

Minutes of Haswell Parish Council Annual Meeting held on Tuesday 24th February 2015 at 7pm in the Hazelwell Centre Haswell

Present.

Councillor Mr A. Liversidge (Presiding), and Councillors D. Liversidge, C.Kell, B.Kell, N Mills J Hall, C Chiverton, F.Long, L.Atkinson
R Todd, P.Brookes County Councillors
In Attendance - T. Bell (Clerk), 4 members of the public

2. Apologies.

No apologies were received.

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 January 2015

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/Wardens Briefing

No apologies or briefing were received.

6. Neighbourhood Planning

Apologies were received from the planning department as they are unable to attend due to the publication of the Planning inspectors report on the County Durham Plan which was not favourable and classed as not fit for purpose. A discussion took place regarding the impact rejecting the neighbourhood plan would have on the County. The Clerk advised that meeting took place on the 11th February at County Hall regarding the possibility of building a new estate leading on from Kestral Way. The meeting was attended by David Martin, Gavin Scott Strategic Planning Officer and Sarah Eldridge Senior Planning Officer and the Clerk. The planners were informed that the Parish Council were in support of the development subject to the George Street area being redeveloped as part of the scheme. Discussions took place regarding the planning in the villages.

RESOLVED

- (i) the neighbourhood plan will be moved to the next meeting.
- (ii) the information be duly noted.

7. Public Participation

A question was raised regarding why Mr Martin had not previously tidied up the George Street area. The Chair gave an overview of the history of the George Street area.

RESOLVED

- (i) the information be duly noted.

8. Clerks report / correspondence

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

- All reports have been made to the appropriate departments
- Several meetings have taken place and a number of funding applications have been submitted for the Windsor Terrace play area. Letters of support from the community and other organisations are needed to strengthen the application.
- Meeting with the Estates department regarding a lease for the play areas, they have confirmed that it will cost £550. I have challenged that and I am awaiting a response regarding a possible reduction in fees.
- Royal Garden party is to be attended by Spennymoor Town and Brandon and Byshottles Parish Councils.

Correspondence

- Public rights of Way Officer has written to confirm that the proposals to close part of Shadforth Bridleway 12 and footpaths 13a and 13 have been withdrawn at the present time. Any amendments to the proposals will be subject to a new consultation.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the information be duly noted.
- (ii) That Councillors would endeavour to get letters of support from The Hazelwell Centre, Sure Start, Mencap and the community.

9. Finance

The monthly accounts were circulated for Members to consider. Appendix A The Clerk advised the meeting that:

- As part of the Fly tipping initiative discussed the last meeting DCC would like parish and town councils to consider purchasing camera systems which can be used covertly. These systems cost around £1,600 a camera for use in your areas. The cameras can only be sited in areas that are considered to be known hot-spots for fly-tipping, and in relatively quiet locations, where they will not record large amounts of innocent activities such as passers-by.

Those elected Members and Parish Councils supporting the cameras can have an active role in identifying potential locations in their area. If suitable locations are found that meet the criteria they can be deployed. Updates on this deployment can be provided. The new cameras will be deployed in the electoral division funding them. If it's a Parish Council, this will be within the Parish Council area. From time to time, we may want to deploy the cameras elsewhere for a larger scale operation, in which instance, the elected Member/Parish Council will first be approached for consent. There has been a successful fly-tipping prosecution this month, with several more in the pipeline, often (but not always) involving CCTV evidence.

- Confirmation of bank details to the Big lottery awaiting have been forwarded.
- The Precept request has been made and that the DCC have confirmed that the bill will reflect a 10% rise as they report the change in D from year to year and the change in the amount of grant issued which doesn't give a true reflection of the amount as these calculations are out of the parish hands.

- Prices for a light nativity scene have been circulated for consideration; there is currently a buy one get one free offer on certain lights from Blanchere which offer excellent value for money.
- New quality Award Scheme requires a registration fee of £50 that needs to be paid to NALC
- Cllr Hall advised the meeting that the possible cost of installing axial plate fans in the containers would be approximately £600 per container plus an electrician costs. The cost of running the fan would fall to the Hazelwell Centre as the electricity supply is paid for by them.

RESOLVED

- (i) That Members accepted and approved the Monthly accounts
- (ii) That the Clerk investigates what sites would be suitable to site a CCTV camera and the possibility of sharing the cost of purchasing a camera with the neighbouring parishes.
- (iii) That the Clerk purchases the lights
- (iv) That the Clerk registers the Parish for the Quality Scheme.
- (v) That the Clerk acquires quotes for an electrician.
- (vi) That the Parish would make a contribution to the centre for the electricity.

10. Planning

There were no planning applications to consider.

11. Members Reports

Cllr D Liversidge informed the meeting that the chevron sign on the C64 had been knocked down and another flytipping load had been dumped.

Cllr J Hall informed the meeting that the online system for reporting flytipping does not work properly as the number generated via the email can't easily be found by customer services when chasing up the report. Cllr Brookes advised that the CRM system at the County should deal with this correctly. Cllr Hall also asked when Green Lane had last been litter picked as the wardens had stated they had requested this to happen.

Cllr C Chiverton informed the meeting that East Durham Homes had still not made contact regarding the village patch walk.

Cllr F Long reiterated that he hadn't had any contact regarding the patch walk and that the verges in Haswell Plough had been left in a state from the renovation work which was undertaken by East Durham Homes contractors.

RESOLVED

- (i) The Cllr Todd would report the flytipping and damage to the sign.
- (ii) The Cllr Brookes would investigate the problems with reporting flytipping electronically
- (iii) The Clerk would again contact East Durham homes regarding the patch walks and the damage to the verges in Haswell Plough.

12. County Councillors Update

Cllr Todd informed the meeting:

- The County would not replace the reported missing salt bin
- He was having a meeting with the highways inspector regarding the lack of footpath from Haswell to Snippersgate.
- £140 million had been saved to date but further cuts were needed to total £270 million by 2018.

Cllr Brookes informed the meeting:

- The 2015/16 budget would be set on the 25.2.15 and the process would immediately begin on the savings for the following year.
- Childrens Sure Start building will reduce from 43 to 15 saving over £1 million. Currently there is no idea of what the buildings will be used for yet however, anyone can express an interest via the Durham Ask process.
- That the production of a neighbourhood plan would be a good move for the village as it would set out the parish's aspirations to move the village forward through development.

RESOLVED

- (i) The Clerk would price a salt bin

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 31st March 2015 at 7pm in The Hazelwell Centre.

