



**Minutes of the Hurworth Parish Council Meeting held
on Thursday 9th June 2022, starting at 7:45pm
in the Hadwin Lounge**

Attendees

Parish Councillors present:

Cllr Graham Wylie, Cllr Lynn Wylie, Cllr Dorothy Oughton, Cllr David Crisp, Cllr Peter Foster, Cllr Janine Forster and Cllr Bree Stamp.

Also:

Cllr Christy Chou, Peter Allan (Parish Clerk) 2 members of the public.

1. Chair's Opening Address

The Chairman welcomed the Councillors and members of the public.

The Annual Assembly was held on 9th June prior to the monthly council meeting, and attended by 3 members of the public.

The main topics discussed were rights of way and land owners responsibilities, and the giant hogweed problems near the river.

2. Apologies for Absence

- Cllr Lorraine Tostevin, Cllr Peter Willis, Cllr Andrew Leigh, Cllr Kelvin Russell and Cllr Amanda Oughton.

3. Declaration of Interests

- Cllr Graham Wylie - HCA
- Cllr Lynn Wylie - HCA & EPICH
- Cllr Crisp – Allotment
- Cllr Stamp - Allotment

4. Minutes from the Meeting Held 5th May 2022

- The minutes were accepted by the Council, proposed by Cllr Lynn Wylie and Seconded by Cllr Dorothy Oughton.

5. Update on Actions

- a. Progress on grant for £10,000 to enable the Council to purchase new exercise equipment - **Action Clerk ref APR 10.1**
The Clerk has made an application to 'Awards for All' for £9,500 for the exercise equipment, this has been acknowledged and now awaits a decision. **Action closed.**
 - b. Investigate inaccessible pathway and report to the DBC Countryside Department for their attention - **Action Cllr Janine Forster ref APR 13.1**
Cllr Forster to follow up and an update will be provided at the next PC meeting in July. **Action ref APR 13.1 remains open**
 - c. Progress on grant application for improvements to the Grange entrance (opposite Elmfield Road) - **Action Clerk ref APR 20.1**
A decision has been made that there was no requirement to apply for a grant; contract has been awarded for £1,950 and work has now started. **Action closed.**
 - d. A resident, who lives behind Church View flats, requested that the white line, on the road in front of his driveway, be re-painted - **Action Chair ref MAY 6.1**
The white lane has now been painted on the road. **Action closed.**
 - e. A letter will be sent to all the Church Row residents to obtain their views and preference on parking bays - **Action Clerk ref MAY 14.1**
A letter has been delivered to all residents on both sides of the road in Church Row. **Action Closed.**
 - f. Cllr Tostevin suggested that the Grange cameras could be connected to the Darlington Police camera network and to allow them to respond much more quickly to serious incidents. This will be investigated - **Action Cllr Tostevin ref MAY 15.1**
Discussions have taken place, but the matter has not yet been finalised. Update will be provided at the next PC meeting in July. **Action ref MAY 15.1 remains open.**
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6. Ward Councillor's Update

- Cllr Chou referred to the DBC suggestion that they install a speed camera on Roundhill Road. The discussion, which ensued, concluded that HPC do not think that another camera on Roundhill Road is warranted. However, it would be welcomed on Strait Lane, where residents from The Birches have requested, several times, that a camera is needed to slow the speed of traffic in this area where many of the residents are elderly people. Cllr Tostevin to be asked to take this recommendation back to DBC. **Action Cllr Tostevin ref June 6.1**

7. Public Participation

There were no matters raised, as they had already been discussed at the Annual Assembly.

8. Planning Applications – Cllr Willis

Councillor Willis reported:

Planning

Two planning requests:

1. Esh Development Hurworth Moor

Non-material amendment for removal/trim of hedges and removal of trees on development site

2. Esh Development Hurworth Moor

Change of use from dwelling houses to childcare homes

9. Roads and Pathways – Cllr Willis

Councillor Willis reported:

Footpaths/roads

1. Still waiting for start date for school crossing improvement proposal on Roundhill Road
2. Double yellow lines in place for school crossing
3. DBC repaired two minor imperfections on the pavement entrance to the footpath leading to Evesham Grove from Roundhill Road but refuse to repair the main pavement between Westfield Drive and Mowbray Drive!

10. Trees – Cllr Foster

Councillor Foster reported:

The recent calmer weather has allowed the trees to flourish, and regular inspections have shown that all the trees under the HPC duty of care are in satisfactory condition.

11. Youth and Playground – Cllr Stamp & Cllr Munro

Cllr Stamp reported:

1. Scarecrow Festival

The festival is set for the 2nd July, posters are up and we have advertised on social, parish website and in the Darlington & Stockton Times. Currently we only have 8 people registered. The deadline for registration is the 17th June, and if there are no further registrations by this date, we will have to make alternative plans for the event.

2. Cllr Munro had nothing to report.

12. Open Spaces and the Environment – Cllr Andrew Leigh and Cllr Lynn Wylie

1. Open Spaces Update –

Cllr Andrew Leigh reported:

I have started to go round the village and inspect the benches. Some are in need of painting, but most inspected looked fine and safe. Cllr Lynn Wylie has provided a list of the locations of the seats, so I can keep any eye on the seats and ensure I don't miss any.

Environment Report

Cllr Stamp put me in contact with Jill Matthews (Street scene DBC) who I have asked several questions related to DBC's waste collection methods and asking for any environmental targets they have which they are working towards. The aim was to determine if we can introduce bins which allow for better waste segregation.

I received a response from Brian Graham (Head of environmental services DBC). Key points answered are:

Waste is collected as mixed and not separate recyclates. This goes to a material recycling facility (MRF) where the waste is separated into recyclates and general waste. Meaning there was no advantage to separating waste at source.

Brian also said that the council's aim was to have 45% of waste recycled by 2025.

I plan to explore options to improve the recycling we do within the village.

2. Lime Cottage Plaque Update –

Cllr Lynn Wylie reported:

Work is well underway in relation to getting the Lime Cottage/ lime pit plaque made and installed.

A meeting has been held, with the Lime Cottage residents, to agree the location and design of the plaque; there are 2 suggested locations which are with alongside the Manorfield hedge in front of Lime Tree cottage, or along the path leading down to Emerson Road to the rear of Lime Tree cottage (this is the most likely location due to ease of delivery and installation).

Discussions have been had with the stonemason who will make the plinth, and a limestone boulder will be sourced from Wades. A quote has been obtained for the actual plaque, and it will be A4 in size and made from brushed steel with acid etched script (this was recommended by the stonemason and will remove the need for any regular maintenance).

13. Parish Walks and Right of Way – Cllr Janine Forster

Councillor Forster reported:

Councillor Forster was unable to attend to the walk, so to save the walk being cancelled at last minutes, the walk was taken by a third party. There will be another parish walk in June.

14. Highways and Traffic

Cllr Dorothy Oughton reported:-

a. Traffic Report

The detailed Traffic Reports have been put onto the HPC web site. Continued progress is being made as the average speed of traffic in all the monitored locations continue to fall.

b. Parking Survey Update –

A letter outlining the suggested alternatives to help to relieve parking congestion at Church Row was delivered to all 30 households on both sides of the road from the Otter and Fish to All Saints Church. A survey form was included requesting both the residents' choice and any comments they wished to make.

14 forms have been returned, and the answers convey a mixture of responses.

The Council agreed that to implement either white lines or 'T', then it will require 65 percent of the total 30 households contacted to vote in favour of the action to be taken. A report of the outcome will be provided at the next PC Meeting in July. **Action Cllr Dot Oughton ref June 14.1**

c. Potholes on The Green (interior roads)

Cllr Oughton drew attention to the number of potholes on the interior roads on the south side of The Village Green.

Whereas the meeting agreed that there are a number of potholes, the Parish Council are not responsible for these roads. DBC also appear to no longer take responsibility, as the internal roads are for the use and convenience of the residents who border the Green. Sections of the roads are designated as ‘private roads’, while the remainder fall under the category of residents upkeep. It was agreed that the Parish Council are not responsible to undertake doing work on these potholes.

15. Crime and Security –Cllr Amanda Oughton

Cllr Amanda Oughton provided an overview of the Crime Report.

Summary of reported incidents

2 Anti-Social Behaviour

4 Highway disruption

3 Suspicious / insecure

3 Concern / collapse

2 Resident burglaries

1 Business burglary

1 Theft from vehicle.

Full details of the incidents are contained on the HPC web site.

16. Allotments – Cllr Crisp

Councillor Crisp reported:

There has been a break in on the Strait Lane allotments; three sheds were broken into, and one of the sheds had six items stolen from it. An onsite meeting was held, and the Council will repair the section of the fence which was damaged during the break in.

The Allotment Committee has established a group buying arrangement for fertilisers, and this is working to the allotment holders’ benefit and convenience.

There have been two complaints about bonfires on the Strait Lane allotments. These have been addressed. To clarify the current rule with regard to bonfires – bonfires should not be started before 4:30pm on any day and must be extinguished before leaving the allotment.

A new lawn mower has been purchased as the old one was beyond practical repair.

17. Matters of Interest

a. Jean’s Garden Update –

Cllr Dorothy Oughton reported that the project has started, and will continue throughout June.

She also advised the Council that she would like to change the name from Jean’s Garden and will be proposing a new name. The Clerk will speak to the family of Jean Butterfield, who created and named the garden originally. **Action Clerk ref June 17.1**

b. HMS Hurworth visit/ Jubilee Celebrations – Chairman/ Cllr Crisp

The Chairman informed the Council that the visit and participation by the Captain and 28 of the crew of HMS Hurworth was very successful. The crew mingled and joined in the events and were still singing in the karaoke at 10pm in the rain. The Chairman read out a letter from the Captain thanking everybody for the excellent reception they had received and expressing the hope that the village and crew of the ship will resume their annual visits.

c. Grange entrance (Elmfield Road) Project –

Cllr Lynn Wylie informed the Council that the project is now in progress and should be completed by the end of June.

18. Accounts for Payment

The Schedule of Accounts for Payment for May 2022, having been distributed to all Councillors, was accepted.

Hurworth Parish Council - Accounts Payable May 2022			
Name	Cheque No.	Details	Amount
G Fletcher	103681	Audit fee	250.00
G Wylie	103682	Honorarium	200.00
Cancelled cheque	103683	Newsletters	0.00
Swarco	103684	Speed monitor repair	225.60
Hur Village Hall	103685	Jubilee Community Street Party	1650.00
HCA	103686		120.00
Nigel Goddard	103687	Painters	27.00
Hurworth Scouts	103688	Asection 137 Award	1000.00
G Wylie posters	103689	Posters	16.68
Phil Dodsworth	103690	Jean's Graden project	400.00
P D Allan B&Q	103691	Lawn mower for allotments	251.10
HCA Rent etc	103692	Rent, newsletter & copying	689.20
Barclayd Bank	DD	Bank charges	2.30
Cancelled cheque	103693		0.00
P Robinson	103694	Salary	376.15
P D Allan	103695	Admin expenses	122.31
P D Allan	103696	Salary	1227.60
Inland Revenue	103697	PAYE	311.00
Total outlay for May 2022			6868.94
VAT refund	£1,881.00		

19. Financial Report

The Financial report to 31st May 2022 has been distributed to all Councillors, prior to the meeting, and no queries were raised.

Financial Report as at 31st May 2022														
BLUE = Allocated			BLUE = Allocated			Ringfenced funds £12,689								
	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Total	Budget
Revenue														2022-2023
Precept	59000												59000	59000
VAT & Litter Picker refund		1881			3400						3400		8681	8200
Rent & Interest						10			10		10	0	30	650
Grants & Donations		1875	7200										9075	0
Allotment rent										1180			1180	1180
Total Revenue	59000	3756	7200	0	3400	10	0	0	10	1180	3410	0	77966	69030
Expenditure														
Salaries & NHI	1996	1915	1950	2050	1950	1950	2050	1950	1950	2050	1950	1950	23711	23800
Gen. Admin Expe	486	1204	250	200	200	605	150	340	300	300	350	300	4685	4060
Trees	0	0	400	480	455	185	270	500	560	435	400	650	4335	5000
Open Spaces	1000	27	195	1050	50	520	850	500	485	500	500	370	6047	5500
Section 137	0	2650	1800	2000	0	500	500	300	500	500	300	500	9550	10000
Projects & Events	70	1546	6000	3000	1000	500	0	400	1500		600		14616	12000
Repairs, Maint & T	2750	188	3000	60	0	0	120	60	0	360	0	300	6838	3000
Newsletters & Pos	8	194	60	60		60	850	60	60	60	60	820	2292	3000
Youth Activities & Scarecrows		0				1500		500		300		200	2500	3000
Paths/ Grt/ Heritage Trail		0	130	300		300	0	500		320		250	1800	2000
Allotments	268	209	300	360		60		420			200		1817	1400
Handyman	0		100	200		300	100	100	200	100	100	100	1300	1500
Parish Walks				150		0	0		200				350	500
Capital Expend					258		0			259			517	517
VAT	2	311											313	0
Total Expenses	6578	8244	14185	9910	3913	6480	4890	5630	5755	5184	4460	5440	80671	0
													-2705	75277
Funds in Hand	61804	114226	109738	102753	92843	92330	85860	80970	75340	69595	65591	64541		-6247
Revenue less e	52422	-4488	-6985	-9910	-513	-6470	-4890	-5630	-5745	-4004	-1050	-5440	12689	
Funds in Hand	114,226	109,738	102,753	92,843	92,330	85,860	80,970	75,340	69,595	65,591	64,541	59,101	Ringed	

- a. The Clerk has not taken out the one-year bond yet, but is in the process of obtaining quotations from several banks.

20. Association Reports

a. HCA – Cllr Lynn Wylie reported:

The Classic Car Show, held on 8th May, was an amazing success and made more than £4000.

It has been agreed to improve the road surface in front of the Coffee Pot, and quotes have been requested ahead of Peter Allan applying to get a grant to cover the cost of this necessary maintenance.

Three upstairs windows need to be replaced. One of the windows, which is for an occupied tenant's office, has already been replaced.

The other two windows are for the caretaker's flat, which is currently unoccupied, and at a cost of £1400, funds are currently being sought to cover this cost.

A proposal was tabled by Cllr Dorothy Oughton, Seconded by Cllr Crisp that HPC should take on this outlay, and will commission the work for £1,400. HCA have indicated that they will make a contribution. The motion was passed unanimously, with Cllr Lynn Wylie and Cllr Graham Wylie declaring their interest and not voting. The Clerk will contact the Grange Manager and the HCA Chair to advise of this outcome. **Action Clerk ref June 20.1**

A programme of works is required at the Grange, and Cllr Lynn Wylie and Cllr Graham Wylie will work with the Grange Manager and the HCA Chair to carry out an initial inspection of the Grange property and grounds and will complete a report to note any maintenance work which requires attention. This report will help support future budget and maintenance planning but will also provide a tracker of maintenance works as they are completed. The Clerk had previously prepared a 'Preventative Maintenance' and will forward this to Cllr Lynn Wylie.

b. Village Hall – Cllr Crisp reported:

1. The Jubilee Street Party, held on the Village Green, was a great success and supported by approximately 500 people.

The final accounts for the event had been presented to the Clerk, and the shortfall was £697.99. This was within the £800 which the Council had been prepared to fund. The Council agreed to contribute £700 to cover this.

2. Future events include a Quiz Night, the Armed Forces concert on the Green, and the Outdoor Concert at Hurworth Grange

The HPC Budget for 2022-23 includes a Section 137 award of £1,000 towards the cost of the Outdoor Concert, and it was agreed that, as in the past, the Council would contribute £300 for the entertainment at the Armed Forces concert. **Action Clerk ref June 20.2**

The Chairman gave praise to Mr and Mrs Drumm, Mr and Mrs Lawrence, the Village Hall Committee and the Grange staff for the time and effort they had put into the Jubilee event, which was a superb community event.

c. EPICH – Cllr Lynn Wylie reported:

As reported previously, the EPICH Chair (Pat Simpson) has been successful in obtaining another grant from Tees Valley Nature Partnership for two versions of i-spy guides (one for butterflies & damselflies and the other one for birds) using photos taken by John Buxton. With the help of Peter Barron Media on the design and printing, and narrative written by Pat Simpson, work has been completed on the butterfly & damsel fly guide and these guides are available FOC from the Coffee Pot and Mustard Tree. They will also be given

out by EPICH at the various village events that they attend during the year. Work is expected to commence on the bird guide in early June.

Due to several key members being on holiday, the group have been fairly quiet during May. However, there was a general tidy up and planting (free plants donated by EPICH members) completed along Coach Lane by Pat Simpson and Lynn Wylie in early May; this has become a yearly event and it is hoped that it will not only help wildlife but will improve the look for people walking along the busy thoroughfare of Coach Lane.

The recently cleared Grange garden area, close to the Elmfield Road entrance, has become overgrown with raspberry canes that were not removed earlier in the year. Due to illness, holiday and other commitments it has not been possible to complete any remedial work, but it is hoped that the required clearing can be done during June.

d. Hurworth Albion FC –

Cllr Russell was not present at the meeting, so there was no report.

e. Teesside International Airport -

Tony Winnett kindly provided the following report and photos:

On Tuesday 7 June the new Airport SkyBar was officially opened by Mr Phil Forster, the Airport Managing Director.

The attractive new Bar offers reasonably priced drinks, a good ambience and a panasonic window view of the main runway.





21. Any Other Business (Non-Financial)

- There was no other business raised.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:45pm