

Minutes of the Meeting of Haswell Parish Council held on

Wednesday 7th March 2018 at 6.30pm held at held St Pauls Church, Haswell

Present

Cllrs C Hood (Chair), J. Cook, G. Dunstone, O. Gray, E. Major, K Welch & W. Ramsay

County Councillor: E Huntington

In Attendance - 13 members of the public

Prior to the start of the meeting the Chair apologised for having to postpone the meeting from the 28th February due to the extreme weather conditions.

16.18 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor S Hartley, K Milburn & County Councillor I Cochrane.

17.18 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. Councillor Hood declared an interest in item 3 in the Clerk's Report relating to the Locals that Lunch Project.

18.18 Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 31st January 2018

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

19.18 Police Briefing

P.C Dean Wilson offered his apologies for not being able to attend and the Clerk gave his report verbally in his absence detailing the statistics since the last meeting. **RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.**

20.18 Warden Update

There were no wardens in attendance.

21.18 Haswell Church Street – Street Lighting Removal

RESOLVED:

-The question be put to DCC was the decision made just, in disconnecting the two villages in the Parish;

- a formal complaint be made to DCC (and the MP be advised also), that DCC were breaching their own policy in determining to de illuminate the length or highway from Haswell Plough to Haswell; John Reid, Head of Technical Services be requested to carry out a site visit;

-Ron Hogg, Police & Crime Commissioner, be asked to give a police and safety perspective on this proposal.

- request this decision to illuminate be delayed for 2 – 3 years.

22.18 Finance

(a) **RESOLVED** the monthly accounts, as circulated, be approved and paid.

(b) **Changes to banking arrangements**

RESOLVED it be noted that on line banking was now in use and Standing Orders had been amended to cover this process.

(c) **Progress with the Accounts**

The Clerk reported she had back keyed up to October 2017 and was making good progress.

RESOLVED the information given be noted.

(d) **To approve the budget for 2018/19**

RESOLVED the estimates of expenditure for the services and activities of the Parish Council for 2018/19, be agreed.

23.18 Planning

No details submitted by Durham County Council this month.

24.18 Opening Of Windsor Terrace Play Area

RESOLVED the play area be officially opened on Saturday 7 April 2018 at 1pm.

25.18 Member's Reports

Councillor Ramsay reported he understood the Quarry site had now been granted panning permission. He also reported on the poor condition of Church Street in terms of litter and rubbish.

Councillor Welch reported on cars parked outside the Grey Horse, the County Councillor offered to help with this matter which was gratefully received. Councillor Welch also gave progress on her work with being Dementia Friendly which was in its early stages, where she would continue to feedback to the Parish Council.

Councillor Cook thanked Councillor Ramsey for his help during the recent bad weather particularly in Mazine terrace, (where there were now large pot holes). She was continuing to work with the Youth Forum and would be evaluating services over the recent holiday period and would continue to feedback to the Parish Council on what they young people would like in the village.

Councillor Gray reported on a letter of thanks, which was read out at the meeting, following works carried out at Faraday Terrace, with a special mention for County Councillor Cochrane's efforts.

Councillor Major reported the pancake parties had been well attended and the hot chocolate had been enjoyed and the Well Walk and she thanked those involved especially Mr Carins for the animals for petting.

The Chairman had asked that an Event Working Party be held to discuss further the Haswell Carnival, Saturday 18th August 2018; the Miners Gala, Saturday 14th July, brass band booked at a cost of £1,250 and agreed free transport be provided for the residents of the village (small cover charge of £3.00 for non residents), a request to loan the banner would need to be made to the Haswell History Group.

He reported on the Locals that Lunch Project offering a two course meal for £5.00 with free transport and publicity given to it in local newspapers.

Spring into Action had been successful.

RESOLVED the information given be noted and any reports required be made.

26.18 County Councillor's Update Report

County Councillor Cochrane gave his apologies however had provided a progress report which included the clearance and maintenance of George street by no later than 2nd April 2018, the supply of road plainings for Faraday Terrace, progress with the demolition of the Old School Building being delayed because of bats nesting until around September 2018.

Councillor Huntington reported on the financial situation with various services delivered by Durham County Council, all of which were facing cuts in their budgets and increases in their costs. She was pleased to report that salting had been frequent during the recent bad weather and DCC had been asked to give their support to saving air craft carriers from Plymouth Council.

She gave an update with the meetings she attends at North Tees Hospital and offered to support the Parish Council in its efforts to retain the street lights between Haswell and Haswell Plough.

27.18 Clerk's Progress Report

The update report from the Clerk was circulated for the consideration of Members.

RESOLVED:-

1. Play Areas

RESOLVED the information given be noted and the action taken be endorsed with a further report to follow.

2. Parish Surgeries

Councillor Milburn offered her apologies to the meeting however has asked for an item to be considered in her absence. Beginning in March 2018, being held in between the parish meetings, monthly on a Saturday morning between 10-12 at the Parish Council Office, with a drop in format, which could be extended to an appointment type of basis, two councillors per session. **RESOLVED Parish Surgeries be held as suggested.**

3. Winter Wellness Programme, (Locals who lunch) - Request for Financial Support

Haswell & District Mencap were approached by East Durham Trust to deliver part of their Winter Wellness Programme. As part of the programme there were to be 50, two course meals to be delivered to people over the age of 70 throughout Haswell & Haswell Plough, free of charge. This was designed to help some of the most vulnerable people in Haswell and the Parish Council was approached to support this with a grant of £200.00 towards transport costs and publicity, (with our logo included). This information was circulated to all Members and the feedback received was positive. **RESOLVED the action taken in agreeing to support this initiative and approval to make a grant of £200.00 to Haswell & District Mencap, be endorsed.**

4. School Holiday Activities – consideration

RESOLVED the offer from Studio R not be taken up.

5. Consultation Proposed Path Changes, Hill House, Shadforth

Durham County Council had consulted the Parish Council on the creation and closure of a number of footpaths at this location. The changes had been requested by the owner to increase safety and bio diversity at the farm. Following consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair no objection was offered to the proposals. **RESOLVED the action taken in offering no objections to these changes, be endorsed.**

6. Job Centre Resource Link

RESOLVED the action taken in adding this link to the parish councils web site, be endorsed.

7. Cost of Election 4 May 2017

An invoice had now been received from DCC for the parish council election held last May in the sum of £2,359.40. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**

8. Changes to Banking arrangements

The Parish Council now had access to on line banking and have the use of a debit card for its account. An update to Financial Standing Orders, V2, reviewed April 2017 is suggested as follows:-

For orders/invoices for payment, whether cheques or electronic payments, 2 councillors to sign the "invoice for payment" list at the monthly meeting. This allows for any queries to be raised before they are authorised.

No payments shall be made if prior approval has not already been given, in writing, (e mail accepted) by two councillors. Urgent payments can be made only after the approval of the Chair and Vice Chair, or two other signatories (e mail accepted format).

9. General Data Protection Regulations (May 2018)- Update

This item was to be discussed at the Smaller Local Councils Meeting and updates had been received from NALC.

10. Request from Evolution Bradley FC, (Youth Teams) to use Haswell as their home Base

A request had been received from this Football Club to have a 9v9 football pitch on a Saturday morning, changing facilities would not be required and the Nursery have offered to assist by providing toilet facilities if required. This would require the purchase of new posts (smaller size required) and new markings. It would be at the expense of an adult field. The budget has an amount of £600 income for 2018/19.

Currently the Parish Council had one Team playing on a Saturday morning, Easington Under 15's and two on a Sunday the Oddfellows and Shotton Colts. **RESOLVED approval be given to this request and for Haswell Parish to become the home for Evolution Bradley, (Youth Teams).**

28.18 Public Participation

Items raised included:-

- thanks to Paul Levitt, Highways worker, for his hard work and efforts in the villages, especially in the recent bad weather
- dog dirt on the footpaths in the village, it was asked the Street Wardens be requested to attend and patrol.

29.18 Date of Next Meeting

RESOLVED the next meeting be held at St Paul's Church Hall, Church View, Haswell, DH6 2DT on Wednesday 28th March 2018 at 6.30pm.