



**Minutes of the Hurworth Parish Council Meeting held
on Thursday 7th July 2022, starting at 7:00pm
in the Hadwin Lounge**

Attendees

Parish Councillors present:

Cllr Graham Wylie, Cllr Lynn Wylie, Cllr Dorothy Oughton, Cllr Peter Willis, Cllr Andrew Leigh, Cllr Kelvin Russell and Cllr Amanda Oughton.

Also:

Cllr Lorraine Tostevin, Peter Allan (Parish Clerk) 6 members of the public.

1. Chair's Opening Address

The Chairman welcomed the Councillors and members of the public.

There will be no monthly PC Meeting in August, as the Council goes into recess for the summer break.

The Chairman drew attention to the fact that several Councillors have received no formal training since joining the Parish Council. It was agreed that Mr Luke Swinhoe, Head of DBC Legal Affairs, will be asked to hold a training session in Hurworth Grange and the Clerk will arrange this -

Action Ref JUL 1.1

Tonight, there is a presentation being made by the Manager of the Spar shop, Dawn Dodsworth, focusing upon the congestion problems at times when the daily delivery is being made to the Spar.

2. Apologies for Absence

- Cllr Peter Foster, Cllr David Crisp, Cllr Janine Forster, Cllr Bree Stamp, Lynsey Munro and Cllr Christy Chou.

3. Declaration of Interests

- Cllr Graham Wylie - HCA
- Cllr Lynn Wylie - HCA & EPICH

4. Presentation Relating to Traffic Congestion/ Parking near the Spar Shop

Dawn Dodsworth, Manager of the Spar shop, made a presentation using a video to show the Spar delivery van making a delivery to the shop, but approaching left from Hurworth Road rather than coming down Roundhill Road.

Dawn stated that the delivery drop is usually made between 8 and 8:30am 5 times a week. Delivery usually takes 9 minutes, although the main drop on a Wednesday takes 27 minutes.

It was clear from the video that traffic was able to flow easier with the lorry parked further up Roundhill Road and facing north; this position of the lorry did partially block the neighbour's driveway, but to date, the neighbour has raised no objection.

During the public debate concerns were raised about the safety of children running out from between cars and the sightline of the lollipop lady. However, as the lollipop lady stands on the opposite side of the road, she has clear sight of the traffic in both directions.

Dawn asked for the support of the Parish Council to take the idea forward of the lorry parking further north on Roundhill Road, and the subsequent parking restrictions, forward to DBC in a bid to find a resolution to the long-standing situation. It was highlighted that this is becoming quite urgent, as the proposed speed hump is being implemented shortly.

Cllr Kelvin Russell offered to visit the shop the following day (8 July) to measure up the layby and proposed area for the lorry to park and offload and provide Cllr Lorraine Tostevin with a plan to be presented to Andrew Casey, Head of Highways, for his consideration. **Action ref**

JUL 4.1 Cllr Kelvin Russell and Cllr Lorraine Tostevin

The Chairman thanked Dawn and the residents who attended the meeting to discuss this subject.

5. Minutes from the Meeting Held 9th June 2022

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

6. Update on Actions

- a. Investigate inaccessible pathway and report to the DBC Countryside Department for their attention - **Action Cllr Janine Forster ref APR 13.1** In the absence of Cllr Forster, this remains open.
- b. 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**
The Centre Manager of the Grange Community Centre has had a meeting with the police, and a report should be available shortly. It was agreed that this action could be closed

- c. Outcome of the parking survey – Church Row - **Action Cllr Dot Oughton ref JUNE 14.1**

Please refer to 15.b below. Action is now closed.

- d. Update on the proposed new name of Jean's Garden - **Action Clerk ref JUNE 17.1**

Please refer to 18.a below. Action is now closed.

7. Ward Councillor's Update

- Cllr Tostevin reported:-

Road resurfacing will take place on the main road running through the Village Green and Church Row, starting on 11th July, which will include road closure. Residents will still be able to access their properties.

Cllr Tostevin informed the Council that the weekly games evenings will start again at Hurworth Grange and will take place 1 day a week during the school summer holidays.

Cllr Tostevin has presented the proposal to install a speed monitor at the Birches on Strait Lane, and is currently awaiting a decision from Andrew Casey, Head of Highways.

8. Public Participation

A resident enquired when the Section 106 funding would become available, whether the funds could be re-assigned to different projects called out originally (evening bus service and school) and who would make the final decision?

The main topic was with regard to the evening bus service, which it was suggested was no longer a priority issue, and that the funding could be deployed more usefully elsewhere. The resident also stated that the 'law' regarding new estates was that a bus stop must be located within one quarter of a mile from the new estate; this has not ensued.

It was agreed that the portion assigned to the school and education should remain and be confirmed.

Cllr Tostevin confirmed that the Section 106 funds have been received by DBC, but the final distribution has not been made.

Apart from the funding assigned to 'Education', most of the other funding relates to sustainable transportation and public transport.

It was agreed that further enquiries will be made to ascertain where the funds are to be deployed.

Another resident raised concerns around parking congestion, poor road markings (mainly at the Roundhill Road/ Croft Road junction) and also who is responsible for clearing the grit left on roads after repairs have been carried out (there is a concern it could

cause damage to cars). It was suggested that these matters should be raised with DBC by the Councillor responsible for Highways – **Action Cllr Willis ref JUL 8.1**

The same resident expressed concern about poor maintenance of the gullies and drains, as well as asking who has responsibility of drain clearance (there was a lot of flooding following the recent heavy rain and he is also concerned that when the winter rains come, there could be serious flooding. Cllr Tostevin advised that this has been reported to DBC highways, but will chase again for an answer on this matter – **Action Cllr Tostevin ref JUL 8.2**

Councillor Reports

9. Planning Applications – Cllr Willis

Councillor Willis reported:

Three planning requests -

- **Lakeside Park**
Replacement of wooden electricity pole with a steel one
- **Copse Haven**
Dog exercise area to be reduced to 3 appointments at any one time and number of dogs increased from 3 to 9
- **30 Church Row**
Certificate of Lawfulness application
Siting of mobile studio on terrace to rear of property

10. Roads and Pathways – Cllr Willis

Councillor Willis reported:

Still waiting for start date for school crossing improvement proposal on Roundhill Road.

Double yellow lines now completed prior to school improvement road modifications.

A road sign has been knocked over on Roundhill Road near the Bellway estate entrance and is currently laid on the pavement. The Clerk advised that he will report this matter to DBC - **Action Clerk JUL 10.1**

There have been several concerns regarding the overhanging trees/shrubs from gardens on Evesham Grove causing access issues on the pavement. Following letter to the residents concerned, these have now been resolved. Ongoing monitoring is needed to make sure that they are trimmed back routinely.

11. Trees – Cllr Foster

In the absence of Councillor Foster there was no report.

12. Youth and Playground – Cllr Stamp & Cllr Munro

Cllr Stamp, who was not present but had submitted the following report:-

- Scarecrow festival was cancelled due to lack of registrations. An alternative was offered to those that did register but there was little interest.
- We were asked by Hurworth School to visit and meet with some of their students to tell them about the Parish Council and what is happening in the village. I attended on behalf of HPC and let them know what was coming up. They were happy to discuss potentially doing leaflet drops for us going forward but will follow up.
- There are no more actions on the Play Park.

Cllr Munro was not present but had reported that there was no activity during June 2022.

13. Open Spaces and the Environment – Cllr Andrew Leigh

Cllr Andrew Leigh reported:

I am still working with DBC to understand the recycling initiatives they are operating under and also trying to come up with a way to quantify the village current position with waste disposal. Also, how much are we disposing in tons within the street bins and what proportion of this is recycled in its true sense?

I hope to have a way to quantify this shortly and then plan to track this if it is possible.

With regard to open spaces, I have been around quite a few of the benches, using Cllr Lynn Wylie's list of benches, and they are all safe but some could do with a repaint. I intend to go over each and determine which are in most need of care so I can create an action plan for improvement. The clerk informed that it is the Council's aim to inspect and repair all 40 benches on a yearly basis. This work is due to start in August, although two benches have already been identified for repair.

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

In her absence, Cllr Forster submitted the following report:-

Paths walked on the 26th June 2022 by myself and one other person were

Paths, 6, 7, 4, 3 and 1

All stiles were reasonably secure if a little worn, except the ones already known on path 1 (Minster Walk to Neasham Road).

There was a big gate blocking the stile from Neasham Road into path 1, this we had to move.

Councillor Lynn Wylie reported:

Following the concerns raised, by Terry Kitching, at the Annual Assembly last month, regarding the poor state and restricted access along the Hurworth Parish rights of way, Cllr Graham Wylie and I met with him to discuss and address his concerns.

Cllr Graham Wylie has already started work on speaking to the landowner of the access point onto Blind Lane, and I will contact the Rockliffe Hall hotel regarding improving the access, for wheeled chairs, further along the path.

Further to this, Terry raised a concern that, following the works carried out by DBC on the steps at Railway Terrace, the Teesdale Way sign has not been replaced, and that the stiles along the Teesdale Way through the woods between Blind Lane and the Ringfield are in a very poor state of repair. Both matters have been reported to our DBC contact – Bethan Hacker, and I am currently awaiting a response to this email.

It was suggested to Terry that he puts his concerns along with detail of poorly maintained paths and stiles in writing to the PC. This will allow the PC to prioritise and work with DBC and the landowners on getting the rights of way brought up to an acceptable standard of access for people of all abilities, and where applicable, for people using wheeled chairs.

15. 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 continues to fall.

The monitor on Hurworth Road requires re-setting, as it is not collecting the data. **Action Clerk ref JUL 15.1.**

b. Parking Survey Update –**Action Cllr Dot Oughton ref June 14.1**

Cllr Dorothy Oughton reported that in total 17 survey reports were received. The majority were in favour of taking no action and making no changes.

Based upon this, Cllr Dorothy Oughton put forward a motion that the Council should take no further action regarding parking at Church Row. The motion was Seconded by Cllr Graham Wylie, and the motion was passed unanimously.

Cllr Graham Wylie enquired about the progress of the Speedwatch training, with Cllr Dorothy Oughton replying that progress had been slowed down waiting for the volunteers to respond to the police training, but it was hoped that the volunteers would be able to complete the training shortly.

16. Crime and Security – Cllr Amanda Oughton

Cllr Amanda Oughton provided an overview of the Crime Report.

Summary of reported incidents:-

Road related	1
ASB environmental	1
Suspicious / insecure	5
Concern / welfare	2
RTC	3
Burglary- business	1
Theft / handling	3
#Vehicle criminal damage	1
ASB nuisance	2
Police generated	1

The full report with details is available on the HPC web site.

17. Allotments – Cllr Crisp

In his absence, Cllr Crisp reported that the repairs to the fence have been carried out, and that all the allotments are being cared for.

The Allotment Fun Day is being organised for 13th August at Strait Lane allotments.

Cllr Crisp stated that the cost of items for the Fun Day have increased significantly due to the cost-of-living increases. He requested that the £300 budgeted for the event, be increased slightly to £400.

On a show of hands, this was agreed unanimously.

18. Matters of Interest

a. Jean's Garden Update –

The Clerk reported that he had visited and talked to Mr Frank Butterfield, and it was agreed that the memorial plaque remain within the garden, but in due course the area will be renamed by Cllr Dorothy Oughton.

b. Grange entrance update –

Cllr Lynn Wylie reported that the project is complete, and the matter now closed.

18. Accounts for Payment

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

Hurworth Parish Council - Accounts Payable June 2022

<u>Name</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
G Wylie	103698	Posters	16.68
Johnston Trees	103699	Treework	256.50
Cancelled cheque	103673	Cancelled cheque	-256.50
Zurich Insurance	103700	Annual insurance	291.67
Wave	103701	Allotment water rates	129.41
Kelvin Russell	103702	Elmfield Road entrance project	1950.00
Hurworth Village Hall	103703	Section 137 award for three events	2000.00
P D Allan - Bookers	103704	HMS Hurworth refreshments	408.18
HCA	103705	Newsletters	259.85
P Robinson	103706	Salary	535.60
P D Allan	103707	Salary	1227.60
Inland Revenue	103708	PAYE	351.00
P D Allan expenses	103709	Allotment exs and printer crtridge	87.04
Barclays Bank	DD	Bank charges	2.30
BT Comms	DD	Telecommunications	188.22
Total outlay for June 2022			7447.55

19. Financial Report

The Financial report to 30th June 2022 has been distributed to all Councillors, prior to the meeting, and no queries were raised.

Financial Report as at 30th June 2022														
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														2022-23
Precept	59000												59000	59000
VAT & Litter Picker refund		1881			3400						3400		8681	8681
Rent & Interest			9			10			10		10	0	39	39
Grants & Donations		1875		7200									9075	9075
Allotment rent										1180			1180	1180
Total Revenue	59000	3756	9	7200	3400	10	0	0	10	1180	3410	0	77975	77975
Expenditure														
Salaries & NHI	1996	1915	2114	2050	1950	1950	2050	1950	1950	2050	1950	1950	23875	23875
Gen. Admin Expe	486	1204	543	200	200	605	150	340	300	300	350	300	4978	4978
Trees	0	0	0	480	455	185	270	500	560	435	400	650	3935	3935
Open Spaces	1000	27	0	1050	50	520	850	500	485	500	500	370	5852	5852
Section 137	0	2650	2323	2000	0	500	500	300	500	500	300	500	10073	10073
Projects & Events	70	1546	1950	4000	600	500	0	400	1500		600		11166	11166
Repairs, Maint & T	2750	188		3000	600	300	120	60	0	360	0	300	7678	7678
Newsletters & Pos	8	194	274	60		60	850	60	60	60	60	820	2506	2506
Youth Activities & Scarecrows		0				1500		500		300		200	2500	2500
Paths/ Grit/ Heritage Trail		0		300		300	0	500		320		250	1670	1670
Allotments	268	209	150	360		60		420			200		1667	1667
Handyman	0		0	200		300	100	100	200	100	100	100	1200	1200
Parish Walks				150		0	0		200				350	350
Capital Expend					258		0			259			517	517
VAT	2	311	94										407	407
Total Expnses	6578	8244	7448	13850	4113	6780	4890	5630	5755	5184	4460	5440	78374	78374
													-399	-399
Funds in Hand In	61804	114226	109738	102299	95649	94936	88166	83276	77646	71901	67897	66847		66847
Revenue less e	52422	-4488	-7439	-6650	-713	-6770	-4890	-5630	-5745	-4004	-1050	-5440	12689	12689
Funds in Hand	114,226	109,738	102,299	95,649	94,936	88,166	83,276	77,646	71,901	67,897	66,847	61,407	Ringed	Ringed

The Clerk reported that he had been unable to secure a one-year bond, due to the Council being deemed a ‘business’; only two year and longer term bonds are available to businesses.

After discussion, the Chairman ruled that this matter should be reconsidered after the recess at the September meeting. By that time a new proposal could be tabled if at least two Councillors place it on the table.

a. HCA – Cllr Lynn Wylie reported:

There is currently little to report other than events and weddings are going well.

b. Village Hall – No report.

c. EPICH – Cllr Lynn Wylie reported:

The EPICH AGM is planned to take place on the 21st July; Pat Simpson and Judith Redfern have already announced that they will not be standing for Chair/ Vice Chair and Secretary respectively. There is a concern whether there will be anyone willing to replace them in their roles, so the future of EPICH currently remains in doubt.

A fully detailed report, following the outcome of the AGM, will be made available after the summer recess in September.

d. Hurworth Albion FC – Cllr Russell reported:

Cllr Russell provided the following latest update. It is with great pleasure that I can confirm Hurworth Albion Junior Football Club has secured a grant to develop the building on the priory ground into a tuck shop, the main contractor will complete the renovation to the value of £7,000 who will be paid directly by the Banks group on completion of the project.

Hurworth Albion are also going to be putting on a holiday camp for local children during the six weeks summer break. This will run Monday till Friday 8:30am - 4:00pm from the 25th of July. All the information on this will be found on social media.

e. Tees Valley Airport Consultative Committee.

A fully detailed report has been placed on the HPC web site, as forwarded by Tony Winnett the HPC representative.

21. Any Other Business (Non-Financial)

- There was no other business raised.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:45pm