

Minutes of the Meeting of Haswell Parish Council held on

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 6.30pm held virtually and live on social media

**Present:-**

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

**The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, both Councillors and members of the public watching on social media.**

**79.20 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors H Milburn, J Cook, A Wainwright and County Councillor I Cochrane.

**80.20 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.

**81.20 The Minutes of the Meeting Held on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

Matters Arising

(i) Skyhigh Skydiving

The Clerk reported receipt of a reply following concerns expressed by the Parish Council, a copy of which had been circulated to Members.

(ii) Feedback – County Councillors – Haswell Plough

The Clerk reported two of the three County Councillors had engaged positively with the Parish Council following contact.

(iii) Parking Issues – Windsor Terrace

The Clerk reported she had contacted the football teams and they assured of their co operation in encouraging teams to park sensibly and not cause a nuisance to residents.

**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, and the issues reported be noted.**

**82. 20 Finance**

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

The payments for September/October 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.

<b>Payments to:</b>	<b>goods/service received</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1. Already paid:-		
Scarecrow Comp	Funniest	10.00
Scarecrow Comp	First Prize	30.00
Thompson & Morgan	spring bulbs	124.95
zoom	standard monthly pro	14.39
2. <b>For approval to pay:-</b>		
G L & N R Tate	tractor fuel	62.40

E Major	Poppy wreath	20.00
Arco Ltd	PPE/workwear	74.46

**RESOLVED the action taken in making the payments as listed, totalling £336.20, be endorsed.**

(b) To consider bank reconciliation for September 2020

A copy of the bank reconciliation had been circulated prior to the meeting. **RESOLVED the reconciliation be accepted.**

(c) Durham Cathedral – request for support to rebuild and renew their mission

Members considered this request and all agreed this was an important landmark and recognised the Haswells Banner was housed at the Cathedral. **RESOLVED a grant of £250 be made towards this work.**

**83.20. 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.**

**84.20 APPOINTMENT OF PART TIME GROUNDS PERSON**

The Clerk gave an update reporting Mr Tom Pickles had started work with the Parish Council on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020. Members asked if a regular update and forward plan for Horticulture in the parish could be prepared and given at the meeting. **RESOLVED the information given be noted and the Clerk make a regular update to Council on the horticulture/grounds maintenance service.**

**85.20 HORTICULTURE PLAN FOR THE HASWELLS**

The Clerk provided a verbal update to the Council following the recent meeting held of the working group. At the meeting it was suggested the parish council find out if it was possible to adopt a piece of land at Haswell Plough next to Gloucester/Kent Terrace. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted and contact be made with DCC to see if adoption of the land as indicated might be possible.**

**86.20 PLANNING**

There were two planning applications to report:-

- Land to the West of 12 Grousemoor, erection of boundary wall, and
- Pear Tree Cottage, Pesspool Lane, detached garage.

Members had no comments to offer on these applications. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**

**87.20 MEMBER'S REPORTS**

Councillor Ramsey reported he had been in contact with a company relating to HGVs and they were taking the issues given, on board. He reported he had ordered the two Christmas Trees for the villages.

Councillor Grey made reference to grant funding for Mencap. The Chair explained funding requests had been made to parishes where the users of the service live. It was clarified that the Parish Council had not received any requests from Mencap. Councillor Grey reported she had seen DCC workmen measuring the road in Mazine Terrace and she hoped this was to make repairs where it was flooding. It was reported new planters had been ordered and Members were asked to advise the Clerk if they had a particular site(s) where they would like planters to be located. It was asked if a directional sign could be arranged for pedestrians to the Parish fields. It was reported the owner of the Gables has asked to plant a tree in the parish, and this was agreed. Councillor Grey reported

she was to meet with a local builder on site about proposals for changing rooms to complement the parish council playing fields.

The Chair updated everyone on advice with regard to Remembrance Sunday and how the COVID 19 restrictions had affected the usual way in which the services were honoured. A wreath would be laid on behalf of the Parish Council and he asked residents to commemorate the day privately. During discussions it was agreed St Pauls church be lit up red on the afternoon of 8<sup>th</sup> November. There was consideration of what date the Christmas trees should be lit and it was agreed this be left with Councillor Ramsey after he had spoken to the suppliers of the trees and a date agreed on or before the next meeting. It was agreed the lights for outside the community centre be tested and repaired and lights for the two trees be repaired/purchased.

The Chair advised he had been approached by a Northern League Football Team showing an interest in re locating to and using the parish council's football fields. Using it as their home ground, they required changing rooms, barriers, stands. It had been stressed existing community use by local teams would have to be honoured. He felt it would be beneficial to the village. It would be on a lease basis and the land would still belong to the parish council. He had asked, if Council were agreeable, if they would meet with representatives of the parish council to discuss this further and this was agreed.

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

Councillor Cochrane offered his apologies to the meeting. County Councillor Hovvells had been keeping in contact with the Parish Council and had been keeping them updated on DCC issues. Councillor Grant had also been in touch on behalf of herself and Councillor Brookes.

#### **89.20 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chair invited members of the public to address the Parish Council on items of concern or interest. There were 50 or so members of the public dialled into the meeting and several of them provided questions and feedback. The Council were delighted that so many people were interested in joining us live at the meeting. Several issues were raised, a footpath from Haswell Plough to the Blue house; requests for more grit bins; help for the church; bonfire night, welcome for the new gardener; poppies in windows; whether a local bus stop was being replaced and empty houses on Front Street.

**The Chair, on behalf of the Council, again thanked those on social media showing an interest in the work and efforts of the Parish Council.**

#### **90.20 DATE & TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING**

**Agreed the next meeting be held on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 6.30pm (via Zoom).**