

Minutes of the Meeting of Haswell Parish Council held on

Wednesday 31st July 2019 at 6.30pm held at St Pauls Church, Haswell

Present

Cllrs C HOOD (Chair), O Gray, E Major, J Cook, S Hartley, H Welch, A Wainwright & W Ramsay

County Councillors: E Huntington & I Cochrane

In Attendance – 11 members of the public

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their interest and attendance.

68.19 Apologies

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

69.19 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. Councillor Cook declared an interest in one of the planning applications (High Ling Close Farm, the applicant being a friend of hers).

70.19 Filling of Vacancy on Haswell Parish Council

To consider expressions of interest to fill this vacancy by co option onto the Parish Council. Members were advised of one application that had been received for this position, from Mr Andrew Wainwright. Having fulfilled the necessary requirements it was **RESOLVED Mr Andrew Wainwright be co opted onto Haswell Parish Council and he duly signed his acceptance of office.**

71.19 Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 26th June 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.

72.19 Police & Street Warden Briefing

The Police were not in attendance at the meeting however a copy of their report had been previously circulated and was read out at the meeting. There were two items to pass on to the Officers which were progress on a burnt out car in the village and also a suspicious vehicle which had been seen. **RESOLVED the report be noted and the items be passed on to the Police.**

73.19 Finance

(a) To approve the monthly accounts for July 2019

RESOLVED the monthly accounts, as listed below be approved and paid as presented:-
(already paid)

Astounded	289.00	portable PA
Northern Monkey Brass Band	2,000.00	Durham Miners Gala
Hazelwell	52.00	insurance for the banner
Mutts Butts	22.45	dog bags

Mahon Engineering	147.95	lock – new gate
Horns Garden Centre	180.00	planters & compost
Cochranes	250.00	transport Miners Gala
K Tweddle	17.13	stationery
P Levitt	31.00	petrol

(b) Bank Reconciliation for June 2019, a copy of which had been circulated, were accepted.

(c) Alice House – Second Stage Grant Application

As all of the requirements and information had been received it was **RESOLVED a grant of £200.00 be made to Alice House.**

74.19 Planning

(a) Reliance Energy Application – DCC Planning Meeting

It was reported this application had been approved at the Planning Meeting held on 9 July 2019.

(b) High Ling Manor – erection of a riding arena and stables

In considering the details of this application Members expressed their concerns that there was a high pressure gas main located on the property. **RESOLVED this concern be relayed to DCC Planning Department.**

75.19 Member's Reports

Councillor Major expressed the thanks on behalf of the Locals that Lunch for the recent trip to Durham river and for the transport provided.

Councillor Ramsay reported he understood the planning application for the Quarry site was to be re considered in December 2019. He also reported he had been receiving telephone calls regarding the poor condition of the MUGA pitch that was in the ownership of the Hazelwell Centre.

Councillor Welch gave a reported which she asked to be passed on to the Police.

Councillor Gray reported on the recent clean up at the former Pit Site and she thanked the volunteers and the Haswell Community Party and the Councillor Cochrane for his support. She also reported on a request she had received from the Nursery for the Parish Council to have a separate telephone line. It was asked that the various options and costs be looked into.

The Chair asked for member's approval to the proposal to have planters on lamp posts in the village and this was given at an approximate cost of £2,371 for 50 pieces to go on 25 lamp posts. The Clerk advised that permission was required from DCC to do this and part of their requirements was that each lamp post had undergone structural testing. **RESOLVED it be agreed permission be applied for to DCC to install planters on 25 lamp posts in the Haswells.**

The Chairman reported on the condition of the football pitches and the programme for cutting. **RESOLVED the engagement of an apprentice grounds person be considered further at the next meeting.**

76.19 County Councillor's Update Report

Councillor Cochrane reported on how enjoyable and productive the evening held with volunteers at the former pit site had been and that the litter bin had now been installed. He gave an update on the former school site where there was to be a third bat survey and it was hoped demolition would be carried out in the Autumn of this year. He also reported on the Miners Gala where he felt the Parish Council had given an excellent performance with both the band and the councillors and residents of the Haswells taking part in the march. He said he was looking forward to the Carnival. **RESOLVED the information given be noted and Councillor Cochrane be thanked for his report.**

Councillor Huntington reported she understood the school was to be demolished. She had organised a litter pick by DCC in the village. She felt there were many opportunities open to the Haswells including the recent Miners Gala and banner parade with over 200,000 people there; the newly developed river walk in Durham City with the cinema and food vendors; the Gala Theatre; the soon to be developed garden village at South Seaham with job opportunities. She felt the austerity cuts and Brexit were both worrying issues for Durham. She reported on activities taking place in the nearby Hazelwell Centre including exercise classes and crafts etc. In closing she reported on the changes to take place in Urgent Care Centres.

RESOLVED the information given in the reports be noted and the County Councillor's be thanked for their efforts and their reports.

77.19 Clerk's Progress Report

The update report from the Clerk was circulated for the consideration of Members. This included details of new equipment that was required, feedback form a resident on one of the play areas, proposals to improve the Dent Close play area, the vat reclaimed, details of the event to commemorate the 175 anniversary of the Pit Disaster, allotment provision and the hanging baskets also included in the Chair's report. **RESOLVED:-**

- (i) **Approval be given to the purchase of a heavy duty leaf blower;**
- (ii) **The details proposed for the event to be held on 28th September 2019 to commemorate the pit disaster, be approved;**
- (iii) **Further consideration be given to the demand and need for the provision of an allotment site at the next meeting;**
- (iv) **Further details of proposals to improve the Dent Close play area, be awaited.**

78.19 Public Participation

It was reported many of the local road signs were badly overgrown by hedgerow which was dangerous. A local resident explained how planting tree in the villages was extremely important for many reasons including working against climate change and she outlined her hopes to do this in partnership with other organisations. Another environmental issue was raised relating to the overgrown state of local walkways where you were not able to ride a bike or walk through. These issues were to be taken up with the relevant authorities.

79.19 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 25th September 2019.