

Hurworth Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Hurworth Grange on Thursday, 4th July 2019

Those present:-

Elaine Hedley, Peter Foster, Dorothy Oughton, Graham Wylie., Tony Winnett, David Crisp, Amanda Oughton, Joyce Wedge, Lynn Wylie, Janine Forster.

Also in attendance:

Cllr Christy Chou, Lorraine Tostevin, Parish Clerk (Peter Allan), and 7 members of the public.

37. Chairman's Address

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

The Chairman welcomed Joyce Wedge, who was co-opted to the Council after the last meeting. Joyce will be monitoring after 'Pathways' and Rights of Way.

38 Apologies for Absence: Sam Ring-Viney, Bree Stamp.

39. Declarations of Interest

David Crisp - Allotments

40. Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th June 2019 were accepted, Proposed by Elaine Hedley, Seconded by Dorothy Oughton.

41. Matters Arising

The Chairman reported on the following items:-

- a. **Hurworth Parish Entrance Plaques** – No progress, the installation of the plaque is still be debated by Bellway and DBC.
- b. **Defibrillator Installation** – The second unit will be installed near All Saints Church next week. The fixing bracket is due for delivery on 5th July, and DBC has confirmed that the electricity connection is ready, and they will check the work when it is installed.

The Rogers Charitable Trust has agreed to pay for the third unit, complete with the cabinet and installation. The Council will order this unit for installation in September or October. We are waiting for DBC to agree on the location, which will be near the Croft Club.

It is agreed that HPC will pay for the electricity used by the units; DBC will invoice this under our agreement.

A parishioner suggested that we ensure that all village defibrillator units be made accessible for wheelchair users.

- c. **Mustard Tree parking** – DBC has rejected our request to place large stones on the grass verge near the Mustard Tree Café, they state it would create a road hazard.

After several suggestions were advanced and a discussion ensued, it was agreed that the broader issues of parking in Hurworth should be thoroughly reviewed, in accordance with the recommendation put forward by Mr Hugh Jackson at an earlier meeting.

A Sub Committee / Working Party was assigned which comprises:-

Tony Winnett

Joyce Wedge

Peter Foster

Dorothy Oughton

- d. **Neasham Road seat** – DBC has rejected our request to install a seat at the new bus stop near Skipbridge Garage. DBC intend to erect a bus shelter at this location, which will incorporate seating.

The Council decided to purchase and install seats at Goblins Wood and one on the Village Green. The seat on the Green, will display the nameplate celebrating Cllr Peter Foster's 40 year commitment to the Parish Council.

42. Public Participation

- a. Two ladies asked the Council why they had withdrawn their objection to the planning application for 44 The Green Hurworth.

The Chairman responded by explaining that since their attendance at the May PC Meeting, Mr Fulton had attended the June meeting and provided satisfactory answers to each of the items, to which the Council had raised their objection. This was principally that the construction traffic would be using his private estate internal road and not Coach Lane.

The ladies informed the Council that they now had a petition signed by 40 residents objecting to this application. The petition involved the safety of children walking in Coach Lane.

It became clear that this situation could not be resolved at this meeting, and Cllr Chris Chou suggested that a meeting be convened between the two parties and that the Council would attend. Lynn Wylie offered to attend this meeting, and the **Clerk was asked to make the arrangements.**

- b. Lynn Drumm said that the traffic coming to, parking and leaving the Priory Field where HACSA are using the field for football is becoming a problem. Whereas, Lynn Drumm has no complaint about the use of the field by young people, attention needs to be given to some method of Traffic Management on

Westfield Drive, also there is concern about a green area being converted into a car park.

The Council decided that the whole concept of Traffic Control and parking within the village, including this new issue, should be considered within the scope of the newly formed Parking Working Party.

43. Planning Report.

In the absence, the Chair read out Sam Ring-Viney's Planning Report :- Please find attached the planning applications for this month. I have not included the email from Bree 03/07/2019 10:19 as you were the primary recipient.

There have been some objections relating to the property at 44 The Green. I think we need to establish when the works were started to demolish the wall (objection states 27/04/2019) and why this has taken place when planning permissions state that work has not commenced without consent.

Also the age of the wall that has been removed. It is stated it was build ~1990 but the lower half of the wall seems older.

It looks like there are some differences in what is really being done compared to the planning permissions. I will review the mins from this meeting and if needed add the councils comments to this application.

Please also refer to the discussion in Public Participation, and the conclusions reached.

Rec'd Date	Val Date	REF	Address	About	Comments
10/06/2019	11/06/2019	19/00541/LB C	44 The Green HURWORTH DARLINGTON DL2 2AA	Listed building consent for alterations to boundary wall to create vehicular access to include erection of timber gates and stone columns	see below

Comments from above: This was discussed last meeting. There have been objection comments for this (5). These are mostly focused on the amount of traffic and the space that the works traffic will have to operate. **One of the objections state that works have already started (demolition of a wall to create a gate (27/04/2019) and the planning applications state that would has not been started without consent.** There are also contentions as to the age of the wall as there has been previous work to the upper and lower parts and seem to be of different ages. There are concerns that children and people walking will be put at risk with this. Can the gates at the front of the property be used instead of coach lane?

18/06/2019	18/06/2019	PP-07940282	2 Evesham Grove HURWORTH DARLINGTON DL2 2YE	Erection of two storey extensions to side and rear	Currently no objections. No comments from myself. Will review before next meeting in case others comment.
07/06/2019	20/06/2019	19/00534/FUL	14 Bridge Road DARLINGTON DL3 8TJ	Widening of existing vehicular access to facilitate creation of a visitor parking area and erection of 1.8m high wall and gates	Currently no objections/comments. No comments from myself. Will review before next meeting in case others comment.
25/06/2019	01/07/2019	PP-07956842	The Wheelhouse Hilton House Farm Neasham Road HURWORTH DARLINGTON DL2 2BA	Extension to existing single bay car garage to form additional three car bays	Currently no objections/comments. No comments from myself. Will review before next meeting in case others comment.

The Chairman recorded his thanks to Sam for his detailed report.

44. Tree Report

Peter Foster reported;-

The two oak trees which were planted on Manorfield have both died. This appears to be because of the drought. The trees will be replaced free of charge by Johnston Tree Surgeons.

The trees hanging over the house next to All Saints Church have been cut back.

A large branch required cutting down at Goblins Wood as it became dangerous. The tree requires some more attention to put it back into good condition. The tree in Emerson Road is dead and DBC need to have it felled and removed **Action Clerk**. Trees at the corner of Emerson Road and Bryans Close need their canopy heightening as they are causing an obstruction. There are problems with a tree near Lime Cottage, which needs attention. The Clerk asked if he could arrange a meeting with Dave Coates, Head of DBC Planning, to have a discussion about responsibility and duty of care of trees in DBC and also in Hurworth Parish. The Council agreed. **Action Clerk**.

45. Allotment Report

David Crisp reported that the Hurworth Festival had been a great success, and that the allotment stall had sold out. They took over £400, and this left them with a profit of £265.

The allotment holders are having a meeting to plan another Allotment Fete, but unlike last year, they will be inviting the public to attend and visit the allotments.

David asked if the Council would help to fund the event, requesting a £200 award. This was greeted well and Tony Winnett proposed a £200 award, seconded by Joyce Wedge, and passed unanimously.

46. Open Spaces Report

Lynn Wylie reported:-

- ! On the HPC website, I have created an Open Spaces page with 'You said...we did'. This will be updated on a monthly basis (June update is on there)
- ! Open Spaces audit – I will complete this between now and the end of August at the latest. An update will be given at the September meeting. Detail of the audit will be posted on the HPC website - Open Spaces page after the September meeting
- ! We were unable to trace the person who used the weed killer on the verge at the Glebe (behind the houses on West End/ Friars Pardon), as the work was not completed by DBC. A polite notice has been added to the HPC website - Open Spaces page to request, that whoever did this, please do not to do it again!
- ! I have requested an update from Steve Petch at DBC regarding the broken stile at Sycamore Close/ Minster Walk. Steve had written to the landowner, and they have responded to his letter. Steve has suggested, to the landowner, that the Community Payback Team do the works (this is an organisation DBC work with regularly which involves supervised young offenders carrying out community works), and the landowner has agreed to this. As at 2nd July, I am

waiting for Steve to confirm a definite date (he expected them to come back to him sometime this week) and if I do receive further detail from him, then I will provide an update at the HPC meeting on Thursday 4th July

- ! I have been along to the HACSA sports field, and as promised, the pallet bridge has been removed from the beck. The skip has also been removed, so removing any opportunity of the pallet/ cable reel bridge being rebuilt
- ! This is more relating to rights of way – I have received a copy of email correspondence, between a parishioner and Steve Petch – DBC, regarding overgrown walkways throughout the village. Steve advised that this is being looked into as quickly as possible, and has been added to the many other complaints regarding overgrown walkways across the Borough; following the recent weather conditions encouraging rapid growth, DBC have received a high number of reports of overgrown pathways, so a definite date could not be given
- ! EPICH wildflower meadow survey – last Wednesday, 26th June, Judith Redfern and Helen Raine (EPICH volunteers) met with Elizabeth (a local botanist) and Carole from the Darlington & Teesdale Naturalists Club to complete a wildflower survey of the wildflower meadow at the Grange. Elizabeth was very impressed with how successful the meadow has been, especially as they can take many years to establish, and she has offered a lot of helpful advice regarding what plants can be planted to provide a year round source of food for insects. A copy of the full report has been added to the HPC website - EPICH page

47. Playground and Youth Liaison

a, Hurworth Parks and Rec –

In the absence of Cllr Stamp, her report was read to the Council by the Chairman.

Some great progression here. We met with Dean Scott from DBC and he confirmed that we will be getting a 2 seater bucket swing installed before the summer. We also talked about getting the swings updated to prevent them being wound up over the top bar by the older children and also started talks about a zip wire. A session has been booked with Hurworth House and hopefully soon with Croft School (Hurworth Primary have not got back to me) allowing the children to design the ideal playpark for them. I am also going to speak to HSA about the skate park and whether we can

look to update this.

Medium Term we need to contact local businesses to see if they would like to donate as South Park update was reliant on these kind of donations, this will help fund the zip wire and potential a Dutch disc which seems popular with the children.

Longer Term we would like a feature climbing installation which will require a lot more funding.

The volunteer pool is reducing with people unable to commit the time to push the project forward so if anyone knows or can themselves help please do let us know.

b. Priory School - It was nice to see the school participate in the Scarecrow Festival, I even got a few comments from parents via Facebook to say they were so happy to be asked to join in. The children were extremely helpful delivering leaflets around the village prior to the Festival and have also been out litter picking around the village. The children will also be entering the Country Fair Produce and Craft Show, planting sunflowers, taking photos etc. They are also helping with the Playpark design.

Outside of these positives there is an ongoing issue with safety, especially at School Run times post Dr Walker's child being hit by a taxi as it left their premises on a weekday morning. As you all suggested last meeting I started a conversation with them about Speed Bumps but after a number of emails I was unable to get a response. The meeting on the 3rd July that was in the diary for over 3 months was cancelled at the last minute and they haven't visually been seen to put any short term procedures in place to minimise the risk and the taxis are still coming out without due care.

I know Dr Walker has written them a letter to try and get an update and that letter is being sent to DBC and HPC, whether it has arrived or not I am not sure. Any help we could get from Councillor Tostevin or Councillor Chou in pushing forward the zigzag lines would be grateful. Although they won't stop the taxis leaving the entrance at speed they will stop cars parking directly by the entrance which compounds the issue of the bind spot.

48. Highways and Traffic Reports

Dorothy Oughton reported:-

- ! The pavement at 30 The Green requires attention, as it is potentially a hazard area.
- ! The trees require their canopy heightening at the bus stop near the Comet Inn.
- ! There is some disturbance of the coping stones near the bus stop opposite the Otter and Fish Inn.

The Clerk will follow up on these situations.

b. SpeedWatch

Elaine Hedley reported that they carried out two sessions in June.

The first session recorded 14 drivers exceeding the limit, the fastest being 39mph.

The Second session recorded 18 drivers exceeding the limit, with the fastest speed at 42 mph.

c. Traffic Speed Summary the past 12 Months, please see schedule below:-

Summary of 85th Percentile Speeds recorded by our Speed Monitors over the past 12 months:

The 85th Percentile is the speed at or below which 85% of the vehicles are travelling.

Location: Direction:	Hurworth Road		Linden Court		Steel Bridge		Roundhill Road		Green	
	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out	In	Out
Jun-18	34.3		33.4				30.0			
Jul-18	34.3		33.6				29.8			
Aug-18	34.5		33.5				30.8			
Sep-18	34.2		33.0				29.8			
Oct-18		34.4	33.0		32.9					
Nov-18		34.3	28.1		32.8					
Dec-18		34.3	31.8		32.3					
Jan-19		33.9	32.6		29.2					
Feb-19	33.9		31.7				29.8			
Mar-19	34.2		32.9				30.5			
Apr-19	34.4		32.9				30.6			
May-19	34.0		32.8				29.8			
Average:	34.2	34.2	32.4		31.8		30.1			
Maximum:	34.5	34.4	33.6		32.9		30.8			

For Hurworth Road:

Vehicle Count	No>= 35 MPH	In a 30 MPH zone an 85th Percentile figure of 35 MPH is regarded as major cause for concern by DBC Highways Dept. because 15% of the traffic will be travelling at 35 MPH or above!	
		The figures show that:	
Jun-18	83347	8424	1. Hurworth Road is a major problem in both directions.
Jul-18	84433	8673	2. Linden Court is also a cause for concern.
Aug-18	76690	8422	3. Roundhill Road figures are better than expected.
Sep-18	80455	7641	4. A more logical approach to locating the monitors is required.
Oct-18	76656	8717	5. Over the past year c.10% of traffic on Hurworth Road was doing 35 MPH or more!
Nov-18	73202	8245	
Dec-18	69883	7615	
Jan-19	79055	6202	
Feb-19	72867	5747	
Mar-19	83844	7576	
Apr-19	78867	8007	
May-19	83481	7127	
Totals	942780	92396	
% >= 35 MPH	9.80		

A plan showing where the monitors will be located over the next 12 months will be produced soon.

Peter Foster reported that he had taken the bus from Darlington Town Hall to Skipbridge, and that the hedgerow was scraping along the bus side and windows on a large stretch of Neasham Road. **Action: Clerk to report this.**

49. Matters of Interest

a. Hurworth Festival

Bree Stamp submitted the following report:-

Hurworth Festival - Peter, you probably know more than me on this one but Scarecrow update is that we had approx. 60 Scarecrows and some amazing entries. All the photos are on the Festival Facebook page and all prizes were given out either on the day or by me throughout the week. Lots of great feedback, all positive.

A learning would be to spread it out over the weekend rather than just a few hours. For the amount of effort put in by the people that participated it would be ideal to show them off more. Also there was so much happening on The Green that people did not have time to get to the outer areas such as The Grange estate and down Neasham Road before the winners were announced even with the delay.

If we were to put a similar event on again, ideally we would ask for Scarecrows out on the Saturday and then Sunday the event with Scarecrows again and winner announced.

b. Neighbourhood Plan

Tony Winnett reported that regrettably little progress to report. Our Plan submitted to DBC at the end of February has still not been reviewed. We have been advised that it will not be examined very promptly due to pressure of work. They see no chance of sorting out any referendum by August this year. We have responded with a strong request that our plan be expedited ASAP. We have received a reply stating that everything must be legally compliant and that the independent examiner still needs to vet our submission. We see little likelihood of any real progress before the turn of the year.

50 Police Report

Amanda Oughton reported as follows:-

Here are your crime figures for 01/06/19 – 29/06/19

Road Related – 2 Hurworth School. Road traffic collision. Car Damage only.
Priory School. Road traffic collision. Minor injuries.

Criminal Damage – 4 Smashed window at the Methodist church.
Smashed window on garage on West End.
Damaged crops in field on Strait Lane.
Damage to a motor vehicle on Strait Lane.

ASB – 2 Youths causing a nuisance at Rockcliffe hall.
 Youths climbing on roof at Priory Hurworth School.

Theft – 1 Stolen charity box from Rockcliffe Pharmacy.

A new PCSO has been assigned to Hurworth - PCSO Nicola Gregson

51. **Parish Chronicle**

Elaine Hedley circulated the schedule highlighting the material which is still required to complete the newsletter.

This should be completed with two weeks and go to print.

52. **Parish Walks**

Janine Forster reported that two walks were organised in June.
The first was around the Rockcliffe estate, a distance of 5 miles, which took 3.5 hours.
The second walk was around the Newbus river loop, conducted by Peter Foster. This was a 3 mile walk which took two hours

The next walk is planned for 7th July.

53. **Accounts for Payment**

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
M Williams post legal Exs	103235	Legal expenses	14.58
Bank charges	DD	Bank charges	2.30
Graham Wylie	103231	Web site licence	39.73
Tony Winnett	103232	Honorarium	100.00
Peter Foster	103233	Travelling Exs	36.60
Tony Winnett	103234	Wreath & stationery	49.13
Defib Shop	103236	Cabinet bracket	72.00
Wave water	103237	Allotment water	51.17
M Harrison	103238	Odd jobs	35.00
G Johnston treework	103239	Treework	508.50
		Christmas tree	
Npower Christ lights	103240	lighting	81.84
T Winnett training Exs	103241	Training course	12.60
Bob Iles	103242	Salary	420.15
P D Allan	103243	Salary	702.20
Inland Revenue	103244	PAYE	161.20
BT Comms	DD	Telecom expenses	132.61
P D Allan	103245	Admin expenses	53.09
Total payments June 2019			2472.70

54. Financial report

The Financial report to 30th June 2019, having been distributed to all Councillors was accepted by the meeting. This report includes the revision of the budgets to incorporate the additional legal costs now envisaged.

Please see the addendum to the Minutes.

The VAT Return for the Year to 31st March 20119 has been submitted.

The Chairman advised the meeting that the ‘**General Power of Competence**’ has expired after four years, and that the Council should table a motion to reinforce this. The Council has correct credentials, including a qualified Clerk and full contingent body of Councillors

The motion was tabled by Graham Wylie and Seconded by Elaine Hedley. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

55. HPC Web site

Graham Wylie reported that there was no activity on the site in June.

A new link has been installed to allow the printing of A Zero posters, on line.

It was agreed that Amanda Oughton and Janine Forster would undertake the role of putting up and taking down posters on the Community Notice Boards.

56. Association Reports

David Crisp had attended the Village Hall meeting in June, He reported that the feedback regarding the Hurworth festival was excellent and that the Village Hall exhibition of old pictures had been well attended and had been extended to a second day.

It has been suggested that a book is compiled of a selection of the pictures, and this will receive consideration.

The next event is the outdoor concert on 20th July. All the tents have already been sold and field sales are encouraging.

57. Any Other Business (Non-Financial)

- a. The Chair had attended the **Training Seminar** arranged by Durham and Cleveland County Training Partnership at Preston Park to assist the training of Parish Councillors. This event was attended by approx. 70 councillors, new and old. Copies of the PowerPoint presentations have been sent to all Councillors and please take time to read them.
- b. **Outside event**

Tony Winnett attended a Remembrance Service at Durham Tees Valley airport on 15th June, arranged by the Middleton St George Memorial Association, in memory of RAF and RCAF fliers lost in World War 2; he laid a wreath on behalf of HPC.
- c. The Chairman read out a letter received from Dr Walker regarding the accident at Priory School, when a taxi injured a child.
- d. There will be no meeting in August. The next PC Meeting will be held on 5th September 2019.

The meeting was closed at 9.40pm