

## **Hurworth Parish Council**

### **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held via ZOOM, on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January 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 one member of the public.

#### **381 Apologies for Absence:**

Cllr Amanda Oughton, Cllr Dorothy Oughton.

#### **382. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Lynn Wylie – HCA

Cllr Crisp - Allotments

#### **383. Chairman's Address**

The Chairman welcomed and bid a Happy New Year to all who were attending and explained briefly how the meeting would proceed via ZOOM.

Co-option of new Councillors - the time allowed for a call for an election, having passed, the Council were allowed to co-opt a new Councillor. The Chairman introduced Mr Kelvin Russell, who has now signed the Acceptance Register and filled in the appropriate Declarations of Interest forms.

Cllr Russell addressed the meeting; he has been a resident of Hurworth throughout his life and has been involved in many youth and community groups. He believes he can be a great help to the Council because of his current involvement in the Hurworth Albion Football team.

There are about 150 young people who are now active participants in the local groups. It will be beneficial for the Council to better understand the objectives of the football groups and through his representation, these young people can become fully integrated into the Hurworth community.

The Council welcomed Cllr Russell into their number.

#### **384. Minutes of the Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December** were accepted by the Council, proposed by Cllr Graham Wylie and seconded by Cllr Hedley.

Prior to the acceptance, Cllr Stamp stated that she was uncomfortable accepting the Minutes if it was committing the Council to agreeing to financially support the Conversion of the garage block into a café. The Chairman clarified that at the last meeting, the Council had only agreed to the project 'in principle' and not as a financial commitment.

As the last meeting terminated before conclusion due to a Zoom technical issue, the Chairman asked the Council to vote to accept two motions, viz:-

1. Acceptance of the Finance Working Group recommendations. All agreed.
2. Acceptance of setting the Precept for 2021 at £59,000; remaining the same as in the 2020/ 21 Financial Year. All agreed.

### 385. Public Participation

1. A resident enquired about the status of the debt owed through the Court Order awarding Costs to the Parish Council, has this now been received? (Several other residents have made similar enquires in the last few weeks).  
The Chairman responded, stating that the parishioner has made a personal application for a Bankruptcy Order. The matter is now in the hands of the Official Receiver, and the Council has provided the Official Receiver with details of the debt, and challenges from the Council. The chairman expressed that, he believes the Council has a better chance of reaching a settlement, from the claimant, by pursuing matters through the Official Receiver; hopefully this will provide closure to the rather pro-longed battle.
2. The Chairman referred to an item reported on Facebook by Mrs Joan Simpson about the severe flooding on Strait Lane, and the delayed response by DBC.  
The meeting concurred with the comments, and Cllr Tostevin offered to make enquiries into the situation. **Action Cllr Tostevin.**
3. Several residents have reported that the icy conditions on the internal roads were dangerous. Avon Road entrance was quoted as a prime example, where vehicles had been skidding on the icy road. The DBC gritter had been out, but only covers the main thoroughfares.  
It was suggested that two grit bins be placed at the entrance to Avon Road. However, if this action was taken, then every street should also have a right to have grit bins. Two Councillors stated that the grit bins are full of salt but the residents do not use them, so further expense could be a waste of money.  
Cllr Bree stated that she would not support the purchase of individual grit bins but urged the Council to formulate a 'Gritting Policy', so the Council can make better informed decisions.
4. Concern was expressed about the removal of part of the hedge near the Bellway and Miller estates. It is understood that the two developers, in conjunction with DBC, are planning the traffic calming and pedestrian pathway; it is thought that this will embrace the hedgerow. Cllr Willis offered to investigate the situation and report back to the Council. **Action Cllr Willis.**
5. Concern was expressed about the removal of hedges opposite the Arena. Cllr Tostevin reminded the Council that a large housing estate is scheduled to be built on the land opposite the Arena, part of which is within the Hurworth Parish boundary. Cllr Tostevin agreed to make enquires. **Action Cllr Tostevin.**

### 386. Planning Applications

1. Cllr Ring-Viney submitted the following report regarding planning applications in the month of December 2020.

| Planning applications |                                                                                                |            |              |          |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|--------------|----------|
| 1                     | Rec'd Date                                                                                     | Val Date   | REF          | Comments |
|                       | 02/12/2020                                                                                     | 02/12/2020 | 20/01160/PLU | None     |
| Address               | 15 Cree beck Drive HURWORTH DARLINGTON DL2 2JT                                                 |            |              |          |
| About                 | Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed development - conversion of garage into habitable space |            |              |          |
| 2                     | Rec'd Date                                                                                     | Val Date   | REF          | Comments |
|                       | 10/12/2020                                                                                     | 10/12/2020 | 20/01202/FUL | None     |
| Address               | 26 Elmfield Road HURWORTH DARLINGTON DL2 2JJ                                                   |            |              |          |

|              |                                                                                                            |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>About</b> | Construction of a hipped roof over existing sitting room/kitchen and a mono pitched roof over conservatory |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

The Enforcement Order to make good the land on Neasham Road has gone to appeal, and may take a long time to be resolved.

### **387. Tree Report**

Cllr Foster reported that he has made an inspection of all of the trees following the high winds in December. He was pleased to report that there was no visible damage and no noticeable broken branches.

We are still waiting for DBC permission to remove the diseased branches on the large tree near to the Grange playground.

A tree, which is within the Hurworth Grange property, requires a branch removing as it is causing a dangerous situation having grown over a resident's garden in Woodland Road. This matter is in hand.

### **388. Allotment Report**

Cllr David Crisp reported as follows:-

The rent for 2021 will remain at £20 per allotment.

Notices have been put up regarding the rents for 2021, and advising how payment can be made.

In February we will know how many vacant plots are available for allocation to people on the 'Waiting List'.

It is hoped that the Allotment Committee will be able to meet soon, even if it is on ZOOM.

### **389 Open Spaces & EPICH Report**

Cllr Lynn Wylie reported as follows:-

#### **Open Spaces Report – January 2021**

Nothing to report.

#### **EPICH Report – January 2021**

Due to Tier 4 restrictions, the group have been unable to meet up.

Planning for 2021 is going on behind the scene; members will be kept up to date via email.

It has been reported that a metal fence has been removed near Lychgate orchard. This has resulted in an entrance being created and children are accessing the area. There is concern that the children may hurt themselves if the area is not controlled.

EPICH request permission to plant a hedge around the area within the Lychgate orchard, which will make it safer and also add to the beauty of the open space. The Council expressed no objections, so EPICH may proceed with their plans.

Cllr Foster informed the meeting that a new pear tree will be planted in the space where the tree covered in ivy was removed. The new tree will be planted in the Spring.

### **390. 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. December Traffic Report 1.**

New Speed Monitors have been installed on Hurworth Road and Roundhill Road. The initial teething troubles have now been fixed. (HPC opted to do their own installation rather than pay for the SWARCO engineer to do the job) both monitors required remote configuration and an internal switch re-set. Luckily the Traffic Team had the technical ability to sort out the problems. 2. All devices are now functional and will remain at their locations. Not having to move the devices means that the risk of damage has been removed. 3. All devices now record at 3M.P.H. intervals so we can now accurately measure cars doing 36 M.P.H. and above (Traffic Offences) 4. Because of the disruption caused by the new installation, Christmas etc. it is not worth trying to analyse the December Data. 5. The full December Results have been emailed to all and also appear on the Website.

## Report - Statistics December

### Traffic Report December 2020

#### TRAFFIC ANALYSIS REPORT

For Project: Bridge Dec.  
Location/Name: Incoming Direction  
Report Generated: 9/20/2021 12:42:46  
Speed Intervals = 3 mph  
Time Intervals = 5 minutes

Traffic Report from 02/12/2020 21:40:00 through 31/12/2020 21:40:00

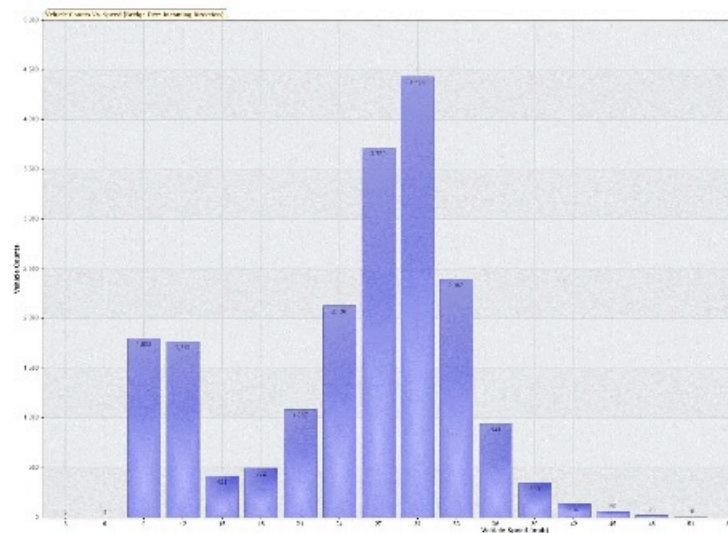
85th Percentile Speed = 31.2 mph  
85th Percentile Vehicles = 16,827 counts  
Max Speed = 72.0 mph on 26/12/2020 22:55:00  
Total Vehicles = 18,796 counts  
AADT: 602.8

Volumes: weekly vehicle counts

| Time          | 5 Day           | 7 Day |
|---------------|-----------------|-------|
| Average Daily | 704             | 618   |
| AM peak       | 8:00 to 9:00 69 | 55    |
| PM peak       | 5:00 to 6:00 45 | 41    |

Speed  
Speed limit: 30 mph  
85th Percentile Speed: 31.2 mph  
Average Speed: 25.1 mph

|                  | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|------------------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|--------|
| Count over limit | 563    | 563     | 567       | 737      | 569    | 497      | 447    |
| % over limit     | 19.8   | 19.4    | 17.9      | 20.4     | 19.9   | 21.2     | 22.1   |
| Avg speeder      | 33.2   | 32.0    | 32.0      | 32.9     | 32.0   | 33.2     | 32.9   |



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

### 391. Matters of Interest

#### a. Status report on recovery of Legal Expenses.

This had been covered under Public Participation.

## **392. Police Report**

Cllr Oughton reported that the Hurworth PC is currently on sick leave.

- a. However, we have now received the **November Police Report**, herewith:-

Hurworth and Neasham 1<sup>st</sup> November to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020:

Dwelling Burglary 0

None Dwelling 2 – 18/11 Halnaby Hall, Garage Burglary where tools were stolen. 13/11 The Green, Stable Block where 3 bikes and some tools were stolen.

Criminal Damage 1 – 05/11 Bryan Close, Window smashed by a youth, incident resolved locally.

Theft of Motor Vehicle 0

Theft from Motor Vehicle 1 – 02/11 Neasham Hill, Tablet and Sat Nav stolen.

General Theft – 20/11 Friars Pardon, Milk theft.

ASB 5 – 26/11 Strait Lane, Motorbikes riding in crop field – Area search no trace.

24/11 – The Green, Youths jumping out in front of vehicles – 1 youth seen and warned in presence of parents.

19/11 – Youths throwing stones outside of the Secondary school

07/11 – Tees View, Youths throwing fireworks. Area search no trace.

03/11 – Rockcliffe Hall, Youths throwing fireworks. Left prior to police arrival.

### **b. December Police Report**

Hurworth Crime Figures 01/12/2020 – 01/01/2021

45 reported incidents in total

#### **3 ASB incidents –**

1 Environmental

- Noise complaint at The Oval

2 Nuisance

- Pupils on roof of The Priory Hurworth House school

- Covid breach at Calder Avenue

#### **2 Criminal Damage incidents –**

- A car has been keyed outside of the Priory Hurworth House School

- Damage to front bay window at an address in Croft

#### **3 Concern/ Collapse/ Injury/ Illness incidents –**

- 2 separate incidents of Pupils absconding from the Priory Hurworth House School

- Neighbour not seen for a while at Manor Road, Hurworth Place (found at Hospital for an appointment)

### **13 Suspicious/ Insecure incidents –**

- 3 Covid Breach's at Railway Terrace, Fox Close and Belgrave Terrace
- Possible Poaching incidents at Neasham Springs Farm, Skipbridge Farm, Glebe View Farm and Low Rockcliffe Farm x 2
- Suspicious vehicles at Rockcliffe Hall Hotel and Skipbridge Garage
- Possibly stolen digger near Paddock Lane
- Suspicious person at Sycamore Close

### **3 Burglaries –**

- Metal cabin/office broken into at Dinsdale Golf club
- Trolley store broken into at Dinsdale Golf Club
- Unknown persons broken into the stables at Railway cottages

### **5 Road Related/ RTC's/ Vehicle related incidents –**

- Possible drink driver on the Croft Road
- Vehicle blocking a garage on Church Row
- Theft from vehicle at Evans Halshaw Garage
- RTC on Northallerton Road, Dalton on Tees
- RTC on Croft Road

### **6 Violence against the Person incidents –**

- Assaults x 3
- Domestic incidents x2
- Male bit by a dog in Geneva Woods

### **1 Animal/ Wildlife incidents –**

- Possible Fox Hunting near Sockburn Lane

### **9 Other (Missing Person, Intel, Reliable Sightings, Sudden Deaths etc)**

## **394. Accounts for Payment**

The Schedule of Accounts for Payment for December 2020, having been distributed to all Councillors has been accepted as no Councillors raised a query.

### **Hurworth Parish Council - Accounts Payable December 2020**

| <b><u>Name</u></b> | <b><u>Cheque No.</u></b> | <b><u>Details</u></b> | <b><u>Amount</u></b> |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| MT Print           | 103470                   | Newsletter            | 593.00               |
| Wave               | 103471                   | Allotment water       | 23.11                |
| G Wylie            | 103472                   | Posters               | 44.63                |
| Swarco             | 103473                   | 2 new speed monitors  | 5386.32              |

|                |        |                             |        |
|----------------|--------|-----------------------------|--------|
| A Iles         | 103474 | Salary                      | 479.60 |
| P D Allan      | 103475 | Salary                      | 721.80 |
| Inland Revenue | 103476 | PAYE                        | 127.20 |
| Barclays Bank  | DD     | Bank charges                | 2.30   |
| P D Allan      | 103477 | Open spaces A/c £100. admin | 160.75 |
|                |        | 60.75                       |        |

**Total Expenses payable for December 2020**

**7538.71**

### 395. Financial report

The Financial report to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020 has been distributed to all Councillors, prior to the meeting date, and no queries have been raised.

| Financial Report to 31st December 2020 |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |       |       |
|----------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
|                                        | Jan-20 | Feb-20 | Mar-20 | Apr-20 | May-20 | Jun-20 | Jul-20 | Aug-20 | Sep-20 | Oct-20 | Nov-20 | Dec-20 | Total | 2020  |
| Revenue                                |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |       |       |
| Principal                              | 50000  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        | 50000 | 50000 |
| Grant - Police & S&T central           |        | 1000   |        |        |        | 100    | 200    |        |        |        |        |        | 300   | 600   |
| Grant - S&T & S&T                      |        |        |        |        |        | 200    | 30     |        | 20     |        |        |        | 250   | 300   |
| Grants, Recovery of legal costs        |        |        |        | 100    |        | 4300   | 600    |        |        |        |        |        | 5000  | 5000  |
| Arbitration fees                       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        | 100    | 300    |        | 400   | 400   |
| Total Revenue for month                | 50000  | 1000   | 0      | 100    | 200    | 4600   | 630    | 20     | 0      | 100    | 300    | 0      | 55600 | 55600 |
| Expenditure                            |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |       |       |
| Salaries & Wages                       | 1100   | 1100   | 1100   | 1400   | 1100   | 1100   | 1400   | 1100   | 1100   | 1400   | 1100   | 1100   | 11000 | 11000 |
| Gen. Admin. Expenses                   | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 1000  | 1000  |
| Travel                                 |        | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 1000  | 1000  |
| Open Spaces & S&T                      |        |        | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 1000  | 1000  |
| Leisure & S&T                          | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 1000  | 1000  |
| Projects                               |        |        | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 1000  | 1000  |
| Legal Costs & Training                 |        | 100    |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        | 100   | 100   |
| Recreation & S&T                       |        |        | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 1000  | 1000  |
| Police & S&T                           |        |        | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 1000  | 1000  |
| Arbitration                            |        |        |        | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 1000  | 1000  |
| Highways                               |        |        |        | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 1000  | 1000  |
| Handyman                               |        |        | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 1000  | 1000  |
| Capital & S&T                          |        |        | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 1000  | 1000  |
| VAT                                    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 100    | 1000  | 1000  |
| Total Expenditure                      | 1100   | 1100   | 1100   | 1400   | 1100   | 1100   | 1400   | 1100   | 1100   | 1400   | 1100   | 1100   | 11000 | 11000 |
| Revenue less Expenditure               | 48900  | 0      | 0      | 0      | 100    | 3500   | 530    | 10     | 0      | 0      | 200    | 0      | 44600 | 44600 |
| Balance at end of month                | 48900  | 0      | 0      | 0      | 100    | 3500   | 530    | 10     | 0      | 0      | 200    | 0      | 44600 | 44600 |
| Balance at end of year                 | 48900  | 0      | 0      | 0      | 100    | 3500   | 530    | 10     | 0      | 0      | 200    | 0      | 44600 | 44600 |

### 396. Association Reports

#### a. Hurworth Community Association Report – January 2021

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

#### b. Tees Valley Airport Consultation Group

Cllr Foster reported that Mr Tony Winnett has obtained details for the progress being made at the airport, and reported as follows:-

Received info from the TVIA Consultative Committee Secretary regarding an informal restricted meeting held on 4 December with some details of activity at the Airport in recent months.

In spite of the Covid restrictions progress is being made. See notes below.

Subject to reduction in restrictions there may be a meeting of Consultative Committee in spring or summer of 2021.



## **"Notes of Informal Meeting at TIA – Friday 4 December 2020**

### **FLIGHTS**

New service announcements had been made over the past few months which showed TIA was bucking the general UK industry trend.

The biggest headline announcement was the new Ryanair operations to Palma and Alicante which were due to start in June. Advance sales were already healthy. The Airport confirmed this was a 7-year deal with Ryanair.

TUI had confirmed its once-a-week Majorca IT flight starting 2022.

Loganair services to Aberdeen and Belfast starting 1 Feb 2021 and Dublin, Newquay and Jersey in the summer.

Eastern's operation to Aberdeen was continuing through COVID-19 to assist the Tees Valley oil and gas workers along with other business users with good passenger numbers. The Heathrow service would look to restart on the 18<sup>th</sup> December only with a skeleton service again to provide connectivity for people over Christmas.

KLM's service to Schiphol would recommence in February.

Balkan had confirmed their Bourgas service which will increase to twice weekly holiday flights in 2021.

This was an encouraging mix of scheduled and charter flights.

Cobham had secured a five-year contract with the MOD.

### **TERMINAL**

There was considerable work going on within the terminal building with the check-in desks on the righthand side of the check-in area (entrance behind you and security ahead of you) now being opened back up ready to be brought back into use.

There were to be two new lounges airside – Rockcliffe and Middleton – which will focus on Business and Leisure passengers and supplement the offer for travellers. The new business lounge was linked to the Airport's sponsorship link with the Rockcliffe Hotel.

Further improvements were underway to the main airside lounge with new concessions and catering under review. There would also be some changes to the seating around the gates as well.

The arrivals hall has also had a makeover from its very tired and non-appealing condition. This is not a dwell area, but the airport recognised that the customer experience needs to be a very high standard.

All the terminal changes/improvements were being phased over the next two years.

### **SECURITY**

There were significant improvements and investment being made to the passenger security area and also hold baggage security. This included new state of the art scanners in both areas and new a baggage belt system. The passenger security system upgrade would enhance passengers experience of the security process allowing passengers through more efficiently whilst maintain security compliance at all times. The aim was to get passengers through to the airside lounge as quickly as possible so the opportunities for them to enjoy and relax revamped airside facilities.

The current coffee concession kiosk in the landside concourse would be removed opening the area up to facilitate a cleaner and more efficient check-in and security process for users.

### **AIRPORT**

Some taxiway resurfacing was underway and the runway infrastructure was being reviewed to assess future maintenance needs.

A new fire response vehicle had been purchased to enhance the current fleet.

Future staffing needs were being reviewed with consideration of new posts in readiness for the business demands. The Airport was proud of the fact that during the pandemic it had not made any staff redundant unlike many other airports around the UK.

While all the new services had been very welcomed, the Airport was continually talking to airlines, new and old, with a view to future services. They key element of the near future was to make the services currently in place successful. "

### **397. Any Other Business – non-financial**

Cllr Tostevin announced that notices will be put up on lampposts throughout the villages advising residents that they can book an appointment for a free COVID 19 test. Test will be carried out on people who do not have any symptoms of the virus. In sessions carried out today in Darlington 37 had proved positive, which is equivalent to 711 per 100,000.

The councillor urged residents to take the test to help in the National fight against it spreading further.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.00pm