, Graham Wylie. Bree Stamp, Tony Winnett, Sam Ring-Viney, David Crisp, Amanda Oughton, Lynn Wylie, Janine Forster.

Also in attendance:

Cllr Christy Chou, Parish Clerk (Peter Allan), and 7 members of the public.

14. Chairman's Address

The Chair, Tony Winnett opened the meeting and welcomed the Councillors and members of the public.

- a. The Chairman informed the meeting that there are a number of names under consideration for co-option to the Council.
- b. A Council training course has been organised by CDALC on 16th June. Disappointingly, only one HPC Councillor will be attending.

15. Apologies for Absence: Cllr Tostevin,

16. Declarations of Interest

David Crisp - Allotments
Bree Stamp - HCA

17. Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th May 2019 were accepted, Proposed by Elaine Hedley, Seconded by Dorothy Oughton.

18. Matters Arising

- a. Hurworth Parish Entrance Plaques – There is a slight hold up in the installation of the plaques, as DBC has now offered to do the installation. However, as this is may require a specialist due to the design of the plaques, the work may still be done by Bellway.

19. Public Participation

Mr Fulton attended the meeting and requested that the PC revoke their objection to his Planning Application. He made it clear that access to his proposed dwelling would not cause danger or inconvenience to the general public. A motion to revoke was proposed by Sam Riley-Viney and seconded by David Crisp. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.
Action:

The outcome of Mr Fulton's request under Public Participation was noted and the clerk will inform DBC. **Action: Clerk**

20. Planning Report.

Sam Ring-Viney reported:-

Rec'd Date	Val Date	REF	Address	About	Comments
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17/05/2019	24/05/2019	19/00466/FUL	47 Friars Pardon HURWORTH DARLINGTON DL2 2EA	Erection of first floor extension over existing garage to provide bedrooms and erection of a two storey side extension	N/A
28/05/2019	29/05/2019	19/00495/FUL	16 Hawkswood HURWORTH PLACE DARLINGTON DL2 2HL	Erection of single storey side extension	N/A

21. Neighbourhood Plan

Tony Winnett reported that there has been no progress, mainly caused by the election. The Clerk was asked to contact DBC to get the project moving again. **Action Clerk**
The End of Grant return has been submitted the Groundwork.

22. Tree Report

Peter Foster said that there was nothing significant to report, all the trees are in sound condition

The tree work to be carried out as part of the maintenance, in accordance with the tree surveys has been authorised and is now in progress.

There is a problem with the intrusion of tree roots into the property at Hurworth Cottage. This is under consideration as the pine trees in question all have TPO protection.

23. Open Spaces Report.

Lynn Wylie gave the following detailed report:-

June Report for Open Spaces

- **Damaged Stile** – it has been reported that the stile at Sycamore Close/ Minster Walk is damaged. I have been to see the stile and one of the legs has collapsed/ been damaged, so the stile is unusable (unless you have long legs); it is not a H & S issue due to being obviously damaged. I have reported this to Steve Petch at DBC and he is going to contact the landowner (does anyone know who it is?) when he returns from annual leave w/c 10th June. I have advised Steve that the stile is in a poor state of repair anyway, suggesting that (ideally) it is fully replaced rather than just repaired. The stile has also been mentioned on Hurworth Live, and the ‘poster’ did say that they would repair it!

06/06/19 UPDATE – Stile has not been repaired, and has now fully collapsed apart from 1 leg which is still upright.

- **Pallet bridge on HACSA field** – the same person, who reported the broken stile, also advised that a ‘pallet bridge’ has been built across the beck which runs along the bottom

of the HACSA playing field, and they raised concerns about potential flooding as debris will easily become trapped in the bridge. I have spoken to Kelvin Russell about it, and he advised that he is aware of the bridge (in fact he has removed it once already). The pallets are waiting to be broken up and placed into the skip, but the skip company has failed to empty the already full skip there. Kelvin has assured me that he will chase the skip company and will place the pallets into the skip as soon as an empty one arrives.

06/06/19 UPDATE – Pallet Bridge is no longer intact, but items are still in the beck. Skip has not yet been emptied, and contents in plastic bags have now been split open by animals/birds; they have had events on over the past few days, and the bags would have contained food, so maybe worth writing to HACSA asking that food waste is not added to the skip, as it will attract vermin plus fox/ crow damage. I spoke to Andrew Lee and he agreed with me that the skip should have been emptied by now, and that he will look into it. He will also remove the pallets and cable reel from the beck.

· **Verges at the Glebe** – we have received an email advising that verges along the Glebe have been sprayed with what looks like weed killer, leading to concerns about impact of wildlife. This was discussed with Steve Petch who advised that a contractor carries out this work (not Street Scene) and he is unaware of the contractor using weed killer. I have agreed to get the exact location of where the weed killer has been used, and will report it back to Steve; he will then check with the contractor to discuss and request that the undergrowth is just cut back. From my own experience, residents of the Grange Estate, backing onto the Glebe, do take matters into their own hands and use weed killer themselves, so I need to see if this is the case. I will discuss this further with Steve Petch when he returns and will provide an update at the next meeting.

· **Further Discussion with Steve Petch** – Steve mentioned that he will be attending the July meeting between the Parish Councils and DBC where he will be holding a discussion around powers of the Parish Councils over footpaths; he advised that MSG have a dedicated footpath person and suggested that HPC have a dedicated footpath representative too, who can be involved with issues, such as the broken stile, where footpaths cross privately owned land

· **Meeting with Previous Open Space Representative, Wilma Campbell** – I met with Wilma Campbell recently and she has very kindly provided me with detail of the three yearly audits on Open Spaces, and detail of EPICH work towards the Neighbourhood Plan. Hopefully this meeting will allow me to get up to speed fairly quickly on Open Spaces making for a smooth transition between us both.

· **EPICH** – I wasn't able to attend last meeting held on 15th May due to work commitments. Looking at the minutes there is nothing major to report; they are on the website. Preparations are going well with the Hurworth festival stall with bug hotel being built, plant donations, and swift nesting boxes.

· **Open Spaces on HPC website** – I have set up a page dedicated to Open Spaces, and have written a brief introduction as well as thanking Wilma Campbell for all of her hard

work on open Spaces. I will update this page on a regular basis providing updates on my work (such as the broken stile/ pallet bridge etc), results of audits on Open Spaces and photos too.

Dorothy Oughton reported that bees had been seen swarming in the village, and asked who this should be reported to. It was agreed that the name and contact details of Roger Chappell, of the Darlington Bees Association should be the contact, and the details put on the HPC web site. **Action Clerk**

24. Youth Liaison

Bree Stamp reported:-

- a. The playground project is progressing.
The survey performed by the parents has been completed, and a survey has now been organised to take place at the Primary School, to get the input from the children.
Once this is completed the group can start to apply for appropriate grants.
- b. The relationship with Priory Hurworth House School is continuing to strengthen.
Their students have participated in a leaflet drop about the Festival and scarecrows.
They also undertaken a litter pick, which they enjoyed.
The school is making their front car park available for Blue Badge parking, and are also sponsoring the Festival.
- c. It has been reported that a child has been injured in a motor accident involving a taxi.
The school are showing sympathy and support for the child's parents, and are investigating ways which similar potential incidents can be avoided.

The meeting discussed various traffic calming methods including more yellow lines, a lollypop lady or some person designated to control the traffic in this area at the peak times.

Graham Wylie recommended severe speed bumps, which are used to great advantage outside other schools. This will be discussed with the priory and Primary schools.

Tony Winnett suggested that the Council should consider a new Logo. The current logo has been in vogue for several years, having been designed by the students of the Secondary School.

This was agreed in principle and Bree stamp agreed to open a discussion with the Schools to have a competition to design a new logo *with a view to using a new logo for a village flag to flown on special Parish event days.*

25. Hurworth Festival, 15th June 2019

Bree Stamp informed the meeting that the arrangements were all in hand, the PESAG has been signed off by DBC. A 20mph speed limit will be in force, and the event is covered by the HCA insurance policy.

There will be a variety of live entertainment, *a number of* community groups are participating, and it is hoped to attract around 1000 people throughout the day. Forty scarecrows have already been registered.

Paul Mallett from All Saints Church will be opening the Festival at 11:00am.

26. Allotments

David Crisp reported that all the allotments have been taken, tenancy agreements signed and all are paid up for 2019. There is also a Waiting List in place.

An Allotment Meeting will be convened within the next one month.

David stressed that the allotment holders will have a tent at the Festival and have a large amount of plants for sale.

27. HPC Web site

Graham Wylie reported that there had been 300 hits on the site, none of which required a comment from the Council.

The web site has been tidied up and is also now fully up to date.

Graham has designed and implemented a new front page, which makes navigation through the site easier and is more pleasing to the eye.

Graham requested that all the new councillors send him their personal details, which they agree can be posted on the web site.

The web site can be made more attractive with photographs of events and activities in the Parish, and he requested that councillors send him suitable material.

The Chairman thanked Graham for his effort.

28. Highways and Traffic Reports

Dorothy Oughton made the following report:-

a. Highways

1. The trees at Hurworth Cottage are overhanging the pavement and causing possible obstruction for prams and wheelchairs. Peter Foster agreed to investigate.
2. The bollard near Lime Cottage is still badly broken. Action Clerk
3. The grass area near the Mustard Tree Café is getting badly mauled by vehicles parking on the grass. This was a constant problem a year ago, when we put up signs and installed posts with signs, all of which were knocked down. The suggestion of tarmacking the area was discussed, but this was rejected a year ago, because it was thought that cars would park on the hard standing and narrow the pavement passageway.

The meeting felt that large stones could prove both effective and attractive.

Action Clerk to discuss with DBC.

4. DBC has informed us that the speed check scheduled to be carried out at the Birches has been delayed a further 8 weeks.

b. Speed Watch

The team currently comprises five regular volunteers, the remainder of the persons trained appear to have lost interest.

Two sessions were held in May.

The Wednesday session yielded seven vehicles exceeding the speed limit.

The Thursday session yielded seventeen vehicles exceeding the limit.

Elaine Hedley circulated a comprehensive schedule of the traffic statistics for May 2019. These schedules are most enlightening and will be posted on the Council web site.

They show that the average percentage of vehicles speeding, are as follows:-

Hurworth Road incoming traffic	10.28%
Roundhill Road incoming	2.72%
Linden Court incoming	5.9%

Apart from Hurworth Road, these figures show a significant improvement.

Peter Foster suggested that the Council should reconsider the implementation of Registration Recognition equipment, in order to apply further information and leverage to reduce the speed through the village and near the schools. **Action:**

Graham Wylie and the Clerk will gather information.

THE Chairman thanked Elaine Hedley for her very comprehensive report.

29. Matters of Interest

a. Defibrillators

The Chairman reported that we are waiting for a pole fixing bracket to complete the installation of the unit at All Saints Church.

We have written to Rogers Charitable Trust providing them with a detailed cost summary for the second unit. The Trustees are all on holiday at present, so we will not get a response and confirmation for two weeks. We will not proceed with an order for this unit until we receive their reply.

The location selected is beside Croft Club, near the old toilet block, and DBC has been asked to visit the site and confirm it is suitable.

b. Seat to be installed at the bus stop on Neasham Road.

We have requested permission from DBC Highways to install a seat at the bus stop, response pending.

The seat suggested is the Lowther model from Glasdon. The cost is £372 plus fitting on site. The Council agreed to this quotation. The Council also decided to have a plaque fitted to the seat, expressing the Council's appreciation of Cllr Peter Foster's 40 years' service on the Parish Council.

c. Legal fees

The Clerk was asked to update the Council with the estimated costs likely to be incurred when the ongoing allotment dispute goes to Court in August.

The Council has budgeted for £6,185 in the current financial year. However, as the Claimant has demanded an Assessor, which the Council did not feel was required, a further cost of circa £750 will be incurred in June. We have obtained a summary of the Barrister and Court fees which is a further £4,500 plus £1,500 for each additional day in Court. This could amount to a total cost in the current year of £8,500 and the budget needs to be revised. In the event that the Council is successful in its Defence, then these costs, along with sections of the earlier costs, will be claimed from the Claimant.

The budget will be updated in the June financial accounts. **Action Clerk**

30. Crime Report

Amanda Oughton gave the following report:-

Hurworth Crime Report – May 2019

ASB

01/05 – Emmerson Road- an egg thrown at a caller's window – youths ran off before police arrival

05/05 – Strait Lane – report of youths riding bikes in the middle of the road – area search no trace for the youths

06/05 – Hurworth Road – vehicle has been egged – the issue has been resolved by attending police officer

Highway Related

02/05 – Elmfield Road – report of an ongoing parking issues during pick up/drop off school times – monitored by the neighbourhood team.

05/05 – Neasham Road – report of horses on the road – horses put back on field prior to police arrival

Same on 10/05 – however horses were put back on the field by the officers

13/05 – Croft Road – cows on the road, approx. 1 dozen, - cows put back on the field by farmers and officers

20/05 – Strait Lane – horse stuck in fencing, RSPCA has been notified and are to attend

Criminal Damage

07/05 – Middlesbrough football club – damage to equipment – youths responsible have been dealt with appropriately

Theft

31/05 – Post office – male walks into the store proceeds to the kitchen and takes a knife from the kitchen area – officers are dealing with this incident – male appears to be a regular in the shop.

Amanda also informed the meeting that our PCSO Partryk Montrlatyc is leaving us, as he is going to start his Police Officer training program. A new PCSO will be assigned to Hurworth.

31. Parish Walks

Janine Forster gave the following report:-

Walk report – For Sunday 2nd June 2019 (Canny Well Woods)

Attended by 2 people including 1 Parish Councillor

Janine Forster

Paths walked 12 and 13

Route description

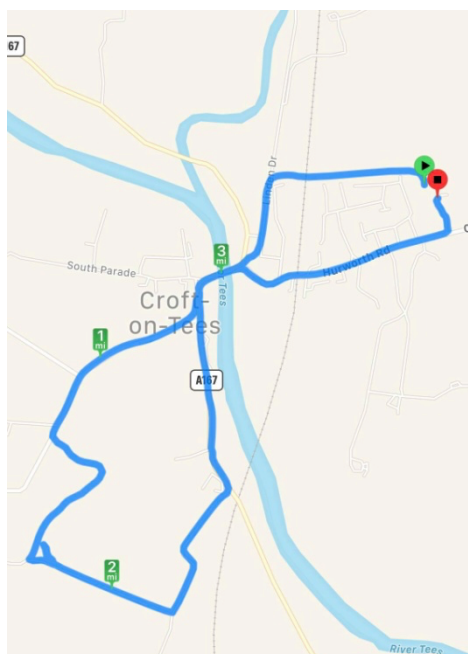
The Walk started at Hurworth Grange -

Using path 12 at the back of The Grange and down Dents Hill then taking path 13 and coming out at the side of the Comet. From here over Croft river bridge, and taking the road towards Middleton Tyas, down Spa B and over old S Bridge, care to be taken here as there is no path along this part of the road, here we take up the footpath through Canny Well Woods. 2 New gates have been fitted along this walk. We then take the farm track back towards Croft passing by Stand Alone house back along croft road, over Croft Bridge, up Croft Bank and along road finishing at The Grange where we started

The 2 Stiles used were slightly slippery but in good order

Walk Length – 3.63 miles

Walk Time - 1.26.45 Hrs



The route was recorded by Hurworth Parish Councillor Janine Forster using her Stava App.

Hurworth Parish Walk Dates for Summer 2019

Sunday 2nd June 3pm (meet at Hurworth Grange) - Canny Well Woods

Wednesday 12th June 6.30pm (meet on the Green) - Newbus Peninsular

Sunday 23rd June 3pm (meet on the Green) - Rockliffe Scar

Sunday 7th July 3pm (meet on the Green) - Hurworth Moor

Wednesday 17th July 6.30pm (meet on the Green) - Geneva Woods

Sunday 4th August 3pm (meet in Snipe Lane, entrance to golf course) - Snipe Lane

Sunday 25th August 3pm (meet on the Green) - Timmies Lane

Sunday 15th September 3pm (meet at the Grange) - Hurworth Circle
followed by BBQ at the Grange

More detailed walk info will be posted on Facebook (Hurworth Together and Hurworth Live),
Website and notice boards round the village nearer the dates

Any queries, please contact Janine Forster on 07712652645

32. Parish Chronicle

Elaine Hedley distributed a list of articles which are suggested for inclusion in the next edition of the Chronicle, and councillors were asked to prepare their various sections. Additional sections were agreed upon, and all submissions should be sent to Elaine.

33. Accounts for Payment

The Schedule of Accounts for Payment for May 2019, having been distributed to all Councillors was accepted by the meeting.

Accounts for Payment as at 31st May 2019

<u>Name</u>	<u>Cheque No</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Vitesse	103217	HP cartridges	64.80
Viking	103218	Paper	54.58
E hedley	103219	Trav expenses	103.70
Hur Social Club	103220	Car Park project	2000.00
Zurich Insurance	103221	Insurance	283.25
Johnston Trees	103222	Tree work	504.00
Hur Village Hall Forces Flag Day	103223	Forces Flag Day on Green	300.00
HCA	103224	Annual Rent	620.00
Nigel Goddard	103225	Planters	60.97
HCA Newsletter	103226	Newsletter	120.00
Bob Iles	103227	Salary	420.35
Peter Allan	103228	Salary	720.20
Inland Revenue	103229	PAYE	161.00
Barclays Bank	DD	Bank charges	2.30
P D Allan	103230	Admin expenses	58.38
Total Expenditure for May 2019			5473.53

34. Financial report

The Financial report to 31st May 2019, having been distributed to all Councillors was accepted by the meeting.

Please see addendum.

- a. The Clerk advised the Council that as two of the cheque signatories have left the Council, the Council needs to assign two new signatories.

Graham Wylie proposed - Tony Winnett and Elaine Hedley become signatories.

Dorothy Oughton Seconded the motion.

The motion was passed unanimously.

Action: - Clerk to make the arrangements.

- b. The Clerk was pleased to inform the Council that Bellway have made a donation of £2,000 towards the cost of the Hurworth Grange car park resurfacing. This means that with the HPC contribution of £2,000, Miller Homes donation of £4,000, and Bellway donation of £2,000, the Association has only needed to add the remaining £2,000, of the £10,000 project.

- c. Peter Allan, on behalf of Hurworth Community Association wished to express the gratitude to all the parties who have assisted.

35. Association Reports

Peter Foster reported that he had attended the CDLAC Meeting in Durham. Full Minutes of the meeting will be sent to the Clerk, who will circulate them to the Councillors.

36. Co-option of a new Councillor

The Chairman informed the Council that they are still one councillor short, to make up the full contingent of twelve councillors.

The time period for the council to make a co-option without going through the advertising and possible election process is 35 days and this ends today.

The Council made the decision that they would make the co-option immediately, and at this meeting. The motion was proposed by Tony Winnett and Seconded by Graham Wylie, passed unanimously.

There were several candidates for the position, and the Chairman and Clerk listed them and added details from their letters and interviews. This concluded in a decision being taken, with a unanimous decision, and the Chairman and Clerk were tasked with contacting the candidates and finalising the formal co-option of the selected candidate. Also they should inform DBC immediately the co-opting was complete.

Action: Chairman and Clerk.

37. Any Other Business (Non-Financial)

- a. The Council has received a letter thanking the Council for their award of £300, to fund the Forces Open Day on the Green.
- b. Dorothy Oughton requested some new litter picker pickers. Action Clerk to obtain

The meeting was closed at 9.35pm

