

Hurworth Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Hurworth Grange on Thursday, 7th November 2019

Councillors present:-

Tony Winnett (Chairman), David Crisp, Peter Foster, Elaine Hedley, Dorothy Oughton, Sam Ring-Viney, Bree Stamp. Lynn Wylie Graham Wylie,

Also in attendance:

Cllr Tostevin, Cllr Christy Chou, Paul Walters (Acting as Clerk) and 6 members of the public.

103. Apologies for Absence: Amanda Oughton, Janine Forster.

104. Declarations of Interest

David Crisp – Allotments

Bree Stamp – HCA

105 Chairman's Address

The Chair, Tony Winnett opened the meeting and welcomed the Councillors and members of the public.

We have a General Election in early December; from tomorrow until the election is over a period of official purdah will take place, in which no political comments can be made. Your council is not affiliated to any political party. Our Parish Clerk is unable to attend this meeting due to being on vacation. I am grateful to Mr Paul Walters who will take the notes of our meeting for the production of Minutes.

106. Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd October 2019 were accepted, Proposed by Elaine Hedley, Seconded by Dorothy Oughton.

107. Matters Arising

The Chairman reported on the following items:-

- a. Defibrillator Installation** – We have made amendments to improve the access point for the Grange unit. The defib unit and cabinet for the Croft location have been ordered, we await assistance from DBC to install power facilities close by the Parish Notice Board at Croft. We can then place the unit and make it operational.
- b.** Two benches are now delivered and ready for placement on Manorfield. We have permission from DBC to install them as they own the field. Cllr Wedge has requested permission to place a memorial bench on Manorfield; she will choose the bench.

108. Public Participation

- a.** A resident noted in the October Minutes that the Grange playground is getting upgraded is this out of the Section 106 money? Cllr Bree Stamp responded that this is not out of the Section 106 funding.
- b.** A resident declared his opposition to a playground being constructed on the Manorfield, and stated that 92percent of the residents in the village like the open spaces. He asked that when the Section 106 funding comes through, what do the Council intend to spend it on?

Cllr Graham Wylie responded explaining that when the funding becomes available, the residents will be consulted, and a decision made. A resident made several references to the Neighbourhood Plan, but the Chairman said that this discussion was too early in the process, and called a halt to the discussion. The Chairman asked the resident to make his observations in writing and submit them to the Council.

- c. A resident voiced that she would want to see the Grange play area improved and thanked Bree Stamp for her work on this project.

109. Court Case Report The Chairman reported that there is no news, as the judgement is still pending.

110. Planning Applications. Sam Ring- Viney gave the following report, viz:-

Rec'd	Val Date	REF	Address	About	Comments
21/08/2019	28/08/2019	19/00993/TFC	57A The Green HURWORTH DARLINGTON DL2 2JA	Notification to carry out tree works in a designated conservation area - felling of 1 No. Ash Tree (amended description)	No objections.
16/08/2019	16/08/2019	19/00979/TFC	The Stables 3A Blind Lane HURWORTH DARLINGTON DL2 2JB	Notification to carry out works to trees in a designated Conservation Area - Remove overhanging limbs and crown thinning/reduction by 20% to 1 no. Purple Leaf Plum Tree	No objections.

04/09/2019	04/09/2019	19/01030/FUL	48 Friars Pardon HURWORTH DARLINGTON DL2 2DZ	Erection of extension to rear of garage to facilitate partial conversion to habitable room and erection of replacement porch to front elevation	No objections.
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- a. Cllr Tostevin informed the meeting of an initiative about public space protection, she will send report to the Parish Clerk including access details to read about it.
- b. Cllr Tostevin advised we will have a sculpture erected near Croft Bridge and handed around the image and attached notes, she is awaiting feedback on our thoughts. She will send the report to the Parish Clerk. **Action Chairman**

111. Tree Report Peter Foster gave the following report, viz:-

The autumn leaf drop is blocking drains and causing an issue but DBC Highways will need to resolve the problems.

Two dead trees removed from the grange entrance area due to years of water root damage. Squirrels are planting oak trees everywhere, the public are welcome to dig them up and take them home, (cheaper than buying one!).

Locals can take home cut logs from where trees have been felled.

There is Sanderson Rd a dangerous tree, DBC state there are green shoots and it is safe, in the opinion of Cllr Foster, he thinks it is dangerous and needs chopping down, The chairman said we need to contact Peter Haynes DBC (again) to fell it or we will need to consider felling it ourselves.

112. Open Spaces Report Lynn Wylie reported:-

a. Open Spaces Report – November 2019

Work has been completed on the 'all weather' path, at the Grange, by Urban Eden. They will keep an eye on the path, especially with the heavy rain that we have had, to make sure that the problem areas of standing water and mud don't reappear.

b. EPICH Report – November 2019

Step overs vandalised...but OK now!!

Colin and Helen Raine went to put the hog gap in the bird hide (27th October) and found that the step over apples had been vandalised at some point over that weekend.

Luckily Colin was able to fix it and just made the next post along the end post; unfortunately, this means one tree is now outside of the supports, but it looks like it can be moved easily to fill a gap further along.

Planting Party - Wildflower Meadow 1.30pm tomorrow, Tuesday 29th

The wildflower meadow has been fully raked and scarified.

A planting party met, last Tuesday (29th October) and planted the Fritillaria and Crocus bulbs along with cowslip plugs, foxglove and chamomile plants.

Bug Hotel

The hotel has been partially filled with suitable materials, and it is hoped that it will be soon be filled. Once all the compartments have been filled, it will be fully secured with chicken wire to make sure the contents can't fall/ be taken out.

113. Pathways and Rights of Way

Joyce Wedge reported that the Dog bin request for the footpath between Minster Walk and Sycamore Close has been submitted to DBC, and we are awaiting installation. The exact positioning is to be agreed.

Joyce also said that she has attended a training course and councils are advised to plan ahead for when the queen passes. It was agreed that the Council will discuss this topic.

Action Chairman.

114. Playground and Youth Affairs

Bree Stamp reported:-

- a. **Priory School** - It is disappointing to report that the meeting with Priory School was postponed. A meeting will be rescheduled shortly.
- b. **Playground**
 - The new "anti wrap" bars are now installed, no more will the kids be able to wind the swings up so high you can't reach them. Thank you DBC for installing them.
 - I have met with Groundworks and they were very helpful in suggesting grant opportunities. One in particular we are applying for as we speak.
 - DBC is getting 2 quotes from suppliers to totally re design the playpark based on the feedback from the survey. This should be completed by end of Dec.
 - In the meantime we are going to contact local businesses to see if they would like to participate in a community project of painting the current equipment, DBC have said they would provide the materials

115. November Parish Chronicle. Elaine Hedley reported that the newsletter was complete and will be distributed with the church newsletter later this month.

116. Highways and Traffic Report

Dorothy Oughton reported that we are still waiting for yellow lines between Carvers and the electric sub-station on Roundhill Rd.

The metal post at Lime Cottage has been removed.

1. Speed Watch No report this month
2. Traffic No report as one of the monitor is at Swarco for repair.

117. Matters of Interest

- a. **Village Entrance Plaques** – Paul Walters reported that he had spoken with Frances Nicholson at Bellway on the 22nd Oct 19 and she advised him the entrance plaques and associated brickwork would not get passed by planning until DBC had completed the 278 works plan for Roundhill Rd near the chicane area, no timescale advised. She also advised us that Bellway will not be helping with the entrance plaque at Croft so we will have to do that ourselves.
- b. **The Saxon Stone** for the village which we have been told we will get is still at Durham University getting chemically tested and analysed, this is likely to take a further 7 months.
- c. **Grit Bin** A new bin has been ordered from DBC and will be positioned upon delivery.
- d. **Royal Garden Party** Sam Ring-Viney put his name forward, and will be submitted.
- e. A proposal was tabled by Tony Winnett, Seconded by Graham Wylie that the Council make a contribution to the All Saints Church Roof Appeal, of £1,000. The motion was carried by nine votes, with one abstention.

118. Police Report

The Chairman stated that due to problems in the village a crucial PACT Meeting had been held this evening with the local constabulary. Parishioners gave details of anti-social incidents. The police are to follow up on video evidence and consult with local schools. Local patrols will be stepped up. It is requested that future cases should telephone 101 and report them.

HURWORTH CRIME FIGURES OCTOBER 2019.

ASB NUISANCE:

03/10 – Report of 6 youths on bikes causing a disruption on Roundhill Road. Officer attended but youths had gone. Officer attended Hurworth School to speak to head teacher to arrange going into the school to speak to classes regarding anti-social behaviour.

31/10 – Report of youths throwing eggs in the village. Officers attended and carried out area search but no trace. No descriptions were passed on this occasion.

BURGLARY:

11/10–Sheds have been broken into on Crossfield Close. Equipment has been stolen that is used for maintaining the sports fields. A crime has been recorded and there is an ongoing investigation.

HIGHWAYS/RTC:

02/10 – 3 car accident on Roundhill Road. Police attended to close the road whilst medics attended and checked out all individuals involved. No serious injuries and the road was reopened after vehicle recovery had attended.

THEFT FROM VEHICLE:

12/10 – A vehicle was stripped of parts on Croft Road. A crime has been recorded for this incident, and the investigation is ongoing.

24/10 – Report of 2 males trying to gain entry into a van on church view. A crime has been recorded for this incident, and the investigation is ongoing.

119. Finance Meeting Report and Adoption.

The Chairman reported that the Finance Working Party had met on 24th October and discussed in detail the forward programme for financial expenditure and projects. These recommendations have been consolidated, and all councillors have been circulated with the details of those items, including a late entry by Cllr Crisp for the village hall.

The Chairman requested formal approval to accept the working Parties recommendations for the future projects and budget modifications.

A motion was tabled by Tony Winnett, Seconded by Elaine Hedley that the recommendations for the budget modifications and all the projects specified by the Finance Working Party at their meeting on 24th October 2019, be formally adopted by the Council. The motion was carried, with all in favour, with one abstention.

We are requested to submit our Precept requirement to DBC by the end of this month, we therefore need to fix a date for the Finance Group to meet to agree upon the 2020 Precept, it was agreed that the Group would meet on 27th November at 6:30pm.

120. Parish Walks

In the absence of Cllr Janine Forster, there was no report.

The Chairman advised the meeting that Sam Ring-Viney has kindly volunteered to assist Cllr Forster with future walks and the 2020 programme. Along with Cllr Peter Foster this will be a strong team.

121. Accounts for Payment

The Schedule of Accounts for Payment for October 2019, having been distributed to all Councillors was accepted by the meeting.

Hurworth Parish Council - Accounts Payable October 2019

<u>Name</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Bree Stamp	103289	Children's entertainment	95.00
HACSA BBQ	103290	Parish Walks & Allotments	300.00
M Harrison	103291	Ramp for defib unit, etc	85.00
Npower	103292	Christmas tree lighting	18.22
M Harrison	103293	Cutting Westfield Drive hedge	150.00
A C Metals	103294	Skip hire - allotments	240.00
Turtle Engineering Defib unit	103295	Defib unit and cabinet	1650.00
Johnston Trees	103296	Treework	828.00
HCA newsletters	103297	Church newsletter	60.00
Urban Eden	103298	Pathway repairs & maint.	686.00
Barclays Bank	DD	Bank charges	2.30
M Harrison	103299	Collecting office furniture	130.00
Inland Revenue	103300	PAYE	130.00
Namesco	103301	E Mail host name licence	21.00
Peter Akers	103302	Strait Lane grass cutting	240.00
Andrew Iles	103303	Litter Picker	554.18

P D Allan	103304	Salary	702.00
Johnston Trees	103305	Treework	211.50
P D Allan	103306	Admin expenses	85.27
T Winnett	103307	Remembrance Day wreath	17.00
G Wylie	103308	Posters	10.08
Total expenditure for October 2019			6215.55

122. Financial report

The Financial report to 31st October 2019, having been distributed to all Councillors was accepted by the meeting. The table is available for perusal on the Parish web site.

An updated Schedule embracing the modifications agreed upon at this meeting, will be distributed later this month, along with the Budget Accounts for 2020-21 and 2021-22, up to 31st March 2022.

123. HPC Web Site and Guestbook

Graham Wylie reported that there were not many hits on the web site. However, the site has been made more attractive, but requires more items of interest used to make the site more interesting. He requested more input from councillors, which can be sent directly to him, and he will update the site.

123. Association Reports

a. The Chairman reported that Bree Stamp has found it difficult to attend the monthly meetings of the Hurworth Community Association. Graham Wylie has agreed to take over the role of the HCA Representative as from this month.

b. The Darlington Association of Local Councils Meeting was held on 31st October in the Darlington Town Hall, and was attended by four Hurworth Councillors. A presentation was made by David Coates, Head of Planning at DBC... The presentation addressed how applications are progressed and the best way for objections to be constructed... The presentation also covered the subject of Section 106 funds, how they are determined and how and when the funding is utilised.

The meeting was closed at 8:05pm