

Minutes of the Meeting of Haswell Parish Council held on

Wednesday 30th September 2020 at 6.30pm held virtually and live on social media

Present:-

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

65.20 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors K Welch, J Cook and County Councillors E Huntington & I Cochrane.

66.20 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. None were received.

67.20 The Minutes of the Meeting Held on 29th July 2020

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.

68. 20 Finance

(a) To approve the monthly accounts payments for August/September 2020

The payments for August/September 2020 submitted to Members, previously circulated, listed below some of which had already been approved for payment, in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations.

Payments to:	goods/service received	Amount
DCC	3 new litter bins	£ 900.00
Earth Anchors	new noticeboard	898.80
GL & N R Tate	tractor fuel	124.80
Tyne Fire & Safety Ltd	basic service fire ext	39.00
2. For approval to pay:-		
Arco Ltd	PPE/workwear	171.34
K Tweddle	various (see receipts)	16.69
Ramsey	various (see invoices)	2,473.75
P Levitt	various (see receipts)	113.39

RESOLVED the action taken in making the payments as listed, totalling **£4,737.77**, be endorsed.

(b) To consider bank reconciliations for July & August 2020

Copies of the bank reconciliations had been circulated prior to the meeting. **RESOLVED the reconciliations be accepted.**

(c) 2021/22 Budget Planning – Tax Base and LCTRS Grant – letter from DCC

Members were advised of receipt of information from DCC with an indicative tax base and an indication of the parish's share of the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme (LCTRS) grant for the following year, for budget planning purposes. The net position was (£456.64). The actual tax base would be confirmed when the deadlines for submitting precept demands usually by no later than 24

January 2021. **RESOLVED the information given be noted and the January meeting be arranged on a suitable date to comply with this deadline.**

69.20. EXTERNAL AUDIT

The Clerk advised the statement was awaited and would be reported to the Council as soon as it was received. **RESOLVED the external audit statement be awaited.**

70.20 APPOINTMENT OF PART TIME GROUNDS PERSON

The Clerk gave an update on the filling of this part time vacancy with the Parish Council. **RESOLVED the action taken by the appointment panel, on behalf of the Council, be endorsed and a further update be awaited.**

71.20 HORTICULTURE PLAN FOR THE HASWELLS

The Clerk provided a verbal update to the Council following the two meetings held of the working group on held on 24th August and 14th September 2020. An invitation for residents to join the working party had been taken up by a local resident. Winter bedding and bulbs had been ordered. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**

72.20 PLANNING

There were no planning applications to report.

73.20 PAY AWARD 2020/21

Members were asked to agree and confirm payment of the nationally agreed pay increase of 2.75% as per the NJC terms and conditions. **RESOLVED approval be given for the pay ward to be paid to the parish council's two,(three) employees.**

74.20 ANNUAL MEETING – ADVICE FROM NALC

Members were given a summary of the advice received from NALC re the holding of an annual meeting where it was noted it was suggested the meeting would now be delayed until May 2021. It was also reported the NALC position remained that they recommend that councils continue to meet remotely. MHCLG continued to recommend that where meetings can take place digitally without the need for face to face contact, they should continue to do so. **RESOLVED the information given be noted and further updates be awaited.**

75.20 MEMBER'S REPORTS

Councillor Major asked if contact could be made with the footballers to ask them to park considerately as they were causing a nuisance at the top of Windsor Street. **RESOLVED the Clerk contact the football teams re the parking issues.** She spoke about her concerns at the road to Shotton being classified as 60mph and the Chair explained the history of this which was accepted.

Councillor Hartley had no reports to make.

Councillor Grey reported the flooding on the road past Mazine Terrace was so severe it was making the road impassable. **RESOLVED this be reported.** She spoke about the various plating schemes in other villages that she was looking into. She also reported on issues with a motorist starting their vehicle and causing a nuisance during the night and also about the Drs surgery closing in the village.

Councillor Wainwright had no further updates on the issues he was looking into with DCC.

Councillor Ramsey reported on issues with the Shotton/Peterlee Parachute site, in particular what appeared to be aggressive and stunts being performed by one of the airmen. It was **RESOLVED the Clerk take this up with the owners in the first instance.** He reported on issues with a vehicle in the

village that was off the road, along with a resident that had complained about an area becoming like a breakers yard.

Councillor Milburn spoke about this year's scarecrow competition which was lovely to see so many taking part and making an effort in such difficult times. She asked if a "No fly tipping" sign could be installed at Pesspool Lane.

The Chair reported it had been more difficult to arrange the scarecrow competition this year because of current restrictions due to the pandemic. He said first place went to Cruella de Ville, the Ingleby Family; the funniest went to the Morton Family and the councillor entry went to Councillor Wainwright. There had been 10 entries in total and Councillor Cochrane judged virtually using photographs. The chair thanked everyone for their efforts and for taking part.

76.20 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S UPDATE REPORT

Councillor Huntington and Cochrane offered their apologies to the meeting. It was asked that the Clerk make formal contact with the County Councillors that were responsible for Haswell Plough as they felt the residents there needed to be represented and supported.

77.20 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chair invited members of the public to address the Parish Council on items of concern or interest. There were 26 members of the public dialled into the meeting and several of them provided questions and feedback. It was asked what was happening with the wagon parking on the pavement at Haswell Plough. It was asked that repairs be arranged for the wooden fencing on the open areas in the village. There were thanks from a resident to the parish council for their hard work and all they do in the Haswells. In closing the Chair thanked everyone for their interest in the work of the Parish Council.

78.20 DATE & TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Agreed the next meeting be held on 28th October 2020 at 6.30pm (via Zoom).