

Minutes of the Meeting of Haswell Parish Council held on

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 6.30pm held at St Pauls Church, Haswell

**Present**

Cllrs C HOOD (Chair), O Gray, E Major, G Dunstone & W Ramsay

County Councillor: E Huntington

In Attendance – 9 members of the public

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**12.19 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor K Welch, J Cook, H Milburn, S Hartley and County Councillor Cochrane.

**13.19 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.

**14.19 Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

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

**15.19 Police & Street Warden Briefing**

P.C. Wilson & Edson offered their apologies and the Clerk had circulated their report in their absence. The Wardens gave their report to the meeting giving statistics and updates on issues in the village. The Wardens encouraged the public and council to make reports to them with as much details as possible to enable them to respond to exact locations and problems. Frustration with the lack of action with certain sites in the village was reported and the Wardens assured they would look into the issues given and get back to the Parish Council with feedback. **RESOLVED that the information given, be noted and the Wardens be thanked for their attendance.**

**16.19 Finance**

(a) To approve the monthly accounts for February 2019

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

Rev A Brooker	156.98	Books for Christmas giveaway (PAID) (Cheque)
Arco	140.98	Boots and ear defenders
	12.46	polo shirts
Durham County Council	177.84	various repairs (see invoice)
	707.92	hosting and support of web site

Rialtas B S Ltd	142.80	accounts software support
GL & NR Tate	124.80	diesel

(b) Bank Reconciliations for December 2018 and January 2019, copies of which had been circulated, were accepted.

### 17.19 Planning

- (a) Garage – 3 South View
- (b) Appeal lodged – Land at Mickle Hill – gas fuelled Farm
- (c) Reliance Energy, land at Mill Hill, NW Industrial Estate, the construction and operation of gas powered generators for the provision of flexible energy generation

**RESOLVED objections be offered by the Parish Council on the application lodged by Reliance Energy.**

### 18.19 Member's Reports

Councillor Major reported there had been a dead animal found in the church waste bin, this had been reported and removed within 2 hours by DCC. She reported it would be Rev Brooker's last service on 24 March 2019. It was agreed an appropriate mark of appreciation be made to the Reverend on behalf of the Parish Council.

Councillor Ramsay advised he had been speaking to the Planning Department at DCC for an update on the Tuthill Quarry site and there was nothing further to report. He reported he felt sure this would still happen as the developers were in discussions with various parties regarding the access road to the site.

Councillor Dunstone had no formal report to make however reported he hoped to be organising a Mystery Car Hunt Event for residents in April.

The Chair had several issues he wished to raise as follows:-

He asked for progress with the noticeboards for the Parish, the Clerk assured she would chase progress with DCC.

He asked that a further request be made for more dog bins in the village; the Clerk would make a request to DCC for a bin next to Kestrel Way.

The Chair asked for an improvement in the floral displays in the village. The Clerk would take this up with the Groundsman.

Whilst there was still a commitment to employing an apprentice it was agreed this needed to be considered further in terms of need and support that would be provided by the Parish Council.

The Chair felt the play area at Dent Close required improvement and it was asked that the Clerk investigate how this could be achieved and in the short term current equipment be replaced where possible.

The Chair advised works were required to improve the access for larger vehicles to the playing fields when considering growing the annual Carnival. A Local Member offered to assist in obtaining prices from local contractors to carry out the necessary work and this was accepted as a way forward to make progress.

Consideration was given to the replacement of the fencing that had been stolen at the playing fields. It was suggested that this be replaced with a Hawthorn hedge rather than fencing. Agreed the Clerk take this up with the Groundsman to organise.

The Chair reported the February Funfest had been well attended with 285 engagements, 212 participants over the five sessions and 180 free meals provided for young people,

**RESOLVED the information given, be noted and the action taken as detailed within the reports be made. Members were thanked for their efforts and update reports.**

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

County Councillor Huntington reported she was still working on getting progress with the cycle/walkway track from South Hetton to Haswell and it was hoped this would be attended to this year. She reported on DCC budget issues and referred to a newspaper article "Council pressure on funding" and circulated a copy. Councillor Huntington also gave an update on her work representing the community on the various health boards and trusts on which she served. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted and Councillor Huntington be thanked for her report.**

#### **20.19 Clerk's Progress Report**

The update report from the Clerk was circulated for the consideration of Members. This included details of dog fouling issues, land next to Greencroft in South Hetton, insurance cover and enquiry to use the playing fields over the Easter period. **RESOLVED the information contained in the report, be noted.**

#### **21.19 Public Participation**

A resident had attended the meeting to express her concern at what she felt was the dangerous condition of the former school. Councillor Huntington assured she would take this up on the Parish Council's behalf.

A resident expressed his dismay that there appeared to be a severe lack of investment by DCC in the village and in East Durham. He asked that the footpath from Haswell to Shotton should be a priority as it was a well used footpath and route to school.

#### **22.19 Date of Next Meeting**

**RESOLVED the next Parish Council Meeting be held at St Paul's Church Hall, Church View, Haswell, DH6 2DT on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2019.**