



**Minutes of the Hurworth Parish Council Meeting held
on Thursday 7th April 2022
in the Hadwin Lounge**

Attendees

Parish Councillors present:

Cllr Graham Wylie, Cllr Lynn Wylie, Cllr Peter Willis, Cllr Dorothy Oughton, Cllr David Crisp, Cllr Peter Foster, Cllr Janine Forster, Cllr Peter Willis, and Cllr Kelvin Russell

Cllr Andrew Leigh joined the Council after being initiated.

Also:

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

1. Chair's Opening Address

The Chairman opened the meeting and thanked everybody for attending.

There had been three candidates for the position of Parish Councillor, and it was discussed with each one the duties and commitment recommended to perform as a good Councillor. Following this, two of the candidates withdrew.

Mr Andrew Leigh was invited to address the Council, and he outlined the reasons he would like to become a Hurworth Parish Councillor and the value he hoped he would bring to the community.

The Chairman welcomed him to the Council, and after signed the 'Acceptance of Office Register', he joined the Council table.

2. Apologies for Absence

- Cllr Christy Chou, Cllr Bree Stamp and Cllr Amanda Oughton

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 3rd February 2022

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

5. Update on Actions

- a. Aspris School Update – **Action Cllr Munro ref FEB 5.1**
Cllr Munro reported that more cars were now being parked at the back of the school.
The school has been monitoring the vehicles outside the front of the premises, to try to resolve the problems with vehicles being scratched. Cllr Munro confirmed that she will continue to monitor the situation, and provide updates when required, but this action can now be closed.
 - b. Roundhill Road traffic calming – **Action Cllr Tostevin ref FEB 7.1**
Cllr Tostevin gave a detailed report based on the findings of DBC regarding the Roundhill Road traffic calming. DBC has concluded that the residents had become conversant with the new traffic control and that no new complaints or incidents have occurred. They have carried out a survey and physically watched the traffic; concluding that the system is working to their satisfaction. Hence, it is not the intention of DBC to make any modifications, as this could only cause more confusion.
The Council agreed with this conclusion, and no further action needs to be taken. This action can now be closed.
 - c. Footpath remedial work (Westfield Drive to Mowbray Drive) – **Action Cllr Russell ref MAR 8.1**
Cllr Russell has made an intensive study of the pathway, and although it does not strictly conform to the present dimension and angular specific requirements, it is nevertheless acceptable. However, Cllr Russell has submitted his findings to DBC. **Action Cllr Tostevin was asked to follow this up ref APR 5.1.**
 - d. Contact resident regarding fir trees on Coach Lane - **Action Clerk ref MAR 9.1**
DBC has had a team working on the trees around Manorfield during the last week. Cllr Stamp has agreed to check that all the trees have been treated including the tree within the private grounds (The Manor House). This will be clarified by 11th April. In the event that the tree with the private property is still a potential problem, the Clerk will contact the resident. Action to remain open for an update at the May Parish Council meeting.
 - e. Call for Speedwatch volunteers - **Action Cllr Graham Wylie ref MAR 14.1**
Cllr Graham Wylie confirmed that three people came forward following the callout on Facebook, and these details have been passed to Cllr Dorothy Oughton. However, Cllr Dorothy Oughton advised that before any training can commence, the Police need to be informed
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and complete their 'sign off'. It was agreed that Cllr Dorothy Oughton will provide updates on the training progression as part of her monthly report, and that the Action can now be closed.

f. Lollipop lady – - Action Clerk ref MAR 20.1

A body camera was purchased and given to the Lollipop lady. However, an officer from Darlington Borough Council informed us that the camera is in breach of GDPR rules (as it will contain unauthorised images of children. The camera has been returned and a refund obtained. Action is now closed.

g. Parish Chronicle – - Action Cllr Graham Wylie ref MAR 20.2

The newsletter was compiled by Cllrs Graham and Lynn Wylie and was printed by MT Print on 31st March. The Chronicle has been delivered by the Councillors during the current week. Action is now closed.

6. Public Participation

- No matters were raised.

Councillor Reports

7. Planning Applications – Cllr Willis

Councillor Willis reported:

Hurworth Parish Council – March Report

Planning Issues

- 1) 62 Friars Pardon - Removal of conservatory and erection of single storey extension
- 2) 12 Evesham Drive - Erection of front porch and single storey side elevation. Replacement of flat roof with pitched roof
- 3) Blind Lane - Erection of barn for storage of hay, farm machinery and tools
- 4) 97 Woodlands Way - Erection of Double garage
- 5) Rockcliffe Fold Blind Lane - Single storey extension

8. Roads and Pathways – Cllr Willis

Councillor Willis reported:

Footpaths/Road issues

- 1) Cllr Russell's report on condition of footpath between Westfield Drive and Mowbray drive has been sent to Cllr Tostevin who has forwarded it to the Highways Team at DBC
- 2) Still waiting for report on Roundhill Road traffic calming scheme: this was provided during the meeting reference Action Cllr Tostevin ref FEB 7.1
- 3) Still waiting for final plans for school crossing scheme and update on congestion issues at junction of Roundhill Road and The Green

Cllr Tostevin addressed the meeting to comment on the leaflets which have been circulated about a proposed new estate alongside the A66 in the vicinity of the Darlington Rugby Club arena. The proposed development will include a filling station, retail outlet(s) and a fast-food drive through. The application has not yet been placed before DBC. It was highlighted that this development will not be in Hurworth Parish.

Cllr Tostevin then updated the Council regarding the introduction of new planning regulations impacting planning applications in the immediate future. Due to the new regulations relating to 'nutrient neutral', the Darlington Borough Council Planning Department need time to understand and implement the new application conditions.

In response to several questions from parishioners, Cllr Tostevin explained that the recently announced changes to the new electoral wards will only affect the MP constituency boundaries, and that the changes do not affect the services received from Darlington Borough Council.

9. Trees – Cllr Foster

Councillor Foster reported:

Cllr Foster reported that three large trees have been removed from Hurworth Grange. These trees were situated close to the miniature railway, and their roots were encroaching under the railway lines, making the miniature railway unsafe and potentially leading to it having to be dismantled.

The Council agreed that three new trees will be purchased and planted in similar locations, but not too close to the railway. **Action Cllr Foster ref APR 9.1**

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

a. Playground Update – In her absence Cllr Stamp sent her report:

The playground opened last week, and it has been very popular. The play area now provides inclusive equipment, including a new statement piece for toddlers, climbing cone and zip wire to name a few. I have received no negative feedback or notifications of any antisocial behaviour. The park was very busy over the weekend with lots of fun being had.

Cllr Stamp has introduced one of the team, who installed the playground, to the Parish Clerk. Following their meeting, it was suggested that the existing exercise equipment is no longer up to the present safety standards, and replacement should be considered. The Clerk suggested that he should apply for a grant for £10,000 to enable the Council to purchase new equipment. The Council agreed. **Action Clerk ref APR 10.1**

b. Hurworth Fun Run –

Cllr Russell reported that all the arrangements have been made for the event on 16th April (registration is at 10:30am and the run will commence at 11am).

The medals have been purchased and the required licence received. As well as the Fun Run, there will be live music, and several stalls providing hot food, cakes, and sweets. The Grange Bar and Coffee Pot will also be open.

The event is being publicised on Facebook and the appropriate websites.

Cllr Russell requests some assistance and needs 12 stewards to be located around the circuit.

11. Open Spaces – Cllr Lynn Wylie

Cllr Lynn Wylie reported:

Cllrs Lynn and Graham Wylie have commenced work on the garden area (closest to the Grange entrance opposite Elmfield Road)) alongside the new all-weather path. Raspberry canes, ivy and brambles have been cleared, along with the excess earth sods from the path work. Initial planting has been completed and further plants will be planted as they become available (seasonality and availability of donated plants).

12. EPICH – Cllr Lynn Wylie

Cllr Lynn Wylie reported:

At the Committee meeting held on 6th April, the EPICH Chair announced that they have been successful in obtaining another grant from Tees Valley Nature Partnership. This grant will be used to produce two versions of I-spy guides (one for birds and the other for butterflies & damselflies) using photographs taken by John Buxton. Peter Barron Media have kindly offered their help with the design and printing too. These guides will be given out FOC, by EPICH, to children at the various village events that they attend during the year.

The first of the 'home grown' wildflower plugs by EPICH volunteers have been planted out in the Heritage Orchard at the Grange. Further plug planting will be completed during April.

The Grange bird hide is going to receive an artistic facelift during the Easter holidays; this is based on designs created by pupils at the Aspris (Priory) School. It is hoped that local children can get involved, during the Easter break, with the bug hotel renovations too.

Following what looked like having to be a delayed move for the EPICH bees from Clervaux to Rockliffe Hall, the new apiary site at Rockliffe Hall was ready in time, and the bees have now been moved to their new location. EPICH had a brilliant relationship with Clervaux and were sad to see this working relationship come to an end. However, with the bees now being located at Rockliffe, it's felt that this is a much more central location for anyone, interested in bees, being able to pop along.

The proposal put forward, by Cllr Lynn Wylie, to improve the garden area alongside the new path was accepted as a project to be supported by EPICH. However, it was agreed that it would need significant effort and planning to break it down into smaller project areas, to make it more manageable; it will most likely require support from other volunteers, and this will be advertised on social media nearer the time. As previously reported, the HPC have allocated £1000 towards this work.

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

Councillor Forster provided a schedule for the upcoming Parish Walks:

Hurworth Parish Walk Dates for 2022

Sunday 29th May - Hurworth Moor to Cold Comfort Farm - Meet on Village green at 3pm

From here taking Coach Lane into Lych Gate, passing the Strait Lane allotments to Timmie's Lane, path 6 & 7, crossing Neasham Road and following the path to Spring Cottage, through Neasham Springs Farm, to Low Maidendale and from here to Cold Comfort Farm and down into Neasham village. This walk will end at the Fox and Hounds, Neasham.

Sunday 26th June - Geneva Woods - Meet on Village green at 3pm

Where we will make our way towards Glebe View Farm, taking the path past Blackwell Moor Farm, path 14, to Geneva Woods, crossing behind Darlington Rugby Stadium, path 18, passing High Farm and joining Burma Road to the footpath exiting along Coach Lane, path 1. Note this walk crosses the A66 and care must be taken.

Sunday 31st July - Snipe Lane - Meet in Snipe Lane at entrance to golf course at 3pm

Where we will make our way through the golf course, past the treatment plant, then over to the Hell Kettles and Oxneyfield. Out onto Croft Road over Oxneyfield Bridge and taking path 12 along behind the Grange estate to the Grange Community Centre where this walk will end.

Sunday 28th August - Rockcliffe Scar - Meet on Village green at 3pm

From here making our way through the Ringfields, passing Rockcliffe Farm, and Low Rockcliffe. Round the river to the viaduct using paths 9 & 21. Then along the edge of Middlesbrough Football Club training pitches and railway line, coming out onto path 11 and taking this and byway 10 past the Rockcliffe Hall and the Cricket Pitch, to the Village Green

Sunday 25th September - Walk TBC

Please note that if any of these dates need to be postponed, due to bad weather, the walk will take place on the following Sunday. The walks will be advertised on the community notice boards and in the All Saints Church monthly newsletter.

Cllr Foster reported his concern about the difficulties of accessing the right of way from Neasham Road which runs parallel with Strait Lane. There is wire and other obstacles making the pathway almost inaccessible. Cllr Forster will investigate and will report this to the DBC Countryside Department for their attention. **Action Cllr Janine Forster ref APR 13.1**

14. Highways and Traffic

a. Parking Update - Cllr Dorothy Oughton reported:

The average speeds recorded by the monitors during March 2022 continued to show a positive trend of reduced speed.

The detailed statistics and schematics are available for perusal on the HOC web site. In summary the results show:

The Green	30.6 mph
Hurworth Road	31.6 mph
Linden Court	33.1 mph
Roundhill Road	31.0 mph (however this monitor did not record data for part of the month)

Cllr Foster reported his concern at the speed of three cars late at night which appear to be racing around a circuit, with very high speeds along Neasham Road. This 'race' has occurred several times between 10.00pm and 5.00am. It will be reported to the police.

15. Crime and Security – In the absence of Cllr Amanda Oughton, Cllr Dorothy provided an overview of the Crime Report.

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

16. Allotments – Cllr Crisp

Councillor Crisp reported:

All the allotments are taken and there are three names on the Waiting List at Strait Lane,

The new tenants are proving to be keen gardeners and the atmosphere on the allotments is very cheerful and jovial.

The Easter Fun Day is organised and all are welcome to attend. The gate post and part of the fence requires repair, and this is scheduled for the week commencing 11th April.

17. Matters of Interest

a. Queen's Jubilee and HMS Hurworth

Cllr David Crisp reported that the arrangements are all in place for the Street Party to be held on the Village Green on the Jubilee Sunday, 5th June.

The Clerk informed the meeting that the HMS Hurworth delegation will arrive a day or two prior to the event, and the Parish Council will need to provide some entertainment for them. The ship's Flag Officer will be co-ordinating the travel and accommodation arrangements.

18. Accounts for Payment

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

Hurworth Parish Council - Accounts Payable March 2022

<u>Name</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
K. Russell	103648	Fun Run Exs	825.00
Cancelled	103649		
EPICH	103650	Section 137 community support	1000.00
Jamie Westwood	103651	Award for artwork design	250.00
M Harrison	103652	Labour	155.00
WAVE	103653	Allotment water	17.52
Cancelled	103654		0.00
Kelvin Russell skatepark	103655	Skateboard area project	5000.00
Cancelled	103656		0.00
David Parker	103657	Gardening and grass cutting (12 months)	530.00
G Johnston	103658	Treework	765.00
G Wylie	103659	Poster	10.08
HCA	103660	Newsletter	60.00
Kelvin Russell skatepark	103661	Skateboard area project	5000.00
G Johnston	103662	Treework	256.50
Cumbria Clock Company	103663	Church clock maintenance	174.00
P Robinson	103664	Litter picker salary	503.82
P D Allan	103665	Salary	1227.40
Inland Revenue	103666	PAYE	343.20
P D Allan	103667	Plaque and admin expenses	116.54
Barclays Bank	DD	Bank charges	2.30
BT Comms	DD	Telephone and comms	163.56
Data Protection fee	103668	Data protection licence	40.00
MT Print	103669	Newsletter	555.00
K Russell	103670	Skateboard project	8000.00
Total payments made in March 2022			£24,994.92

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.

	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Total	Budget	
<i>Revenue</i>														<u>2021-2022</u>	
<i>Precept</i>	59000												59000	59000	
VAT & Litter Picker refund			1880		3119							2998	7997	9000	
Rent & Interest	354	600	2			3				2		2	963	500	
Grants & Donations									1000				1000	2000	
Allotment rent										850	270	30	1150	1180	
Total Revenue	59354	600	1882	0	3119	3	0	0	1002	850	270	3030	70110	71680	
<i>Expenditure</i>															
Salaries & NHI	1451	1340	1330	1451	1330	1963	2074	1963	1963	1473	2164	2074	20576	16600	
Gen. Admin Expenses	365	970	762	185	173	605	81	183	172	472	54	285	4307	5000	
Trees	0	265	0	0	455	149	270	293	909		542	1021	3904	7500	
Open Spaces	515	47	195	22	17	520	40	0	500			1530	3386	7000	
Section 137	110	1400	608	2925	300	935	590	500	100	1200	937	970	10575	10500	
Projects	0	0		0	938	340	0				674	18250	20202	12000	
Repairs, Maint & Training	0	0		0		0	0					0	0	1500	
Newsletters & Posters	10	128		60	0	676	120			60	60	615	1729	3400	
Youth Activities & Scarecrows						0	0					0	0	0	
Pathist Gril Heritage Trail							0	450				0	450	2000	
Allotments	15		193	360		61		200	35			18	882	1250	
Highways												0	0	1000	
Handyman				200		0	135	175	180			155	845	1200	
Parish Walks						0	100						100	1600	
Capital Expend & N Plan	1000			2850	258		1800	-1800			259		4367	1518	
VAT		6	92	812	224	120	28	144		76	241	76	1819	1819	
Total Expsnes	3466	4156	3180	8865	3695	5369	5238	2108	3859	3281	4931	24994	73142	73887	
													-3032	-2207	
Funds in Hand less ringed	64836	120724	117168	115870	107005	106429	101063	95825	93717	90860	88429	83768			
Revenue less expenses	55888	-3556	-1298	-8865	-576	-5366	-5238	-2108	-2857	-2431	-4661	-21964	12689		
Funds in Hand	120,724	117,168	115,870	107,005	106,429	101,063	95,825	93,717	90,860	88,429	83,768	61,804	Ringed		

The Clerk informed the Council that this is the end of the Council's Financial Year. The books of account and governance documents will be given to the Internal Auditor during April, for the annual audit.

The new Financial Report for the year to 31st March 2023 will be presented at the next PC Meeting.

20. Association Reports

a. HCA – Cllr Lynn Wylie reported:

The HCA AGM took place on the 15th March, with the successful outcome of all 12 committee places being filled.

Work is well underway planning for the Hurworth Grange Country Fair (Saturday 17th September). The Produce Show categories and entry forms, as well as the show Terms & Conditions are now available on the Hurworth 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 Hurworth Grange Christmas Fair, and it will be held on Sunday 4th December. Again, planning has commenced on this with lots of new stalls already confirmed.

There is lots of remedial work being completed/ planned over the next few months; following a slight delay, the Coffee Pot toilet block is now complete. Work on the gutters is expected to commence in April. Replacement of the pipework will be completed during the summer months.

Following a concern raised, at the March HCA meeting, about the restricted access for motorised scooters at the Grange entrance opposite Elmfield Road, a quote has been obtained for access improvements and to install a much-improved path with drainage; the work completed last year was just a temporary fix for the 2021 Country Fair, and it was always the Parish Council intentions to implement a permanent solution. Cllr Lynn Wylie provided detail of the quote totalling £1,950.

A motion was tabled by Cllr Lynsey Munro, and Seconded by Cllr Dorothy Oughton, that the Parish Council should undertake this contract. Cllrs Lynn and Graham Wylie declared their interest so could not vote, and the motion was carried unanimously. The Clerk said that he may be able to get a grant to cover this and would make an application. **Action Clerk ref APR 20.1**

b. Village Hall – Cllr Crisp reported:

Cllr David Crisp reported that the Village Hall is very busy, with bookings almost every day, and often as many as three bookings in a day. Two weddings have been booked, and the committee will monitor the events to ensure that they are in accordance with the conduct expected by the residents.

c. Teesside International Airport Consultative Committee.

Tony Winnett attended the Teesside International Airport Consultative Committee meeting held on 6th April, and submitted the following report:

New TIA executives present:

Ms Kate Willard – Airport Chair

Andy Loudon – Operations Director Teesside International Airport Consultative Committee

Mark Reynolds – Development and Sustainability Director

This was the first physical meeting held since lockdown. TIA staff are anxious to improve openness, transparency and communications with the Consultative Committee.

Operations – Keen to improve reporting passenger numbers in the building.

Sustainability – action plan under way to improve sustainability.

Looking to create solar panel fields. Covert airport vehicles to hydrogen fuel.

Have current electric vehicles. Soon to be public charging points in airport.

Six new MOD airplanes to be based at TIA by July.

Air show in June – Red Arrows etc.

Overall, much better attitude towards Consultative Committee and positive wish to communicate and co-operate.

21. Any Other Business (Non-Financial)

- The Chairman spoke about the job roles ahead of the AGM in May and asked for Councillors to inform him if they would like to change their role, or create a new one. If the Chairman receives no response, then he will assume that Councillors are happy to continue doing their current role.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:20pm