

Minutes of Haswell Parish Council Annual Meeting held on Tuesday 24th June 2014 at 7pm in the Hazelwell Centre Haswell

Present.

Councillor Mr A. Liversidge (Presiding), and Councillors D. Liversidge, C.Chiverton, L.Atkinson, C.Kell, B.Kell, F.Long N Mills J Hall
R Todd, E Huntington County Councillors
In Attendance - T. Bell (Clerk) Approx 100 members of the public

2. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllr P Brookes

3. 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.

4. Minutes of the Meeting held Tuesday 27th May 2014

RESOLVED

- (i) that the Minutes of this meeting, a copy of which had been previously printed and circulated to each Member, be approved and signed as a correct record by the Chair.

5. Police Briefing

The Police emailed a briefing which is attached as Appendix A.

6. Warden Update

There was no attendance to the meeting.

7. Public Participation

The Chair gave an update to the meeting on the progress of the proposed Gypsy and Traveller temporary stop over site which DCC have suggested should be sited in the village. Appendix B. The Chair advised the meeting that County Cllr Lucy Hovvells was the Portfolio holder for gypsies and travellers and that she was dealing with taking this matter forward.

A debate took place regarding these proposals and there were a large number of concerns raised regarding the unsuitability of the site due to road safety and environmental issues. The Chair advised the meeting that this wasn't the correct forum to raise these concerns as the people who had the answers weren't present and that a special meeting would be called to discuss this one important item when the Cllr Hovvells could attend. The Chair advised all members of the public to contact Cllr Hovvells direct with a list of their concerns; he also advised that members of the public could email the Clerk who would compile a list of the concerns raised so they could be formally raised with DCC.

The issue of charging for school transport was raised by a lady who is being billed by DCC for sending her 5 year old child to school in Shotton. She stated that she is on benefits and is the only one who is being charged £230 per year for her daughter to use the bus.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Clerk would publish the date of the special meeting on the Council website and on the notice board.
- (ii) That members of the public contact Cllr Lucy Hovvells direct to express their concerns over the safety and environmental issues raised
- (iii) That members of the public could email the Clerk who would keep a list of all issues raised.
- (iv) Cllr Todd and Huntington are to discuss the school buses charging policy with the relevant department and try to find a solution

8. Clerks report / correspondence

The Clerk reported that the following actions had been completed since the previous meeting:

- Update on the gypsy and travellers site had already been discussed
- Meeting with AAP regarding the new playground project are ongoing
- Awaiting to hear from Community Chest fund regarding the bid for exercise equipment

Correspondence

Letters of thanks were received from:

- East Durham Community transport for the donation made
- St Pauls Church for the poppies and planter to mark WW1

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Clerk continues to bid for funding

9. Finance

Members were advised that the Year End Accounts were completed and a copy of the Final Accounts were circulated.

The monthly accounts were also circulated for Members to consider. Appendix C.

RESOLVED

- (i) That Members accepted and approved the Final accounts
- (ii) That Members accepted and approved the Monthly accounts

10. Planning

There were two planning applications (Appendix D) there were no issues raised as the Council supports these executive developments.

11. Members Reports

Cllr F Long informed the meeting that that weed spraying was continuing ton Haswell Plough despite DCC assurance that it would cease.

Cllr Chiverton informed the meeting that DCC magazine has informed the community that it will commence charging £20 per year for the removal of garden waste and that she had

received a number of complaints regarding this issue. She highlighted that this would increase flytipping across the County. Cllr Todd advised that due to the massive budgetary cuts services would continue to be squeezed and more charging for services was likely due to the current economic climate.

Cllr Hall informed the meeting that the Woodland Trust has still not cut back the hedge which is blocking the footpath towards Snippersgate. He also advised that flytipping continues at High Haswell and that reporting the issue continues to be a problem at DCC as not all calls are correctly logged to reflect the extent of the problem. Cllr Hall also asked how much money DCC would receive from Government fund to repair potholes.

Cllr A Liversidge raised the issue of the unfinished Renco which was due to grassed over and the continuing problem of the footpath edge. Cllr Todd advised that a highways inspector was due to visit the site and that he would investigate the grassing over issue. He also raised the issue of the George Street site which continues to be an issue. Cllr Todd advised that the area was now on the blight list and would be dealt with in due course.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Clerk would contact the Woodland Trust again regarding the hedge
- (ii) Cllr Todd would investigate the Renco site again

12. County Councillors Update

Cllr Todd informed the meeting:

- Japanese knotweed is a problem in the village at land owned by DCC and a Mr Collinson due to spread. This is a dangerous plant which can cause properties to be seriously damaged and even lead to demolition if not treated. DCC are currently treating this outbreak on a month cycle and will continue to monitor the progress.
- Enforcement issues have been raised at Mr Dolan's development due to unauthorised changes. Retrospective planning has been granted however further unauthorised development has taken place regarding a hardstanding area, Mr Dolan has advised that he will reduce the hardstanding so that planning isn't necessary, planning officers will be monitoring the build and enforcement action will be taken if required.
- He regularly inspects George Street for flytipping and will continue to push for the area to be developed

Cllr Huntington informed the meeting that:

- She had received three requests for help from the village which have been successfully dealt with
- Relaxation the taxi regulation has led to unauthorised taxis operating and the number of rapes to rise. Reputable firms are pushing for the regulations to be tightened.
- Personal Independent Payments (PIPS) are taking up to a year to be sorted out which is causing hardship to local people
- Problems continue with the ambulance service attendance times due to shortages this is having an impact across the County
- 111 medical number continues to cause problems as the staff are not medical trained this is leading to the increase in people attending A&E unnecessarily
- GP are unhappy with the new budget system as this is not working

13. Any other Urgent Items of business

There were no issues raised.

14. Date and Time of the next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 29th July 2014 at 7pm in The Hazelwell Centre.

Appendix A Police report

Criminal damage

21/06/2014 – vehicle damaged on Front Street, Haswell

Under Investigation

28/05/2014 – Richmond Terrace, Haswell

Vehicle tyres slashed with a bladed article

Other Theft or Unauthorised Taking

09/06/2014 - HASWELL & DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CENTRE
WINDSOR TERRACE

static mobile gym trailer remove and steal external power cable

Crime

Crime is down 9.2% compared to last year

Appendix B

Meeting took place on the 12th June at the Hazelwell Centre present were Cllrs Liversidge and the Clerk from the Parish Council along with County Cllrs Hovvells Todd and Huntington, Ian Hoult Environment and Enforcement Manager and Insp Dave Coxon regarding the proposal to put a temporary Gypsy and Traveller site next Coldwell Burn Farm. A number of concerns and objections were raised regarding the Councils lack of involvement, consultation, the fact that there is two developments either side with planning permission to build luxury homes and the unsuitability of the site.

The Clerk emailed Cllr Hovvells and Ian Hoult on the 13th June requesting the following documents:

1. Councils Policy on Gypsy and Travellers
2. Overarching Strategy setting out the aims and objective of this project to supply temporary stopover sites, and any project plans
3. Any background working papers regarding how/why the policy and strategy were formed i.e research papers, legislation backing, cost benefit analysis,
4. Consultation strategy - including a copy of the detailed timetable of events setting out how and who you would consult on this process and a copy of all meeting you have attended with a copy of the agenda and subsequent minutes.
4. Communication strategy - including a copy of the timetable of events how this has been communicated to Parishes and the wider community
5. A copy of the plan which identifies all available Council owned land
6. A copy of the plan which show the sites that in the running for these temp sites (including those you considered outside of Council ownership)
7. A copy of the matrix and rationale used to score these sites
8. A copy of the completed matrix showing all scores
9. A list of all of the people involved in the project and scoring process
10. Any other documentation which is relevant to this ongoing project.No reply has been received to date.

A site meeting was agreed and took place on Monday 16th June to highlight the proximity to the two approved development sites, and the current poor access. It was agreed that the County Council would look into the fact that planning permission had been refused due to the poor site access at Mr Scorers development next door and that a large amount of work had to be undertaken for planning to be approved.

Clerk has emailed Ian Hoult regarding an update he has stated that a survey is to be carried on the highways. Despite emailing him regarding timescales of the survey and dates for a public meeting no answer has been received to date.

HASWELL PARISH COUNCIL

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 1 APRIL 2013 TO 31 MARCH 2014

Income

Receipt Payments	72,522.00	
Community Highway Worker Contribution	4,220.00	
Recreational Fees	270.00	
Dayleave	18.98	
VAT Refund	6,633.24	
Interest Received	180.08	
National Grid Compensation	2,470.00	
Sale of Equipment	2,700.00	
Initiative Fund	500.00	
	-----	89,514.30

Expenditure

Wages	32,681.17	
Printing, Postage and Stationery	171.72	
Repairs and Maintenance	5,844.04	
Subscriptions and Donations	2,041.61	
Motor and Travelling	1,473.30	
Water Rates and Utilities	561.59	
Telephone	410.29	
Accountancy and Audit Fee	660.00	
Hazelwell Centre Running Costs	6,000.00	
Insurance	2,826.16	
Sundries	1,149.82	
Plant and Equipment	15,847.00	
Lighting	3,864.54	
Professional Fees	720.00	
	-----	74,251.24

Net Inflow for Year

15,263.06
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Reconciliation of Funds

Balance at 1 April 2013	80,563.85
Add	
Inflow for Year	15,263.06

	95,826.91
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Bank Balances

Community Directplus Account	43,461.73
Business Select 14 Day	52,365.18

	95,826.91

Appendix C

June 2014				Receipts			Payments							VAT			
Date	Details	Inv. No	Cheque No	Receipt	Payment	Precept	Football Fees	Interest	Central Services	Public Buildings	Horticulture	Utilities	Loans	Section 137	Special Projects	VAT Input	VAT reclaimed
12.6.14	Vodafone	117.14	102467		39.10				39.10								
12.6.14	Lloyds	118.14	102468		50.03						50.03					8.34	
12.6.14	DCC Playground Insp May 14	119.14	102469		67.50						67.50					11.25	
24.6.14	P.Levitt Horticultural supplies and petrol	121.14	102470		73.19						73.19					12.20	
					0.00	229.82		17.31	39.10	0.00	190.72			0.00	0.00	31.79	
	Balance as at 31.5.14																
	Current		105888.91														
	Reserve		52365.18														

Appendix D

Planning June 14

DM/14/01165/RM	Mr D Scorer	Land At The Old Farm House 1 Coldwellburn Mews Haswell Durham DH6 2XS	Detached dwelling and garage (reserved matters relating to PL/5/2012/0025)	Shotton and South Hetton Haswell CP	Laura Martin Delegated
DM/14/01672/FPA	Mr M Cousins	Land Adjacent To Plough Motors Durham Lane Haswell Durham DH6 2BB	Dwelling	Trimdon and Thornley Haswell CP	Allan Fenwick Delegated