



**Minutes of the Hurworth Parish Council Meeting held
on Thursday 5th May 2022
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, Cllr Kelvin Russell, Cllr Andrew Leigh, Cllr Bree Stamp and Cllr Amanda Oughton.

Also:

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

1. Chair's Opening Address

The Chairman welcomed the Councillors and members of the public.

The Council are required to arrange the Annual Assembly, to which all residents are invited to attend and discuss any subject they wish.

Last year the Council arranged an interesting programme with several presentations, followed by snacks and drinks. Unfortunately, and most probably due to Covid, the event was poorly attended, so this year it will be a less formal affair.

It was agreed that the Council will arrange for the Annual Assembly 2022 to be held on Thursday 9th June starting at 7:00pm. The monthly PC Meeting will follow immediately after the Assembly.

2. Apologies for Absence

- Cllr Peter Willis

3. Declaration of Interests

- Cllr Lynn Wylie - HCA & EPICH
- Cllr Crisp – Allotment
- Cllr Russell – Hurworth Albion
- Cllr Leigh – Hurworth Albion

4. Minutes from the Meeting Held 7th April 2022

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

5. Update on Actions

- a. Footpath remedial work (Westfield Drive to Mowbray Drive) – **Action Cllr Tostevin ref APR 5.1**
DBC intend to take no action. **Action closed.**
- b. Trees on Manorfield/ contact resident regarding fir trees on Coach Lane - **Action Clerk ref MAR 9.1**
The resident is planning for a tree surgeon to attend to the trees. **Action closed.**
- c. Purchase of three new trees to be planted in model railway area - **Action Cllr Foster ref APR 9.1**
Three flowering cherry trees have been ordered. Delivery is scheduled for November. **Action closed.**
- d. Progress on grant for £10,000 to enable the Council to purchase new exercise equipment - **Action Clerk ref APR 10.1**
A grant application has been submitted and acknowledged; we await further developments. **Action remains open for an update at the 9th June PC meeting.**
- e. Investigate inaccessible pathway and report to the DBC Countryside Department for their attention - **Action Cllr Janine Forster ref APR 13.1**
Cllr Graham Wylie advised that cutting back of overgrown shrubs around the stiles, along the Minster Walk to Neasham Road path, had been cut back. Cllr Forster enquired whether the restricted access had been addressed at the entrance to said path from Neasham Road; it hasn't, so Cllr Forster will investigate this further and send details to the Clerk. **Action remains open for an update at the 9th June PC meeting.**
- f. Progress on grant application for improvements to the Grange entrance (opposite Elmfield Road) - **Action Clerk ref APR 20.1**
The details for the 'end of grant' report for the all-weather pathway have now been received by the Clerk, who will submit the form to close the grant. Thereafter, it will be possible to apply for the new grant. **Action remains open for an update at the 9th June PC meeting.**

6. Public Participation

- A resident thanked the Council for the wonderful play facilities in the Grange play area; it's so rewarding seeing children of varying age groups playing together and enjoying the new play facilities.
- The same resident also thanked EPICH volunteers for the work on transforming the garden area near to the Grange entrance opposite Elmfield Road; the planting has really cheered the area up and makes a nice welcome to the Grange grounds.
- A resident, who lives behind Church View flats, requested that the white line, on the road in front of his driveway, be re-painted. It is no longer clearly visible, so vehicles are being parked across the driveway blocking access. The resident had requested this previously and requested again that the council complete this task as agreed previously in February. **Action Clerk ref MAY 6.1**

7. Statutory Motions 2022

Motions tabled

1. The Council, having studied the documentation, confirm acceptance of the Annual Governance Statement for 2021
Proposed by Cllr Munro Seconded by Cllr Leigh Vote unanimous
2. The Council, having studied the detailed schedule, confirm acceptance of the Council's Risk Assessment for the year 2022-23.
Proposed by Cllr D Oughton Seconded by Cllr Russell Vote unanimous
3. The Council, having studied the financial figures, confirm acceptance of the AGAR Financial Statements for the year 2021-22.
Proposed by Cllr Leigh Seconded by Cllr Munro Vote unanimous
4. The Council accept the terms and conditions as set out in the Bill of Rights, which will be publicised for thirty working days from 6th June 2022.
Proposed by Cllr Munro Seconded by Cllr Crisp Vote unanimous
5. The Internal Audit having been completed and the Auditor's report circulated to all the Councillors, the motion to accept the report was tabled.
Proposed by Cllr D Oughton Seconded by Cllr Crisp Vote unanimous

8. Planning Applications – Cllr Willis

Councillor Willis reported:

Hurworth Parish Council – March Report

Planning Issues

- 1) 10 Southfield Road - Demolish existing garage, 2 story side extension, single story rear extension and attic conversion
- 2) High Rockcliffe Grange - Two story extension, glazed balcony and alteration to windows and doors

9. Roads and Pathways – Cllr Willis

Councillor Willis reported:

Footpaths/Road issues

- 1) Still waiting for official DBC report regarding the traffic calming on Roundhill Road
- 2) Still waiting for start date for school crossing improvement proposal on Roundhill Road
- 3) DBC is not going to expedite repair on footpath between Westfield Drive and Mowbray Drive

10. Trees – Cllr Foster

Councillor Foster reported:

All the trees are in good condition with no concerns.

11. Youth and Playground – Cllr Stamp, Cllr Munro & Cllr Russell

a. Playground Update – Cllr Stamp reported:

Scarecrow Festival - Date has been set as 2nd July and so far it has been advertised on Facebook. It will be on the notice boards, nearer the time, and will be added to the D&S from next week. I will also speak to the Village Hall to see if they would like to put on some morning refreshments on the day and will monitor the amount of people that apply to ensure the event goes ahead as planned

Playground - it has been a success and well used. There are some queries out with the DBC team for example some of the flooring needs to be looked at and the inclusive swing doesn't have straps, which I think it should. I am awaiting to hear back.

A complaint has been received about litter being left around the playground. Cllr Lynn Wylie suggested that the Litter Picker could be asked to extend his round to include visits to the playground and Coffee Pot areas. **Action Clerk ref MAY 11.1**

The Clerk advised that the litter picker has now completed their two weeks of Jury Duty and is now back at work. Cllr Leigh suggested that DBC could provide recycling bins to be located at the Grange to help with the extra litter created by events/ higher footfall in this area. Cllr Stamp advised that further bins have been requested from DBC and agreed to contact DBC further on this matter (will include Cllr Leigh in all emails to allow him to take the matter of recycling up with DBC). **Action Cllr Stamp and Cllr Leigh ref MAY 11.2.**

b. Cllr Munro reported:

All is good with youth and the Priory school currently. I keep checking and have not come across any problems on my walks.

c. Hurworth Fun Run – Cllr Russell reported:

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone who came along to the Parish Fun Run. It was a brilliant day and I have had nothing short of thanks for putting such an event on.

I would personally like to thank Graham & Lynn Wylie for their support and help in delivering what was such an unpredictable event in regard to numbers. However, with 130 runners taking part it was worth the efforts by everyone.

On behalf of the Parish Council, I cannot thank the volunteers enough who helped marshal the course brilliantly, as well as our local lollipop lady, Pat, for lending us her lollipop. This was so kind of you all and brought together a great community spirit. It was also a great way to show off our beautiful village and surroundings to the people, who entered the run, from outside the parish.

I have £500 in cash from the event, along with invoices with £300 worth of VAT that will repay the loan amount of £800 to HPC.

d. The Chairman announced that the Duck Race will take place on 21st August.

e. The Hurworth Scout group have informed the Chairman that the scout hut is in serious need of major repairs. After some discussion, Cllr Russell tabled a motion to donate the £500, raised from the Fun Run, towards the repair work. A further motion was tabled by Cllr Lynn Wylie that the council also make a £500 Section 137 award, meaning that the council donation totals £1000, both seconded by Cllr Leigh. The motion was passed unanimously. **Action Clerk ref MAY 11.3**

f. Cllr Tostevin advised the Council that the scouts could probably qualify for a Wind Farm grant of £7,000. The Chairman will inform the scout leader. **Action Chairman ref MAY 11.4**

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

a. Open Spaces Update –

Cllr Andrew Leigh reported:

As new to the role, nothing to report yet.

b. Hurworth History Board Update –

Cllr Lynn Wylie reported:

The village history board has now been installed (on the area where the phone box and previous village notice board were located). Chris Lloyd, from the Northern Echo, came along to see the official unveiling and is planning to write an article, as part of his Saturday column, incorporating the board into a re-visit on the history of Hurworth (article appeared in the 7th May edition).

Planning work will commence later in the year on a second history board for Hurworth Place, and it is hoped that this will be ready for around Easter next year.

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

Councillor Forster reported:

Nothing more to report on the walks programme, which starts this month.

A letter has been sent to the owner of the land which has the potentially dangerous stile. DBC declined to accept any responsibility.

14. Highways and Traffic

a. Parking Update - Cllr Dorothy Oughton reported:

DBC Highways have sent two suggestions regarding the parking along the roadside at Church Row. The two options were circulated to all the councillors for their views and comments. On a show of hands, the council preferred Option One which is using 'T' markers rather than white lines. It was agreed that the final decision would be made by the residents. A letter will be sent to all the residents along the stretch under discussion, to obtain their views and preference. **Action Clerk ref MAY 14.1**

b. The traffic data, graphics and statistics are on the HPC web site.

The speed monitor has been out of action. However it will be repaired on 6th May.

c. One SpeedWatch session was carried out in April. 15 vehicles were reported for breaking the speed limit.

We are awaiting Durham Constabulary to complete their checks before training can begin with the new SpeedWatch volunteers.

15. Crime and Security –Cllr Amanda Oughton

Cllr Amanda Oughton provided an overview of the Crime Report.

The full schedule of Crimes, recorded for March and April, as provided by the Police, is available for perusal on the HPC website.

There were 20 incidents reported in March and 19 reported in April. The highest number of incidents were road related.

There has been a series of incidents concerning a specific car which has been causing problems and potentially could cause damage or an accident at Hurworth Grange. The car has been recorded on the CCTV Cameras. Cllr Tostevin suggested that the Grange cameras could be connected to the Darlington Police camera network, and could then respond much more quickly to serious incidents. This will be investigated. **Action Cllr Tostevin ref MAY 15.1**

16. Allotments – Cllr Crisp

Councillor Crisp reported:

All the allotments are in good order, there is a waiting list of 3 people with 2 more expected.

An allotment meeting will be held in July, where certain rules, relating to ‘helpers’ will be clarified.

The atmosphere on the Strait Lane allotments is very good, and the new tenants are proving to be keen gardeners.

Cllr Crisp gave thanks to a resident who has made a donation of £100 to be put towards the purchase of compost for raised beds; the cost, to fill the raised beds, was too high for the allotment holder, so the donation is greatly appreciated.

17. Matters of Interest

a. Queen’s Jubilee and HMS Hurworth

The Clerk reported that HMS Hurworth has responded, saying that between 20 and 25 of the crew will be attending the Jubilee event on the Village Green. It was agreed that the HMS Hurworth party will be given a marquee, with table and chairs, lunch and a voucher for the BBQ will be provided. Further to this, the Council will provide up to £500 of refreshments to be put in their marquee.

Cllr Tostevin said that the Chief Lieutenant of Darlington will probably pay a visit to the event, as well as the MP for this constituency.

18. Accounts for Payment

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

Hurworth Parish Council - Accounts Payable April 2022			
<u>Name</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
P Allan Tees River Trust	103671	Open Spaces award	1000.00
G Wylie	103672	Poster	10.08
G. Johnston	103673	Treework	256.50
M Harrison	103674	Notice board instalation	70.00
M Harrison	103675	Allotment fence	267.50
CDALC subs	103676	Annual subscription	482.20
Ruby Civil & Groundworks	103677	Repairing water leak at Hurworth Grange	2750.00
P Robinson	103678	Salary	440.70
P D Allan	103679	Salary	1227.60
Inland Revenue	103680	PAYE	327.20
Barclays Bank	DD	Bank charges	2.30
Cheque cancelled	103662	Treewpork spoilt cheque	-256.50
Total expenditure month os April 2022			£6,577.58

19. Financial Report

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

Financial Report as at 30th April 2022

BLUE=AllocatedBLUE=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			1820		3400						3400		8620	8200
Rent & Interest						10			10		10	0	30	650
Grants		7200											7200	0
Allotment rent										1180			1180	1180
Total Revenue	59000	7200	1820	0	3400	10	0	0	10	1180	3410	0	76030	69030
Expenditure														
Salaries & NHI	1996	1950	1950	2050	1950	1950	2050	1950	1950	2050	1950	1950	23746	23800
Gen. Admin Expend	486	450	500	200	200	605	150	340	300	300	350	300	4181	4060
Trees	0	265	400	480	455	185	270	500	560	435	400	650	4600	5000
Open Spaces	1000	80	195	1050	50	520	850	500	485	500	500	370	6100	5500
Section 137	0	500	2400	2000	0	500	500	300	500	500	300	500	8000	10000
Projects	70	0		8000	1000	500	0	400	1500		600		12070	12000
Repairs, Maint & T	2750	100	3000	60	0	0	120	60	0	360	0	300	6750	3000
Newsletters & Pos	8	850	60	60		60	850	60	60	60	60	820	2948	3000
Youth Activities & Scarecrows		500				1500		500		300		200	3000	3000
Paths/ Grit/ Heritage Trail		200	130	300		300	0	500		320		250	2000	2000
Allotments	268		300	360		60		420			200		1608	1400
Handyman	0	100	100	200		300	100	100	200	100	100	100	1400	1500
Parish Walks		150		150		0	0		200				500	500
Capital Expend					258		0			259			517	517
VAT	2												2	0
Total Expnses	6578	5145	9035	14910	3913	6480	4890	5630	5755	5184	4460	5440	77422	0
													-1392	75277
Funds in Hand less	61804	114226	116281	109066	94156	93643	87173	82283	76653	70908	66904	65854		-6247
Revenue less exp	52422	2055	-7215	-14910	-513	-6470	-4890	-5630	-5745	-4004	-1050	-5440	12689	
Funds in Hand	114,226	116,281	109,066	94,156	93,643	87,173	82,283	76,653	70,908	66,904	65,854	60,414	Ringed	

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| b. Bond - The Clerk recommended that, with the rise in bank rates, the Council should take out a bond for £20,000 (this being the amount of dormant funds which the Council is required to hold at all times). After discussion it was agreed that £30,000 should be placed in a one year bond. Action Clerk ref MAY 19.1 |

20. Association Reports

a. **HCA – Cllr Lynn Wylie reported:**

Work continues with the planning for the Country Fair (Saturday 17th September) and the next Country Fair Committee meeting is planned for the 11th May. The Produce Show categories and entry forms are now available on both the Grange and Parish Council websites.

The Committee has been very successful in attracting a lot of new stalls, sponsors, and entertainment. Again, details will be made available on the aforementioned websites over the coming weeks.

The date has been set for the 2022 Christmas Fair, and it will be held on Sunday 4th December. Again, planning is well underway, and all of the stalls are now taken.

b. **Village Hall – Cllr Crisp reported:**

Everything is going well at the Village Hall and it is very busy.

A new tapestry is currently on display and is well worth a visit to see it.

The main event coming up soon, is the Jubilee Street Party on the Village Green, and the arrangements are well advanced.

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 is well underway, and the butterfly & damsel fly guide is now with the printers. These guides will shortly be available FOC at the Coffee Pot and Mustard Tree and will also be given out FOC by EPICH at the various village events, that EPICH attend, during the year.

Cllrs Lynn and Graham Wylie have completed the first part of the Grange ground improvement works, and the garden area next to the Grange entrance (opposite Elmfield Road) is now fully planted with woodland style planting (once the garden gets established, the planting will be reviewed). Dogwoods have also been planted in the next 2 areas along the new all-weather path; it is too much to clear the ground here, so the decision has been taken to complement the existing area, and to keep the area clear of unwanted plant growth. The main garden is the next area for improvement, but this is going to require substantial planning, and effort (most probably the help from a third party) to clear the unwanted dumped soil from the all-weather path works. The existing planting in this area has been splendid this Spring, and these plants will remain in situ, with new planting put into compliment what is already there. Further to this, there is a lot of clearing and tidying up to be done, such as removing brambles and raspberry canes.

d. Teesside International Airport Consultative Committee.

Nothing to report.

e. Hurworth Albion FC – Cllr Russell reported:

Hurworth Albion are now coming to the end of all the league seasons for the twelve teams in all age groups (from U6s right through to u16s).

With what has been a difficult time for everyone in the footballing community over the last two years, Hurworth Albion have pushed hard this season, with three different age groups winning league titles along with two teams coming runners up.

Following this you may have seen some live commentary on social media last Saturday. Hurworth under 14's in a title clash in one off the best standings in Northeast football. Hurworth won the game to be crowned champions of the first division.

For those of you that don't follow junior football, I cannot stress enough what a massive achievement this is for such a small village, competing against the likes of the big clubs in Newcastle, Sunderland and the whole of the Northeast teams.

Taking all the success this club has achieved through the 2021/22 season, I am going to have great pleasure in thanking all the hard work from the children, parents and coaches in delivering the awards night at the Grange this coming Saturday (7th May).

Please note that the priory Field will be closed to everyone (apart from the priory staff for parking), from the 9th of May until the 23rd of May. This is to allow for completion of work in adding both fertiliser and seed to the pitches.

A few of the teams are going to be doing some sessions on the Grange football pitch when available.

21. Any Other Business (Non-Financial)

- The Chairman drew attention to the large selection of training courses which have now been published by CDALC. He urged new Councillors to attend appropriate courses, many of which are on-line via ZOOM.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:45pm