

Minutes of the Meeting of Haswell Parish Council held on

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 6.30pm held at St Pauls Church, Haswell

**Present**

Cllrs C HOOD (Chair), O Gray, E Major, J Cook, K Welch & W Ramsay

County Councillors: E Huntington & I Cochrane

In Attendance – 12 members of the public

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their interest and attendance.

**34.19 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor H Milburn, S Hartley and G Dunstone.

**35.19 Code of Conduct**

Members were reminded prior to the start of the meeting of the need to disclose any interests, prejudicial or personal, in accordance with the Code of Conduct. There were none given.

**36.19 Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

**RESOLVED that the minutes of this meeting, a copy of which had been previously circulated to each Member, be approved and signed as a true and correct record.**

**37.19 Police & Street Warden Briefing**

Apologies had been received from the Police however their report was given by the Clerk on their behalf; there were no items raised.

**38.19 Finance**

(a) To approve the monthly accounts for April 2019

**RESOLVED the monthly accounts, as listed below be approved and paid as presented:-**

<u>Paid to</u>	<u>amount £</u>	<u>service</u>
CDALC	<b>234.63</b>	<b>subscription charge</b>
Giants Steps	<b>3,600.00</b>	<b>office rent</b>
P Levitt	<b>61.12</b>	<b>various (see receipts)</b>
GL&NR Tate	<b>62.40</b>	<b>red diesel</b>
K Tweddle	<b>18.89</b>	<b>printer ink</b>

(b) Bank Reconciliation for March 2019, a copy of which had been circulated, was accepted.

(c) Closing of Accounts – Financial Statement 1 April 2018 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019

The Clerk advised she had prepared the summary of receipts and payments for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 and would present it for approval to the meeting in May 2019. The internal audit would be carried out on 29/30<sup>th</sup> April and the report would also be presented to the next meeting. **RESOLVED the reports be awaited.**

### **39.19 Planning**

There were no planning details to report.

### **40.19 Member's Reports**

Councillor Cook asked for progress with the request made for a rubbish bin at the pic nic site, the Clerk assured she would chase this up.

Councillor Ramsay reported on the price he had obtained for the ramp works to the parish field. He had met the contractor on site, knew of his previous work and that he was reliable. The price submitted was £8,400 for ground works and alterations to the entrance gates. A further price was awaited/expected from another contractor. **RESOLVED approval be given for the Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chair, to arrange for the works to be undertaken by the most suitable contractor when their prices had been properly compared and assessed.**

Councillor Welch reported on the sad passing of a well known local resident. The family had passed on to the Parish Council photos and memorabilia for them to use for future displays at events etc. **RESOLVED the memorabilia be stored in the Parish Council Office. FURTHER RESOLVED a letter of thanks be sent on behalf of the Parish Council to the family for their kindness.**

Councillor Welch asked for any progress on the Grey Horse site and the Chair read out the e mail that had been reported to a previous meeting where further progress was still awaited.

Councillor Grey asked about progress with planting a hedge to replace the fencing that had been stolen. She clarified this was to be a Hawthorn hedge and not a beech hedge as previously discussed to be planted at the appropriate time of the season.

The Chair reported on recent meetings held with partners agencies regarding the open spaces in the village and their suggested target hardening measures. Whilst all agreeing the Parish Council did not wish to change the desirable open aspect of the villages they felt they needed to also protect these spaces from being mis used. The Parish Council wished to reassure residents they would do all that was within their powers to keep safety of residents as a high priority and that they took target hardening measures that may help reduce the potential for ASB seriously. Following considerable discussion, involving the feedback and views of local residents present at the meeting, the Parish Council **RESOLVED to make a start on the process to restrict vehicular access to the Station Field as soon as possible.**

The Chair asked that the current level of seasonal bedding be improved. He then went on to give a presentation to the meeting of the Freedom of Information Requests he had submitted to DCC and the information received. There was discussion and comment made on the levels of funding that had been granted to the Haswells which all felt was disappointing. The County Councillors present requested a copy of the information and Councillor Huntington commented she felt the focus was back on villages with substantial funding being set aside. Members were thanked for their efforts and their update reports. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**

### **41.19 County Councillor's Update Report**

Councillor Cochrane reported roadworks in the village were due to be finished shortly. He reported on a meeting with the Chair with a representative of the Army Cadet Force who had identified a need and were showing interest in establishing a Cadet Troup to include the Haswells, South Hetton, Ludworth, Shotton etc. The discussions had been positive and progress was awaited. He reported on a recent illegal trot that had been held. Councillor Huntington reported on fines that had been

issued to local scrap dealers and also to local taxi drivers that had been operating without a licence. She reported on the Women's Gala to be held on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2019 in Durham and also on changes to the vascular service in the North East.

**RESOLVED the information given in the reports be noted and the County Councillor's be thanked for their efforts and their reports.**

#### **42.19 Clerk's Progress Report**

The update report from the Clerk was circulated for the consideration of Members. This included details of key dates for the external audit, the new local government pay spine and pay award, the horticulture & flower show at the Carnival, usage of the football fields, an update from Alice House Hospice following their grant award and the feedback from a resident on the removal of street lights in the village. She also asked for approval to hire the office at Giant Steps for a further 12 months. Harry's Bar at Thornley had made contact requesting to use a football pitch. It was reported at the last meeting of the Events Sub Committee it had been agreed to book the Northern Monkeys Brass Band once again to accompany the banner march. Councillor Cook suggested that perhaps a children's dance group could be established for the day with a theme.

**RESOLVED:-**

- (i) the key dates for audit be noted and complied with;**
- (ii) the pay award be accepted and the pay spine to be adopted by DCC be adopted by HPC;**
- (iii) Shotton Colts U11's use the 9v9 pitch once again and if it could be accommodated with fixtures, approval be given to the request from the Thornley Team to play;**
- (iv) Approval be given to rent the office space in the Giant Steps Nursery for a further 12 months;**
- (v) The prize money be increased from to £400 to £462.00 with John Peace being the Judge;**
- (vi) Endorsement of the action taken in booking Northern Monkeys Brass Band for the Miner's Gala and village march, at a cost of £2,000 be given;**
- (vii) A band, Quadraphonics and a local DJ be booked for the evening entertainment at the Carnival;**
- (viii) The information contained in the remainder of the report, be noted.**

#### **32.19 Public Participation**

A member of the public thanked the Chair for his efforts in obtaining information relating to funding for the village. Councillor Grey thanked Mr Cairns for welcoming children from the village to his farm for lambing. They had all enjoyed the experience both parents and children.

#### **33.19 Date of Next Meeting**

**RESOLVED the next Parish Council Meeting be held at St Paul's Church Hall, Church View, Haswell, DH6 2DT on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2019.**

#### **34.19 The Carnival – 17<sup>th</sup> August 2019**

**RESOLVED:-**

- (i) approval be given to the booking of the following acts Quadraphonics, (Shotton)and a DJ/MC; Kevin Mangles, Puffin Billy, Partytime Inflatables and ponies.**

- (ii) Phoenix (Security), Medics UK, (medical cover), Teesdale Events, (toilets), Fairbairn, (Marquees, tables and chairs), Northern Productions (a stage, pa and lighting), and John F Hunt Power, (generator and a lighting tower).**
- (iii) Prices be obtained for both a one day and possible two day event, (classic car show).**