

Minutes of the Meeting of Haswell Parish Council held on

Wednesday 22nd January 2020 at 6.30pm held at St Pauls Church, Haswell

Present

Cllrs C HOOD (Chair), O Gray, E Major, H Milburn, S Hartley & W Ramsay

County Councillor: I Cochrane

In Attendance – 14 members of the public

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

1.20 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor E Huntington and Councillors J Cook & A Wainwright.

2.20 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.

3.20 Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 27th November 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.

4.20 Police & Street Warden Briefing

The Police were in attendance at the meeting and a copy of their report had been previously circulated and PC Wilson went through the report and asked for any feedback. The Chair thanked him for his attendance at the meeting. **RESOLVED the report be noted.**

5.20 FINANCE

(a) To approve the monthly accounts

The payments for January 2020 were submitted to Members for approval along with a schedule of accounts already approved for payment during December when there was no meeting.

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

(a) accounts already paid

Payments to:	Amount £	goods/service received
C R Hood	98.00	hampers
Pena Pat Testing	70.00	pat test & repair lights
E Major	140.17	various – Christmas Giving
Peterlee Town Council	156.82	winter bedding plants

(b) Payments presented to the meeting 22nd January 2020 for payment

Paul Levitt	36.40	toiletries
Lloyd Ltd	83.68	oil
MKM	54.34	postfix (noticeboard)
Major & Aspinall Ltd	154.20	festival of remembrance booklet (50%)
Julie Ramsay	24.95	batteries for the tree lights
GL & NR Tate	62.40	tractor fuel

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

6.20 REQUEST FOR PRECEPT 2020/21

Members gave consideration to the options prepared by the Clerk in relation to the precept to be levied on DCC by the parish council. Following consideration it was **RESOLVED the parish council freeze the precept demanded at £70,257.60, making a band D property council tax stay the same at £147.60. There would also be income from DCC the LCTSS grant of £9,128.00.**

7.20 PLANNING

There were no planning details reported. It was commented however that whilst residents were happy to see small developments taking place and improvements being made in the villages, they were not agreeable to the piecemeal, type of developments taking place. **RESOLVED the information given be noted.**

8.20 MEMBER'S REPORTS

The meeting received reports from Local Members.

Councillor Millburn echoes thoughts expressed earlier in the meeting about land being sold off and then its piecemeal development.

The Chair, Councillor Hood requested progress with the noticeboard in Haswell. He reported on the purchase of the replacement ride on tractor and that the parish council were getting the best deal they could. It was suggested the piece of equipment should be replaced every five years and a service maintenance plan be done via a main dealer. The old school building was to be demolished on 3rd February 2020 and would take approximately six weeks, and the Chair thanked County Councillor Cochrane for his efforts and support with this matter. An enforcement visit in the form of a walkabout had been made to the former Grey Horse and along Haswell Front Street. He spoke on investing and improving the villages with an improved Horticultural Plan for the villages. The Chair said he aspired for the villages to enter Britain In Bloom with the council and residents working together to achieve this. He reported on behalf of Councillor Welch that she would be continuing with the valuable work she had started for the Haswells to be a Dementia Friendly Community. He asked for the council's approval to support a trip during half term in February to the Fire and Ice Festival in Durham by financing the transport and this was agreed. He reported on progress with the proposed appointment of a grounds person. He gave details of the consultation "Your villages, your voice" being carried out by the parish council in February with at least two councillors being in attendance at each session. He gave details of the exciting news that as part of the Durham Film Festival Mencap/Lisa Dixon Centre had been chosen as a venue for workshops and a film screening of "Sorry we missed you" and he asked if the parish council would grant £100 towards resourcing the event and this was agreed. **RESOLVED:-**

- (i) the information given in the reports, be noted;**
- (ii) the payment of the transport costs, (£180.00), of the half term trip to Fire and Ice Festival be agreed;**
- (iii) a grant of £100 be made to Mencap towards the screening event to be held in conjunction with the East Durham Film Festival.**

9.20 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S UPDATE REPORT

County Councillor Cochrane commented that most of the items he was to raise had already been covered earlier in the meeting. He did however ask for feedback on where a defibrillator should be located in the village. He had funding for one to be placed in the community and wished for it to be

installed in the best location. He also gave details of a book that was to be published by the person that invented it. He reported he hoped the other County Councillors would come along to a future meeting(s). The Chair said they would be made welcome, as all of the county councillors were and their attendance much appreciated. In closing Councillor Cochrane congratulated The Hive for their Christmas Events which had been superb. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted**

10.20 CLERK'S MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT

The update report from the Clerk was circulated for the consideration of Members. The report covered the insurance renewal, the installation of the new noticeboard at Haswell Plough football pitch hire and events. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted and approval be given to the insurance policy being renewed with Zurich Municipal. FURTHER RESOLVED the action taken, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair, in arranging for the replacement of the ride of grass on grass cutter, trailer and attachments, be endorsed, along with the trade in or sale of equipment surplus to requirements.**

11.20 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chair invited members of the public present to address the Parish Council on items of concern or interest. Details were given of recent criminal damage in the village. There had also been a transit van parked up and abandoned causing a potential danger. It was suggested a purpose built cabin be built to house the new tractor. The Chair commented that may be part of a larger scheme for the use of the former bowling green area.

The Chair thanked all for their input and attendance.

12.20 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 26th February 2020 with a meeting of the Events working party being held on Tuesday 18th February 2020 at 6.30pm.**