

Minutes of the Meeting of Haswell Parish Council held on

Wednesday 28th July 2021 at 6.30pm held in the meeting room, Lisa Dixon Centre, Haswell

Present:-

Cllrs C R HOOD (Chair), E Major, O Gray, S Hartley, J Wainwright, K Welch, A Wainwright & W Ramsey
County Councillors J Miller & C R Hood

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Parish Council.

97.21 Apologies

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Millburn & County Councillors Varty, Hovvels and Cochrane.

98.21 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.

99.21 The Minutes of the Meeting Held on 30th June 2021, were agreed and signed as a true and correct record.

Matters Arising - Christmas Trees for the Haswells

The report of the Clerk outlining the costs provided by DCC to install a permanent electrical supply and erect and light two trees was considered. Whilst this was the aim of the parish council, it was agreed funding sources be investigated for future years and it was **RESOLVED the Christmas Trees for 2021 be sourced, erected and lit in house and two trees be provided in Haswell and Haswell Plough.**

100.21 Police Report/Update

The Police offered their apologies but offered their report as follows:-

ASB Nuisance- 1 – unknown person looking through bins (believed for cigarette ends) and knocking on doors in Haswell Plough;

ASB Environmental- 0

ASB Personal- 0

Burglary- 0

Criminal Damage- 2 - Damage to a fence by a vehicle in Haswell and Damage to vehicle window in Haswell

Theft and Handling- 0

Vehicle- 0

It was reported the Police next On-line Pact meeting will be held on our Seaham and Easington Police Facebook page on Saturday 28th August 2021 at 5pm to 6pm. **RESOLVED the report be accepted and the information given, be noted.**

101.21 General Power of Competence

RESOLVED Haswell Parish Council confirm its ongoing eligibility to use the power of GPC as per the Parish (GPC) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 and Localism Act 2011, on the basis that the Clerk

holds the mandatory certificate (CiLCA) qualification and that more than two thirds of the Council had stood for election in May 2021.

102.21 Finance

(a) To approve the monthly accounts payments for June/July 2021

The payments for June/July 2021 submitted to Members, previously circulated, listed below some of which had already been approved for payment, in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations:-

Accounts Already Paid

zoom	standard monthly pro	14.39
N Power	lighting	324.24
	Lighting	558.93
Asbestos Audit Ltd	site survey	108.00

2. For approval to pay:-

Horns	rainbow bed	816.26
Arco	gloves	43.20
Tates	tractor fuel	64.32
DCC	play area re[airs	300.00
W Ramsay	various	660.00

RESOLVED the action taken in making the payments as listed, totalling £2,889.34 be endorsed.

(b) To consider the bank reconciliation for June 2021

A copy of the bank reconciliation had been circulated prior to the meeting. **RESOLVED the reconciliation for June 2021, be accepted.**

103.21 Hazelwell Centre Multi Use Games Area repairs and making good of all defects

As requested a copy of the reply received from the Trustees of the Hazelwell Centre had been circulated to each Member. **RESOLVED progress be requested and this matter be re considered at the next meeting.**

104.21 Horticulture Plan for the Haswells

There was a verbal update by the Clerk on progress with grounds maintenance and horticulture in the village as prepared and given by the Groundstaff. Members also considered the report of the Clerk with regard to wild flower planting. **RESOLVED wildflower planting be embraced and sites be planted as follows:-**

- **Both sides of the road at the entrance to the village at the Rainbow bed;**
- **Both sides of the road from Haswell Plough to the blue house;**
- **The green at Gloucester/Kent Terrace**
- **Both sides of the road coming into the village from South Hetton**
- **The sites already identified by the ground staff at the former pit memorial and outside the Nursery.**

105.21. Planning

Land to the East of 9 Front Street, outline application for the erection of 3 houses

RESOLVED the Parish Council's concerns be expressed on traffic safety at the access/egress of the site.

106.21 Haswell Neighbourhood Plan

Members considered a proposal for a consultant to complete the Neighbourhood Plan for the Haswells. Following discussion it was **RESOLVED Ms Garrick be invited to the next meeting to present her proposal.**

107.21 HR & Health & Safety Support from Ellis Whittam

The Clerk gave a verbal progress report to Council confirming the on site health & safety audit had taken place on Thursday 22nd July 2021 and the report and actions arising from the visit would be reported to the next meeting. **RESOLVED the reports be awaited.**

108.21 Member's Reports

Councillor A Wainwright asked for progress on the race course fencing being painted. The chair advised he was in discussions with the probation service about this work and he would report on progress. He asked about progress with speed monitoring in the village and the Chair reported he had completed the required Speedwatch application form to apply for speedwatch in the Haswells. Progress with enquiries about Public Space Protection Orders was also provided.

Councillor J Wainwright provided progress with a petition to DCC requesting a footpath be installed from Haswell Plough to the Blue House and she asked Members on their preferences for an e petition and/or a hard copy carried out by canvassing door to door. It was suggested the carnival could be used to capture resident's opinions on the proposal. She requested an update on the burnt out building on Front Street, where the Chair assured he was pursuing this with DCC Officers. She reported on a very productive site visit with the County Councillor Miller at Haswell Plough considering public seating and other items. She suggested a source of funding could be the Windfarm Fund.

Councillor Hartley reported on outstanding horticulture works on the planting of the tyres and completion of the Haswell Plough Rainbow bed.

Councillor Major reported on the recent roadworks, with drain covers still in place and the new road surfaces being very slippery when wet. She was also concerned at the increase in dog fouling on the parish playing fields.

Councillor Ramsey spoke on the drain covers and the seating at Haswell Plough. He reported he had received a number of telephone calls from residents about the rainbow bed at Haswell Plough being incomplete. He asked again if a de fibrillator could be considered for Haswell Plough and there were various suggestions made regarding possible funding sources and also the potential to have access to a machine via another organisation and it was asked the Clerk explore this further. There was discussion on the use of petty cash and a fuel card.

Councillor Grey said she felt the path between Haswell Plough and the Blue House was a priority. She thanked Councillor Miller for taking the time to visit Haswell Plough, she felt this demonstrated his commitment to work for the residents of Haswell Plough. She asked that progress be made with the sports changing rooms project. In considering this item members were asked to consider the season fees for the football facilities and it was **RESOLVED the fees remain at £200.00 for the season.** The footballers had asked that consideration be given to the field being rolled. And it was agreed this be looked into. She reported on road repairs and speeding vehicles at the Plough. Litter bins on the road from Haswell Plough to Haswell were requested.

Councillor Welch requested a seat be installed on the corner of Front Street/Dent Close, there had been one there previously when there was the Co op Store there. She spoke about future events, including a Memory Walk and Tree Planting for 11 September 2021.

Councillor Hood reported the bands had been booked in for the Carnival and they were The New Note, Danielle Parker, the Brit Pack and closing with DJ Lee Robinson. He spoke about future events

for the Autumn with the Scarecrow Competition 20 – 26 September with a celebration event on Sunday 26th September and Halloween House 25 – 31 October with a celebration event on 31st October 2021. **RESOLVED the reports be noted and action taken where appropriate.**

109.21 County Councillor's Update Report

Councillor Miller offered details for a contact for portable/cabin units for the changing rooms. He provided a progress report on the items picked up following the site visit to Haswell Plough. He gave progress on the road surfacing programme. He suggested Wind Farm Funding for grants towards various projects. Councillor Miller asked for member's preferences with regards to the installation of a new seat at Haswell Plough and they confirmed they would like the seat installed as soon as possible.

Councillor Hood reported on behalf of Haswell and Haswell Plough, he had:

- “Started off monthly county councillor surgeries in Haswell for residents to attend.
- Launched a campaign to find new volunteers to join the new Speedwatch scheme in Haswell.
- Became a county council representative on the East Durham AAP to represent the people of Haswell.
- Arranged temporary Fly tipping signage in three locations across Haswell.
- Resolved the issue with the Doctors Surgery in Haswell. New shutters are being installed.
- Met with the Covert CCTV team regarding fly tipping across Haswell.
- Arranged for Durham PCC Joy Allen to attend a future Haswell Parish Council meeting.
- Started developing the new Youth Council for our three villages. More details to follow....
- Developed a new PEOPLE (and) POWER project. More details to follow.

On behalf of all three villages, I have also:

- Chaired my first Children & Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Friday 23rd July 2021.
- Attended Police & Crime Panel Training for Durham County Council.
- Attended the July 2021 Full Council meeting of Durham County Council. This again took place at Spennymoor Leisure Centre due to Covid-19 restrictions.
- Liaised on behalf of several social housing residents' issues regarding their properties.
- Spoke with Environmental Services regarding grass cutting cycles for the three villages.
- Promoted the annual Durham County Council household canvass.
- Attended today's special Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting regarding the future of the DLI Museum at Aykley Heads.
- Met (virtually) with Mrs Karen Hudson - Chair of Governors for Shotton Primary School to discuss my new involvement as a governor.
- Made house visits to residents in South Hetton and Shotton Colliery.
- Attended a regional meeting with Believe Housing to discuss residents' issues and concerns.
- Discussed future plans with Shotton Colliery FC Chairman, Gareth Coxon.
- Informed residents about emergency road works that would affect homes and streets in Shotton Colliery.
- Liaised with Home Group regarding residential issues in the villages.
- Shared the Durham Police and Crime Plan Consultation - www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/VS3KTX9

I attended the following DCC committees:

Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Fri 23rd July 2021

I asked two questions at the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee. They were directed at the heads of department within the service to find out more information about two very important issues.

The first question was about the link between retention rates and caseloads of social workers in County Durham and how many agency staff we currently use. I believe building relationships is key to long-term success for social workers and children alike, and this is obviously difficult if staff are not consistent. The second question was about young people who are classed as NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) and the councils plans going forward with DurhamWorks - a dedicated programme for young people aged 16-24 living in County Durham who are not in education, employment or training. I wanted to hear about future plans for the project due to current funding ending in December 2021 and what plans there are to engage more young people within the project.

You can hear both my questions and the answers provided in the following link:

www.facebook.com/CllrChrisHood/videos/548672569488657

Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee – Wed 28 July 2021

I made the statement that I believe that the area is sacred, especially as the grounds are the final resting place of many sets of ashes, both scattered and interned. I continued by saying that I found the comments from the DLI Trustees incredible that they had “no ties” to the site and “there is therefore little, other than fond memories of the museum, that is of regimental interest at Aykley Heads”. I believe that it means a lot to the family and friends of those who served in our county's only regiment.

You can hear my statement in the following link: <https://fb.watch/71eirHPx4o/>

As always, I continue to meet with residents and report things such as potholes and fly tipping, but also for things like council payments, tree surveys, environmental issues, disabled parking badges and boundary disputes. These issues are obviously very personal (and therefore confidential). If there are any further issues, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will take forward to county hall. Best Wishes, **Cllr. Chris Hood**, chris.hood@durham.gov.uk 07880174811

110.21. Public Participation

There were no questions via social media and one query was asked at the meeting by a member of the public re an old scrap wagon on Front Street.

111.21 Date & Time of the Next Meeting

RESOLVED there would be an August recess and the next meeting shall be 29th September 2021 at 6.30pm at Lisa Dixon/Mencap Meeting Room, Haswell and on line on zoom/social media for the public