

## **Hurworth Parish Council**

**Minutes of Hurworth Parish Council, Council Meeting 11<sup>th</sup> June 2026, starting at 7pm, held at Hurworth Grange Community Centre, 41 Hurworth Road, Hurworth, Darlington, DL2 2BN**

### **Attendees**

#### **Parish Councillors Present:**

Cllrs Angela Allan (Chair), Janine Forster, Karen Mann, John Howard, Dorothy Oughton, Cllr Peter Williamson, Cllr Mick Feeney.

#### **Ward Councillors Present**

#### **Official**

Mrs Dianne Rickaby: **Locum Parish Clerk**

9 members of the public were also present.

#### **4. 26-27 Chair's address**

The Chair gave an update of how she has been representing the Council over the past month.

- Organised a visit to Hurworth Secondary School
- Neighbourhood watch
- Rockcliffe care home

#### **5. 26-27 Apologies for absence** – apologies were received from Cllr Peter Willis

**It was resolved** that the apologies be accepted along with the reason for absence given. to the council

#### **6. 26-27 Declarations of interest** – To accept any declarations of interests.

Non received.

#### **7. 26-27 Public Participation**

### **Members of the public addressed the council –**

- A member asked about the white posts and chain area on Lime Lane – It was discussed that this was prevent parking on that area.
- A question as to who is responsible for the upkeep of the roundabout near the Spar shop – it was reported that this is within the works of Darlington Borough Council.
- Anthony Myers – resident gave the council an overview of his planning objection to 15 the Wayside. This was discussed and Council to investigate this planning application further.
- A resident reported that with the increased rainfall there are a lot of pine needles blocking the gutters/drains – can anything be done to help prevent this?
- Elinn field Road – Double yellow lines/parking restrictions and how this is still potentially dangerous.

**It was resolved.** The updates and questions be noted.

### **8. 26-27 Election Vice Chair**

Members discussed this, Cllr Forster proposed herself for Vice Chair and this was seconded by Cllr Mann.

**It was resolved:** 7 councillors agreed with the proposal and 1 against. It is resolved that Cllr Janine Forster to be appointed as Vice Chair.

### **9. 26-27 Minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

Councillors were asked to approve the draft minutes of the meeting held on 7th May 2026 as a true and accurate record.

**It was resolved:**

That the above minutes, a copy of which has previously been circulated to each member, be approved, and signed as a correct record by the Chair.

### **10. 26-27 Matters arising from the minutes**

**No matters arose from the minutes.**

### **11. 26-27 Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026**

Councillors were asked to approve the draft minutes of the meeting held on 22nd May 2026 as a true and accurate record.

**It was resolved:**

That the above minutes, a copy of which has previously been circulated to each member, be approved, and signed as a correct record by the Chair.

## **12. 26-27 Ward Councillors reports –**

### **Cllr Lorraine Tostevin gave her update the key areas being:**

- Play area design updated - £20,000 allocated from S106 monies. Members were asked if the community preferred the big slide that is in situ and if the new one proposed would be the preferred size. Residents and Councillors agreed that the current size of the slide was favourable.
- Other new pieces offered to the new design are; spinning top, interactive panel with noughts and crosses and new safety surfacing under the swings.

It was requested that a breakdown of the project costs be given by DBC.

### **Other matters:**

- Giant Hogweed signs to be put up around the village alerting residents.
- Update on the section 38 housebuilding regime that a late completion fee can now be imposed if development is not within the parameters of the original specifications. This cannot be applied retrospectively.
- Ward boundaries – HPC will have the chance to respond.
- New Mayor of Darlington appointed.

### **Cllr Paul Walters gave his update the key areas being:**

- Linden drive – dropped kerb
- Events in Hopetown – Darlington. Carnival weekend 27-28<sup>th</sup> June.
- Armed forces day 26<sup>th</sup> June 2026

## **13. 26-27 Co-option for existing 3 vacancies**

**It was resolved:** that this item be deferred.

## **14. 26-27 Review of roles of Councillors**

Members discussed roles required to be filled these being:

- Open spaces/environment
- Rights of way

**It was resolved** that Cllr Michael Feeney will cover rights of way and report at the council

meetings and the open spaces to be covered once the new councillors are co-opted.

## 15.26-27 Financial matters:

### Annual Governance & Accountability Return to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026

- a) To approve the annual governance statements 2025/26
- b) To approve the annual accounting statements 2025-26

### Year End Financial Reports

- a) To receive the Year End Internal Audit report.

**The above items were deferred as the Locum Clerk had not received all the information currently.**

**Annual Insurance Renewal** – The locum Clerk gave members an update on the annual insurance premium and the associated cover.

The annual premium being **£317.00**

A member asked if the cover also incorporated the Grange Building and the Locum Clerk advised that this was not covered on the policy.

### Monthly financial reports

- a) List of payments – May 2026 – To consider and approve the list of payments for the period of May 2026

It was agreed that this item also be deferred to the next council meeting.

Authorisation from Council to allow Locum Clerk to have accessibility to the bank account to look at online payments. – **It was resolved this was approved.**

**16. 26-27** The council considered a grant application from the Grange CIO for £2000 towards the music festival in July 2026.

A member asked that if this is approved that the Grange give a breakdown of how the grant is spent.

**It was resolved:** The Grant of £2000 be approved and the Grange to be advised that a breakdown be given and that appropriate advertising be added to show the Council's sponsorship. 5 members approved, 2 against.

## **17. 26-27        Update on Website**

The Chair gave members an update on the status of the new website. Approval was sought for the appointment of the new provider be delegated to the Chair and Locum Clerk to proceed with.

**It was resolved:** Permission granted for the Chair and Locum Clerk to proceed with the appointment of the new website provider.

## **18. 26-27 - Planning applications-**

The Chair gave a report on the planning applications sent by Darlington Borough Council:

*Planning applications received in May. The planning applications received were as follows:*

*Application - 26/00484/TF*

*Location - Priory Hurworth House School, Westfield Drive, Hurworth, Darlington, DL2 2AD*

*Description - Works to 3 no. trees protected by Tree Preservation Orders 2018 (No.2) and 1983 (No.1) - 1 no. Holly reduce by 2m, 1 no. Hornbeam remove limb rubbing against fence, 1 no. Redwood reduce lateral limb over building by 2m in height, 1m in width and crown lift to 3m*

*Application - 26/00431/ADV*

*Location - Car Showroom, Croft Road, Darlington, DL3 8TL*

*Description - Display of 1 No. internally illuminated pylon, 2 No. internally illuminated fascia signs, 1 No. non-illuminated fascia sign and 1 No. non-illuminated free standing welcome sign*

*Application – 26/00421/FUL*

*Location - Cricket Club, Rockcliffe Park, Hurworth Place, Darlington*

*Description - Erection of a single storey extension to the south elevation to provide additional changing facilities and a single storey extension to the east elevation to provide a storeroom*

*Application - 26/00383/FUL*

*Location - 20 Roundhill Road, Hurworth, Darlington, DL2 2DX*

Description - Erection of a first-floor extension over the existing attached garage

Application - 26/00503/FUL

Location - 15 The Wayside, Hurworth, Darlington, DL2 2EE

Description - Erection of a detached ancillary annexe within the rear garden to provide a 1.5 storey double garage with home office/gym above, incorporating 3 No. dormer windows to the north elevation and 3 No. Velux rooflights to the south roof slope, hardstanding and associated works

Application - 26/00467/FUL

Location - 22 Roundhill Road, Hurworth, Darlington, DL2 2DX

Description - Demolition of existing side conservatory, erection of a single storey side and rear extensions with pitched roof over extensions and existing garage, conversion of garage into habitable accommodation together with additional parking provision within front boundary and associated works.

**It was resolved** that the planning report be accepted.

#### **19. 26-27 Councillor update reports:**

- a) Tree report –
- b) Open spaces – No report currently.
- c) Highways /Traffic – Cllr Oughton (see appendix1)
- d) Crime – Cllr Oughton -The crime figures for May are as follows:-

15/5/26

Antisocial behaviour

Kentbeck Drive

3 males on of road bikes

18/5/26

Antisocial behaviour

The Green

Youths on electric bikes

18/5/26

Criminal Damage

Burma Road

Damage to gate caused by quads

**It was resolved** that the reports be accepted.

## **20. 26-27 Correspondence.**

Cllr Howard asked if Council could ask why the Grange front door was not open for the meeting. There was a gentleman on crutches couldn't access the building without walking to the rear.

**It was resolved** that the Locum Clerk ask the management of the Grange as to why the building was locked.

**Cllr John Howard left the meeting at 8.15 pm**

**21. 26-27 Date of the next meeting – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2026**

**The meeting was closed at 8.16pm.**

**Signed**

**Date**

**Acting Chair of Hurworth Parish Council**

**Cllr Janine Forster**

