

Minutes of the Meeting of Haswell Parish Council held on

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 6.30pm held at St Pauls Church, Haswell

**Present**

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

County Councillor: I Cochrane

In Attendance - 10 members of the public

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year on behalf of Haswell Parish Council and he hoped that everyone had enjoyed a fantastic festive period.

**1.19 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor H Milburn and County Councillor Huntington.

**2.19 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.

**3.19 Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

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

**4.19 Police Briefing**

P.C. Wilson & Edson offered their apologies and the Clerk read out their report in their absence. There were no further issues raised at the meeting. **RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.**

**5.19 Finance**

(a) To approve the monthly accounts for December/January 2019

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

|                  |        |   |
|------------------|--------|---|
| Rev A Brooker    | 156.98 | Books for Christmas giveaway (PAID)     |
| Major & Aspinall | 232.00 | Remembrances service booklet (PAID)     |
| Cllr Ramsay      | 140.00 | Christmas Tree (PAID)                   |
| Cllr Major       | 88.29  | Various – Christmas services etc (PAID) |
| Cllr Gray        | 39.80  | batteries – tree lights (PAID)          |
|                  | 70.00  | various (see receipts)                  |
| The Fruit Shop   | 200.00 | Christmas Tree (PAID)                   |

|                       |          |                                   |
|-----------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| J Nixon               | 21.00    | licence NYE (PAID)                |
| Durham County Council | 203.52   | line marking football pitches     |
|                       | 448.94   | various repairs (see invoice)     |
| Nixon Hire            | 73.44    | hire of toilets NYE               |
| Wave                  | 106.21   | water charges rear of Comm Centre |
| GL & NR Tate          | 46.08    | diesel                            |
| Zurich Municipal      | 2,420.99 | insurance premium 19/20           |
| P Levitt              | 27.00    | various (see receipts)            |

- (b) Bank Reconciliation for November 2018, a copy of which had been circulated, was accepted.  
(c) To agree and confirm the level of precept for Haswell Parish Council for 2019/20

Further consideration was given to the estimates of income and expenditure which had been present at the last meeting. Members were proud to have delivered all of the activities and services they had proposed for the 2018/19 year and felt with careful budgeting they could do so again without the need for the increase in the precept demanded from residents of Haswell by the Parish Council. It was noted this would involve the need to use reserves of £13,582.00. **RESOLVED Haswell Parish Council request a precept of £69,564.00 of Durham County Council. This would give a Band D charge of £147.60, in addition a LCTRS grant payable of £8,609.00 would therefore give a total payment by Durham County Council for 2019/20 of £78,173.00.**

### 6.19 Planning

There were no planning applications submitted since the last meeting. **RESOLVED the information given be noted.**

### 7.19 Member's Reports

Councillor Major reported on a recent consultation meeting she had attended relating to the provision of out of hours and urgent care in the area, where it was proposed the Easington service was to be closed and the use of the Seaham Centre would be limited. Members were very disappointed at these proposals and the reduction in services available to the villages.

Councillor Dunstone and Ramsay had no updates for the meeting.

Councillor Welch mentioned the caravan; County Councillor Cochrane was to provide an update in his report.

Councillor Cook wished everyone a Happy New Year and said how much she had enjoyed last year. She offered to work with Councillor Ramsay in sourcing and arranging the tree and light display in December. It was agreed that an Events Meeting be held at the close of the next meeting to start planning 2019's events.

Councillor Gray reported that she was receiving constant complaints and reports about dog fouling in the village. There was also a problem with fouling on the parish playing fields which was extremely serious as they were hired out by youth football Teams. The matter of dog fouling was being included in the next issue of the Parish Patch with a full page being dedicated to this problem with a request for residents to make reports either to the Parish Council or direct to DCC for enforcement action. It was agreed this matter be considered again at the next meeting. Councillor Gary also read out a letter of thanks from the Ward Manager of Tree Tops Children's Unit, UHND following a donation made by the Parish Council of surplus items from the Christmas giving event.

The Chair advised that Chris Sidwells had offered to come along to give a presentation/talk on Tom Simpson and he would provide further details as and when this was confirmed. The Chair reported on a consultation event he and the Vice Chair had attended regarding proposed changes to emergency fire service cover in Seaham where the results were awaited. He reported on the recent theft of fencing from the parish fields.

**RESOLVED the information given, be noted and Members be thanked for their update reports.**

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

County Councillor Cochrane reported details of the caravan that had appeared in the village had been given to the Planning & Enforcement Department immediately, whilst circumstances had changed quickly, the final outcome was awaited. He provided an update on the former Grey Horse site and gave a timetable of enforcement action being undertaken by DCC where the case would be reviewed at the close of January 2019. He also gave an update on the demolition of the former school building where Building Control had not received any dangerous structure reports or demolition notices regarding the building. Before any demolition took place the owner/demolition was required to submit a Section 80 notice to Building Control. Councillor Cochrane reported fencing had not only been stolen in the Haswell Parish, fencing had been stolen from Shotton Cemetery. In closing he reported on a newspaper article that had been written on the re location of County Hall. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**

### **9.19 Clerk's Progress Report**

The update report from the Clerk was circulated for the consideration of Members. This included details of the insurance renewal, the Groundsman's success in obtaining a re qualification for the inspection of children's playgrounds and the cancellation of the New Year's Eve Event. **RESOLVED the information contained in the report, be noted.**

### **10.19 Public Participation**

The Chair welcome Mr Bostock back to the meeting following his recent illness, everyone wished him well and were pleased to see him on his way back to full fitness.

A member of the public reported issues with scrap dealers accessing a piece of land and asked could any assistance be given with this by the Parish Council. The access to various open areas of land in the village was discussed. After discussion it was agreed this matter be placed on the next parish council meeting agenda.

A grit bin was requested at the bottom of Front Street. Councillor Cochrane offered to take up this request and reported it may not be a grit bin that would be provided however he would do his best to get a supply of grit located there.

Rev Brooker asked for support in publicising with residents the update of the Parochial Church Council's Electoral Roll which was now being carried out, (an exercise completed every six years).

### **11.19 Date of Next Meeting**

**RESOLVED the next Parish Council Meeting be held at St Paul's Church Hall, Church View, Haswell, DH6 2DT (it be noted there was no meeting in December) the next meeting Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019.**