

MINUTES OF THE EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING OF HASWELL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2017 IN ST PAULS CHURCH, HASWELL AT 6,30PM

Present: C R HOOD (CHAIR)

Mesdames: O Gray, S Hartley, E Major, H Milburn, K Welch and County Councillor E Huntington

Messrs:- G Dunstone, W Ramsay and County Councillor I Cochrane

129.17 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor J Cook, (work commitments).
RESOLVED the apologies submitted be accepted along with the reasons given.

130.17 Code of Conduct

Prior to the start of the meeting Members were reminded of the need to disclose any interests prejudicial or personal, in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

131.17. Planning

Members were given details of a planning application, details submitted to Durham County Council for Greenacres Stables, Salters Lane, certificate of existing lawful use of land for keeping of a single residential caravan on site. **RESOLVED no comments be offered on the details submitted.**

132.17 Finance

(i) Parish Precept 2018/19

Members were asked to give further consideration to precept proposals submitted to the meeting in November, it was asked that everyone consider the detail in readiness of agreeing the precept at the next meeting. **RESOLVED this item be re considered at the next meeting.**

(ii) Hazelwell Centre

The Chairman gave a verbal update following the meeting held with the trustee representatives of the Hazelwell Centre held on 28 November 2017. They had been asked to produce:-

- A business plan

- Cash flows (financial statements)
- Audited accounts

If this information is provided the Parish Council may consider a grant of £1,000 per month for a period of 3 months. This is on the understanding they meet with the Parish Council monthly to demonstrate they were following their business plan. An important commitment needed in the business plan is to open the centre more than 3 hours per week, at the least, and they are looking to generate income and for the centre to be fully available for community use. There was to be a further meeting with the trustees on 11 January 2017 and a report would be made to the next meeting. **RESOLVED progress be awaited.**

(iii) Alpha Financial Director

RESOLVED approval be given to the purchase of the software package as detailed by the Clerk at an initial cost of £639 and then £165 per annum for support.

(iv) Banking Arrangements

RESOLVED the Council approve the application to be made by the new Clerk, Ms Kay Tweddle, to be included on the council's bank account and the use of internet banking be approved, with financial regulations being updated to cover this use.

133.17 General Power of Competance

RESOLVED Haswell Parish Council adopt the General Power of Competance having satisfied the prescribed statutory criteria and qualifying as an eligible Parish Council.

134.17 Public Participation

There were several members of the public in attendance, several chose to address the Parish Council on matters relating to:-

- (a) The easiest way to report matters to the County Council and the vital role of the County Councillors representing the villages played in getting action;
- (b) Accessibility by the public to the Community Centre.

In closing the Chair wished everyone a fantastic Christmas and a Happy New Year.