

Hurworth Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held via ZOOM, on Thursday 4th February 2021

Parish Councillors present:-

Cllr Graham Wylie (Chairman), Cllr Peter Foster, Cllr Elaine Hedley, Cllr Janine Forster, Cllr Lynn Wylie, Cllr Bree Stamp, Cllr Sam Ring-Viney, Cllr David Crisp, Cllr Peter Willis., Cllr Kelvin Russell.

Also

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

398. Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Amanda Oughton, Cllr Dorothy Oughton.

399. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Lynn Wylie – HCA

Cllr Crisp – Allotments

Cllr Russell – Hurworth Albion

400. Chairman's Address

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting, and described how the meeting would be conducted in ZOOM mode.

401. Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th January 2021 were accepted by the Council, proposed by Cllr Graham Wylie and seconded by Cllr Lynn Wylie

402. Public Participation

A resident brought to the attention of the Council that there is a vendor who is offering a satellite connection to provide high speed broadband in Hurworth.

The concept is that one household, or organisation allows the broadband provider to install a satellite dish to their property (most likely a chimney) and the Broadband provider uses this hub to provide high speed broadband to other homes within the radius of the satellite transmission/ Hurworth.

Cllr Tostevin stated that the option is expensive, and her understanding is that it needed 200 parties to commit, to make it a viable solution. Cllr Tostevin related to the efforts that Cllr Joe Kelley had made with Virgin Communications, but had failed to bring a sufficient number of residents on board.

The matter was shelved.

403. Planning Applications

1. Cllr Ring-Viney submitted the following report regarding planning applications submitted in the month of January 2021.

Planning applications				
1	Rec'd Date	Val Date	REF	Comments
	17/12/2020	07/01/2021	20/01221/FUL	None
Address	Rockliffe Cottages Blind Lane HURWORTH DARLINGTON			

About	Proposed internal and external alterations including construction of entrance gates, boundary wall, double detached garage to front, re-positioning of front entrance with stepped access and double height portico, erection of two-storey side extension to south elevation and first floor extension with balcony to rear. Alterations and additions to roof including installation of roof lights, alterations to windows and doors including addition of balconies and hard/soft landscaping to facilitate conversion of 2 no. two bed semi-detached dwellings to 1 no. five bed detached dwelling			
2	Rec'd Date	Val Date	REF	Comments
	13/01/2021	13/01/2021	21/00025/FUL	None
Address	2 Croft Road HURWORTH DARLINGTON DL2 2JE			
About	Conversion of external stores into garden room including alterations to window and doors and insertion of 2 no. rooflights, replacement first floor window to north elevation. Demolish existing greenhouse and erection of replacement greenhouse to south elevation and erection of boundary wall upto 2.7m in height (amended description and amended by plan received 27/01/2021)			
3	Rec'd Date	Val Date	REF	Comments
	13/01/2021	13/01/2021	21/00023/NMA	None
Address	2 Meadowbank Close HURWORTH PLACE DARLINGTON DARLINGTON DL2 2HZ			
About	Non material amendment of planning permission 20/00862/FUL dated 03 December 2020 (Erection of single storey garden room/gym extension and single storey store extension to rear elevation and relocation of existing pergola) to permit alterations to gym windows and door on north and east elevation			
4	Rec'd Date	Val Date	REF	Comments
	22/01/2021	29/01/2021	21/00066/PLU	None
Address	7 Ashville Drive HURWORTH DARLINGTON DL2 2JL			
About	Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed development - removal of existing conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension			

Cllr Tostevin informed the meeting that the planning application for the development on Neasham Road had been rejected. However, the other two applications, having been rejected, have gone to appeal.

In Cllr Tostevin's opinion this application will go to appeal, and as it is going through the Inspectorate, it could take up to two years to be resolved.

404. Tree Report

Cllr Foster reported:-

Despite the very bad weather, the trees are all in good order.

DBC has done a good job this year in clearing the leaves, and they have been using the Grange as a dropping area, before shipping them out. This had led to the drains being free of leaves and fewer blockages.

The recent major flooding problem in Strait Lane was discussed. The problem had been caused by the unlawful filling in of a drainage ditch on Neasham Road. DBC acted quickly in deploying sandbags to three affected homes, and instructed the unlawful filling, of the drainage ditch, to be cleared; once cleared, this resolved much of the flooding.

405. Pothole Report

Cllr Willis reported that the potholes and condition of the road on Roundhill Road is bad. However, in February the road will be closed for up to 14 weeks while the new traffic system and the roadside pathways are being constructed.

There has been indiscriminate parking on the verges along the lower part of Roundhill Road (between Roundhill Close and Mowbray Drive) which is causing damage to the grass and verges. Cllr Willis urged the Council to take some action to discourage this parking and preserve the look of the thoroughfare. **Action Cllr Willis to provide detail of damaged verges and location to allow a solution to be agreed.**

406. Allotment Report

The Chairman congratulated Cllr Crisp in the handling of the allotments during January, when allotment rents are due and vacancies occur.

Cllr Crisp reported that all but one rent has been received.

There are two vacant plots, and these will be taken over by the appropriate people on the Waiting List.

407. Open Spaces & EPICH Report

Cllr Lynn Wylie reported as follows:-

Open Spaces Report – February 2021

Nothing to report.

Hurworth Community Association Report – February 2021

Due to Lockdown, there have been no meetings, so nothing to report.

EPICH Report – February 2021

The group met up via Zoom on the 27th January.

The EPICH Seed Swap initiative has been set up at the Grange. There is a card stand, currently located in the Grange library, where residents are able to swap their surplus/ unwanted seeds: this gives residents an ideal opportunity to try to grow varieties that they have never tried before, or just to have a go at growing veg/ flowers for the first time with no cost.

Following the grant awarded from the Tees Valley Nature Partnership, work is underway on designing the information board for the Lychgate Orchard. Once this is completed, the remainder of the grant will be used to purchase an information board at the Grange Heritage Orchard.

Further to work on the Lychgate Orchard sign, further clearing and planting work is being planned (dates will be advertised on Hurworth Live to welcome people along to help...socially distanced of course!)

It is disappointing to see that the fly tipper is still dumping garden waste into the Lychgate Orchard, despite several letters having been sent out to the residents, whose gardens back on to the Orchard, asking them to dispose of their garden waste in the correct way; further to this nuisance, it is illegal fly tipping!

The group are keen to set up wildflower areas in the village, so any ideas on suggested locations are being requested: one area discussed is to plant natural woodland species along the all-weather path at the Grange. Grants are available, and the EPICH Chair is currently in the process of applying for one to support this initiative.

National Nest Box week runs from 14th to the 21st February, and as in previous years, EPICH are hoping to support this. DOVES have been very generous, in the past, providing nesting boxes, but of course, the Lockdown has affected the availability of boxes. EPICH, following the success of previous years, are still hoping to be able to offer nesting boxes, and updates will be provided on Hurworth Live.

408. Playground and Youth Activities

Cllr Stamp reported:-

With the details of the playground have now been on FB and the notice boards for over a month, the consultation period has now come to an end. The main comment, from 2 residents, are worries relating to the zip wire and this has been passed on to the designers.

The liaison at DBC has been informed and it is hoped we can now move to the next stage

- Priory meeting: I will continue to update them on the activities in the village and see if there is anything they can join in with. One new area to mention is that they could help paint and update the old equipment in the playpark and I will follow up with them on this

409. Highways and Traffic Report

Cllr Hedley reported:-

1. No Speed Watch sessions had been carried out in December due to both weather and COVID 19 restrictions.
2. Traffic Report from the four speed monitors for the month of January 2021:-

TRAFFIC ANALYSIS REPORT

For Project: BridgeJanuary
Location/Name: Incoming Dir
Report Generated: 04/02/2021 13:29:24
Speed Intervals = 3 mph
Time Intervals = 5 minutes

Traffic Report From 01/01/2021 00:15:00 through 01/02/2021 00:15:00

85th Percentile Speed = 30.4 mph
85th Percentile Vehicles = 14,761 counts
Max Speed = 63.0 mph on 18/01/2021 21:45:00
Total Vehicles = 17,366 counts
AADT: 560.2

Volumes - weekly vehicle counts

	Time	5 Day	7 Day
Average Daily		608	567
AM peak	8:00 to 9:00	53	43
PM peak	5:00 to 6:00	37	33

Speed

Speed limit: 30 mph
85th Percentile Speed: 30.4 mph
Average Speed: 24.2 mph

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Count over limit	415	460	426	352	452	393	326
% over limit	16.4	17.9	18.2	13.7	16.9	15.4	15.5
Avg speeder	32.9	33.0	32.9	33.1	32.9	33.1	32.7

TRAFFIC ANALYSIS REPORT

For Project: GreenJan
Location/Name: Incoming Dir
Report Generated: 04/02/2021 13:26:17
Speed Intervals = 3 mph
Time Intervals = 5 minutes

Traffic Report From 01/01/2021 00:15:00 through 01/02/2021 00:15:00

85th Percentile Speed = 30.3 mph
85th Percentile Vehicles = 20,320 counts
Max Speed = 69.0 mph on 23/01/2021 15:30:00
Total Vehicles = 23,906 counts
AADT: 771.2

Volumes - weekly vehicle counts

	Time	5 Day	7 Day
Average Daily		855	782
AM peak	8:00 to 9:00	82	65
PM peak	5:00 to 6:00	52	47

Speed

Speed limit: 30 mph
85th Percentile Speed: 30.3 mph
Average Speed: 27.5 mph

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Count over limit	511	545	511	535	620	596	537
% over limit	14.5	15.7	14.8	15.4	15.6	17.9	20.0
Avg speeder	32.2	32.3	32.4	32.5	32.5	32.7	32.8

TRAFFIC ANALYSIS REPORT

For Project: LindenJanuary
Location/Name: Incoming Dir
Report Generated: 04/02/2021 13:35:18
Speed Intervals = 3 mph
Time Intervals = 5 minutes

Traffic Report From 01/01/2021 00:15:00 through 01/02/2021 00:15:00

85th Percentile Speed = 32.4 mph
85th Percentile Vehicles = 63,134 counts
Max Speed = 57.0 mph on 10/01/2021 17:15:00
Total Vehicles = 74,275 counts
AADT: 2396.0

Volumes - weekly vehicle counts

	Time	5 Day	7 Day
Average Daily		2,772	2,447
AM peak	8:00 to 9:00	275	216
PM peak	5:00 to 6:00	182	155

Speed

Speed limit: 30 mph
85th Percentile Speed: 32.4 mph
Average Speed: 29.1 mph

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Count over limit	3246	3130	3033	2614	3402	2920	2549
% over limit	27.8	27.6	26.0	23.9	27.6	32.2	34.9
Avg speeder	32.9	32.9	32.8	32.7	32.9	33.0	33.1

TRAFFIC ANALYSIS REPORT

For Project: RoundhillRdJan
Location/Name: Incoming Dir
Report Generated: 04/02/2021 13:21:33
Speed Intervals = 3 mph
Time Intervals = 5 minutes

Traffic Report From 01/01/2021 00:15:00 through 01/02/2021 00:15:00

85th Percentile Speed = 28.8 mph
85th Percentile Vehicles = 25,968 counts
Max Speed = 57.0 mph on 15/01/2021 23:30:00
Total Vehicles = 30,550 counts
AADT: 985.5

Volumes - weekly vehicle counts

	Time	5 Day	7 Day
Average Daily		1,095	999
AM peak	8:00 to 9:00	103	80
PM peak	5:00 to 6:00	91	80

Speed

Speed limit: 30 mph
85th Percentile Speed: 28.8 mph
Average Speed: 25.8 mph

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Count over limit	416	331	295	243	375	395	316
% over limit	8.8	7.5	6.8	5.6	7.2	9.1	9.6
Avg speeder	32.1	32.0	32.0	31.9	32.3	32.1	32.4

Overall the volume of traffic through Hurworth has dropped quite significantly, it is assumed that this is because of the current Government restrictions relating to the pandemic.

Full details and additional charts are available for perusal on the HPC web site.

410. Matters of Interest

a. Meeting with Priory Hurworth House School

A meeting was held with priory Hurworth House School on 28th January, and the following topics were discussed:-

- **School Update**

The Head Teacher, Claire, Blackett, informed the meeting that the School is open and operational during the pandemic, and strict regulations are being observed. A new post has been created A Governance Manager, to strengthen the team.

- **Parking and Taxi situation**

- **Vehicle damage report**

- Several of the staff have had their vehicles damaged, when parked at the school. The school is considering installing CCTV cameras.

- **Priory Sports Field**

- Parking overflow plan
- Manorfield

- **HPC Update**

Cllr Stamp brought the meeting up to date with progress on the playground and the Youth leadership programme.

The school declared their eagerness to participate in future events, and it was agreed that Cllr Stamp will keep the school informed and encourage projects where they can work together.

- **Roundhill Road redesign and closure**

Cllr Tostevin reported the plans for the forthcoming closure of Roundhill Road for a 14 week period.

b. CCTV Project

A meeting is being arranged for w/c 8th February, when the exact configuration of the camera(s) will be specified.

Priory Hurworth House School have intimated that they are also considering installing one, or two cameras, and the Council has agreed to pass on the detail of the CCTV provider.

c. Flood Contingency Group

The Chairman referred to the recent problems with the flooding in Strait Lane, which has prompted the Council to re-initiate the Contingency Team. The Chairman has contacted the existing members of the team, and following confirmation of their continued involvement, plans to hold a meeting later in February to set out the objectives, and prepare the team for mobilisation.

Cllr Peter Foster will be the Team Leader. **Action Chairman to convene the meeting.**

d. HACSA Status

Cllr Russell enlightened the Council on the current status of HASCA.

HACSA as an organisation has been closed down, and it has been replaced by Hurworth Albion.

Seventy percent of the subscriptions from the members have been received, which is very encouraging, especially as we are in lockdown.

The Club is in discussions with Priory Group to negotiate a longer lease, rather than the current one year agreement.

Hurworth Albion caters for all ages of football players, and has several teams.

The funds from HASCA have been transferred to Hurworth Albion.

Cllr Russell will be the Council representative and will report from time to time on the club's progress.

e. Parish Chronicle

Following the publication of the draft Action Plan for 2021 in the church newsletter, a resident raised a question.

The Council used to distribute the Parish Chronicle on a quarterly basis. The new Plan states that this will become bi-annual, which he regarded as disappointing.

The Council discussed this, covering the lack of events at present, the cost of production and the other sources of distribution now being used: community notice boards, Hurworth Live, and the improved Council web site.

After discussion, the Council decided that the bi-annual option would be more practical at this stage. The vote in favour was unanimous for the bi-annual option.

f. Grit Bin Request

A resident has requested the Council purchase and install an additional grit bin at the corner of Strait Lane and Sanderson Road. The request followed the recent flooding of the lower part of Strait Lane and the more serious flood caused by the filling in of the drainage ditch on Neasham Road, which has been rectified.

Cllr Ring-Viney, who lives close to this location, stated that there is already a grit bin near to the location, and that a second grit bin appears unnecessary. Other Councillors felt that there could be many locations where residents may wish to have grit bins near their property, but it would be impractical to provide them all.

The Council decided to decline this request. **Action Clerk to inform the resident.**

411. Police Report

Cllr Amanda Oughton filed a report covering crimes reported in January 2021, viz:-

Hurworth Crime Figures 01/01/2021 – 01/02/2021

29 reported incidents in total

5 ASB incidents –

2 Environmental

- Linden Drive - Quad bikes

- Tees View – Quad bikes

3 Nuisance

- Calder Avenue – Covid breach

- 3 youths throwing cans at cars near the Spar shop

- The Green – ongoing issues with the Priory School

1 Criminal Damage incidents –

- Blackwell Grange Golf Club – Quads churning up the grass causing damage

5 Suspicious/ Insecure incidents –

- Green Lane Farm – Possible Poaching
- Hornby Close – Suspicious cold callers
- Rockcliffe court – suspicious vehicle
- Neasham Road - Group of vehicles congregating
- Railway Terrace – Possible Covid Breach

4 Violence against the Person/ Domestic/ Public Order incidents –

- Domestic incidents x3
- Public order incident

2 Burglaries/ Thefts –

- Railway cottages – allotment broken into
- Railway cottages – stables broken into
- The Green – theft of bank card
- Woodlands Way – Unknown persons entered back garden and smashed back door

9 Road Related/ RTC's/ Vehicle related incidents –

- Calder Avenue - RTC damage only
- Snipe Lane – RTC damage only
- Croft Road – RTC damage only
- Bank Top Cottages - Parking issues
- Sadberge – Theft from diesel tank
- Blind Lane – males on quadbikes causing damage
- Round hill Road – Drink drive
- Lychgate – vehicle causing an obstruction
- Croft Road – reports of dangerous/ aggressive driving by black ford

3 Other (Missing Person, Intel, Reliable Sightings, Sudden Deaths etc)

None recorded.

412. Council Outlook for the Future

a. Business Plan 2021-25

A copy of the Business Plan had been delivered to every Parish Councillor, two weeks prior to this meeting.

The Chairman asked if there were any comments, questions, or suggestions regarding the draft Business Plan 2021-25.

There were no comments, so the Chairman put a motion before the meeting for the formal adoption of the Plan.

Proposed by

Cllr Graham Wylie
Seconded by Cllr Hedley
The vote in favour was unanimous.

b. Action Plan 2021

The Chairman put up the draft Action Plan for 2021 on the screen, and line by line confirmed the objective and received confirmation of the Councillors agreement to taken on the roles.

There were no changes made to the Plan, so the Chairman put a motion before the meeting for the formal adoption of the Plan.

Proposed by

Cllr Graham Wylie

Seconded by Cllr Lynn Wylie.

The vote in favour was unanimous

c. HCA Lease

The chairman informed the meeting that the all repairing lease of Hurworth Grange to the Hurworth Community Association is due for renewal in March 2021. The lease is of seven year tenure.

The Chairman requested approval to arrange for the lease to be renewed with the same tenure and conditions. The Clerk expressed some concern about the exclusion of the Nature reserve trees from the lease, suggesting that perhaps the entire property should be included, so that the trees within the estate would be covered by the HCA insurance policy. At present the nature reserve area is outside of the lease boundary, and is covered by the HPC insurance policy.

The Council agreed that the Chairman and Clerk should have the authority to finalise the new lease, in agreement with HCA, having further examined the Clerk's suggestion.

The motion to renew the 7 year lease was put before the Council,

Proposed by Cllr Graham Wylie

Seconded by Cllr Ring-Viney.

The vote was unanimous, subject to the outcome of the condition above.

413. Accounts for Payment

The Schedule of Accounts for Payment for January 2021, having been distributed to all Councillors, was accepted with no queries raised by Councillors.

Hurworth Parish Council - Accounts Payable January 2021

<u>Name</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
M Harridon	130478	Installing Speed Monitor, signage	75.00
G Wylie	103479	Computer software	183.30
Sam Walters	103480	Section 137 award	100.00
Cancelled	103481		0.00
Johnston Tree surgeons	103482	Tree work	292.50
HCA	103483	Newsletter	60.00
A Iles	103484	Salary	588.60
P D Allan	103485	Salary	711.80
Inland Revenue	103486	PAYE	137.20
P D Allan	103487	Admin exs and IT software	176.16
Barclays Bank	DD	Bank charges	2.30
Public Loans Board	DD	Loan repayment	258.62
G Wylie	103488	Computer licence	39.93

Total Expenses payable for January 2021

2625.41

414. Financial report

The Financial report to 31st January 2021 has been distributed to all Councillors, prior to the meeting date, and no queries have been raised.

BLUE=AllocatedBLUE=Allocated		Financial Report to 31st January 2021										Ringfenced funds £12,499					
	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Total	Yer to Date	Budget 2020-21		
Revenue																	
Precept	59000												59000	59000	59000		
Litter Picker & VAT refund		3189			100	2905						2950	9144	6194	9000		
Rent, interest & sundry					100	30		20				330	480	150	500		
Grants, Recovery of legal costs				310		4200	650						5160	5160	2000		
Allotment rent										820	320		1140	820	1180		
Total Revenue for month	59000	3189	0	310	200	7135	650	20	0	820	320	3280	74924	71324	71680		
Expenditure																	
Salaries & NHI	1538	1228	1329	1438	1329	1328	1437	1328	1329	1438	1350	1350	16422	13722	16600		
Gen. Admin Expenses	958	192	1106	79	122	80	193	390	97	343	400	320	4280	3560	5000		
Trees		2366	148	333	0	1224	693	0		293	600	400	6057	5057	7500		
Open Spaces & EPICH			82		1000	0	544	22	100	25	400	450	2623	1773	7000		
Section 137	800	317	0	1310		2992	3210	770		100	2300	1200	12999	9499	10500		
Projects			40		133	212	92	0	4489	50	1650	1600	8206	5016	12000		
Legal Costs & training		500				0	0	0		0	200		700	500	1500		
Newsletters & notices			254		60	60	60	68	593	60	90	90	1335	1155	3400		
Paths/ Walks/ Heritage Trail		54		40		0	0	0		0		200	294	94	2000		
Allotments			15	300	0	234	125	450	23		80	120	1347	1147	1250		
Highways						0		354			350	125	829	354	1000		
Handyman			160	110	0	100	0				100	70	540	370	1200		
Capital & N Plan			18		259					259			536	536	1518		
VAT	25	287	48	76	0	18	30	182	908	58	230	280	2142	1632	1600		
Total Disbursements	3321	4944	3200	3686	2903	6248	6384	3564	7539	2626	7750	6205	58370	44415	72068		
Revenue less Expenses	55679	-1755	-3200	-3376	-2703	887	-5734	-3544	-7539	-1806	-7430	-2925	16554		-388		
Funds in Hand less ring fenced	45,422	101101	99346	96146	92770	90067	90954	85220	81676	74137	72331	64901	61976				
Revenue less expenses	55,679	-1,755	-3,200	-3,376	-2,703	887	-5,734	-3,544	-7,539	-1,806	-7,430	-2,925	12,499		Ring		
Balance Forward	101101	99346	96146	92770	90067	90954	85220	81676	74137	72331	64901	61976	74475		fenced		

415. Association Reports

No reports presented.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.06pm