

Minutes of the Meeting of Haswell Parish Council held on

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at 6.30pm held at St Pauls Church, Haswell

**Present**

Cllrs C HOOD (Chair), O Gray, E Major, K Welch & W Ramsay

County Councillor: I Cochrane

In Attendance – 9 members of the public

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their interest in the work of the Parish Council and for their attendance.

**94.19 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors H Milburn, J Cook and A Wainwright.

**95.19 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. Councillors Welch and Hood declared an interest in the item included in the Clerk's report regarding Our Lady of Lourdes RC Primary School as their children attend the school, and Councillor Cochrane as he has an interest in scholars' transport.

**96.19 Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 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.**

**97.19 Police & Street Warden Briefing**

The Police were not in attendance at the meeting however a copy of their report had been previously circulated. Later in the meeting a member of the public raised an issue about dangerous dogs which was to be taken up with the Police. **RESOLVED the report be noted.**

**98.19 FINANCE**

(a) To approve the monthly accounts The payments for October 2019 were submitted to Members for approval of the accounts presented for payment and a schedule of accounts already approved for payment during the recess period that were urgent.

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

**(already paid)**

Mutts Butts	22.45	dog bags
Cash	80.00	scarecrow comp prize money
P Levitt	111.40	various (see sheet)
J Cook	20.65	bunting village events
Approved at the meeting:		
Durham County Council	425.03	pitch marking and 2 grass cuts

(b) Bank Reconciliations for September 2019, a copy of which had been circulated, was accepted.

(c) Budget Setting

Members were asked to advise the Clerk of any schemes or proposals they hoped to carry out in the next financial year to assist with budget setting. It was confirmed the Council wished to improve the villages' planting schemes. **RESOLVED this be included in the estimates of expenditure being prepared by the Clerk.**

#### **99.19 PLANNING**

There were no planning details reported. **RESOLVED the information given be noted.**

#### **100.19 STAFFING – APPRENTICESHIP**

Further consideration was given to the employment of an apprentice gardener in the parish. In considering this Members asked did the post need to be offered as an apprenticeship or would it be possible to offer this as a part time post. It was agreed a part time post be created of 20 hours per week As this item related to staffing Members were asked to provide feedback on the job description and specification to the Clerk as soon as possible. **RESOLVED delegated authority be granted for the Chair and the Clerk to move forward with advertising this vacancy.**

#### **101.19 MEMBER'S REPORTS**

The meeting received reports from Local Members. Councillors Major, Welch and Ramsay had no outstanding items to report on. Councillor Gray reported the uptake on free dog bags was going well and the feedback was positive, although there had been some abuse of them being provided free of charge. It was asked would further bags be order. In discussing this item Members felt there should be more bins provided and it was **RESOLVED details of the required locations be given to the Clerk for the requests to be made to DCC.** A request had been received from a resident to use the parish playing fields for a boot camp. **Following discussion it was RESOLVED permission be granted for this use, free of charge, it being noted she would need to provide her own insurance for this use.** Councillor Cook had provided her items to the Clerk, she reported issues with dog fouling in Mazine terrace, deep pot holes in Mazine Terrace that required attention and fly tipping in Mazine Terrace where she suggested the use of the mobile cctv cameras. **RESOLVED these reports be made to DCC.** Councillor Millburn had provided an update report to the Clerk on progress with the Former Grey Horse and she had sent a copy of a letter from DCC.

The Chair provided details of an invitation for all to attend the Festival of Remembrance to be held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 7.15pm at St Saviors, Shotton. Haswell Parish Council would be included in the laying of wreaths at 3pm on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at St Pauls Church, Haswell.

The Chair asked for the current salt bins to be filled and for additional bins to be requested and he would provide the Clerk with details of where so that a request could be made to DCC. He reported on the reply received from Mr Liversidge regarding the MUGA pitch which he read out to the meeting. It was confirmed the issues raised in the reply that related to the Parish Council were in the process of being actioned and works had been programmed. The Chair gave a full update on the timetable of action relating to the former Grey Horse. He reported on behalf of Councillor Huntington on the project relating to the whole length of the local walkway.

In closing the Chair reported there had been 35 entries in the Halloween House Competition and he gave details of the first second and third prize winners. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**

Thanks were expressed to Councillors Jude Grant and Peter Brookes for their grants of £250 each and Councillor Cochrane for a grant of £500 towards the Christmas Tree Lighting Event to be held on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019.

#### **102.19 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S UPDATE REPORT**

County Councillor Cochrane reported he had been absent from County Hall but hoped to return soon and he thanked everyone, especially the Chair for his help and support during this time. He gave updates on the former Grey Horse and on works to the car park at Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted**

#### **103.19 CLERK'S MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT**

The update report from the Clerk was circulated for the consideration of Members. The report covered new play equipment for the Dent Close Play area, planting of the winter bedding, the noticeboard for Haswell Plough would be delivered soon, the uptake of dog bags, discussions at the event working party held on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2019 and small grants. It was reported a letter of thanks had been received from the Friendship Club and this was read out at the meeting. The required details had now been received from Our Lady of Lourdes RC Primary School to support their request for a grant and consideration was given to this. There were several issues raised at the meeting and it was asked that the Clerk obtain further information and report back to the next meeting. **RESOLVED consideration of the request for financial support from Our Lady of Lourdes RC Primary School be deferred to the next meeting.**

#### **104.19. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chair invited members of the public present to address the Parish Council on items of concern or interest.

Grave concerns were expressed at the condition of the former Grey Horse and fly tipping in George Street to the rear of this property. County Councillor Cochrane offered, with the Chair, to meet with the residents that had raised this issue to discuss this further. A resident reported her dog had been attacked by the dogs that were not kept on leads in Mazine Terrace, as reported at the last meeting.

#### **105.19. DATE & TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Agreed the next Parish Council Meeting be held at St Paul's Church Hall, Church View, Haswell, DH6 2DT the next meeting would be on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 6.30pm.**