



Haswell Parish Council

**Minutes of the Meeting of Haswell Parish Council held on**

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 6.30pm at St Paul's Church**

**Present**

Cllrs A Wainwright (Chair), O Gray, CR Hood, E Major, S Hartley & W Ramsey, A Morton, C Overton.

County Cllrs C R Hood, I Cochrane, L Hovvels.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from County Cllrs C Varty, J Miller

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

The Chair asked for the agreement of the Parish Council that item 6 on the agenda be heard prior to consideration of other agenda items. This was agreed.

**6. Police and Crime Commissioner**

The Police and Crime Commissioner Joy Allen attended the meeting to present the Durham Police and Crime Plan. This is a strategic plan. The priorities are: Safer Business, Safer Communities, Safer Online, Safer People, Safer Roads, Safer Countryside. This includes issues such as antisocial behavior, drugs, fly tipping, speeding, vandalism and many more. There are 170 actions in the plan which have to be delivered by the Police and Crime Commissioner working closely with Durham Constabulary.

The Commissioner reported that crime is increasing but that the reporting of crime is an issue and this plays into the hands of criminals. Only 37 % of people surveyed said that they reported crimes most likely to be to do with the fear of repercussions. Various initiatives have therefore been put in place to encourage people to report crimes such as 'Crime Stoppers', 'Fearless' and 'Keep in the Know', being able to report on line and 101.

A member of the public commented that Durham Constabulary needed to improve communication. Recent experience had left the person feeling that the 101 response was useless and that there was no communication with other forces across borders. Commissioner Allen reported that further investment was going into 101 and that Durham is buddies with Northumberland for 999 calls which can have an impact on the response from 101. She stated that Durham do work across borders with other counties. However, she did agree to look into the matter further and take it forward.

Commissioner Allen stated that she wanted to work more closely with Parish and Town Councils. Cllr Wainwright highlighted some of the areas of concern within Haswell and Haswell Plough that had previously been circulated to Commissioner Allen. These were: Speeding, Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), Quad Bikes Trial Bikes, Policing in the Parish, Police engagement with the Parish Council.

Commissioner Allen stated that ASB is a top priority and there is a commitment to invest in this in the East of Durham. She stated that speeding is also a priority and that there was commitment to invest in speed watch devices, 'Community Speed Watch' and enforcement vans. She stated that the Parish Council should be receiving a 'Neighbourhood Newsletter' and she would be happy to attend any community group meetings.

**Resolved that the matters raised be noted.**

The Police and Crime Commissioner and County Councillors I Cochrane and L Hovvels left the meeting

**2. Code of Conduct – Declaration of Interests**

No declarations of interest were received.

**3. Items for Any Other Business**

No items of Any Other Business were received.

**4. The Minutes of the Meeting Held on 25th May 2022**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> May were agreed as a true and correct record subject to some minor amendments.

**5. Matters Arising and Action Points from the Minutes Held on 25th May 2022**

To consider any matters arising /action points from the previous minutes which are not included elsewhere on the agenda.

<b>Action Point</b>	<b>ACTION/ UPDATE</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>Action Status</b>
8.1	Speed Indicators on Salters Lane – further enquiries to be made with Durham County Council.	Cllr Hood	<b>OPEN</b>
<i>Action/Update</i>	<i>Cllr Hood has requested a follow up meeting with Officers from Durham CC and is still awaiting a response.</i>		
8.2	Painting of the race course fencing. Parish Council to obtain costings and consider funding.	Cllr Hood	<b>OPEN</b>
<i>Action /Update</i>	<i>Cllr Hood is still looking into this matter.</i>		
8.3	Demolished property on Front Street - awaiting an outcome from Durham County Council	Cllr Hood	<b>OPEN</b>

Action Point	ACTION/ UPDATE	RESPONSIBLE	Action Status
<i>Action /Update</i>	<i>Durham County Council have served a Notice on the owners of the property in which they have 28 days to comply and carry out the remedial works. It was noted that the property is now being painted though the Notice did require the property to be rendered. Cllr Hood to continue to pursue Durham regarding this issue.</i>		
8.4	Grey Horse – Further enquiries to be made with Durham County Council.	Cllr Hood /Cllr A Wainwright/ Clerk	<b>OPEN</b>
<i>Action /Update</i>	<i>Following further enquiries, it was reported that a painter had been commissioned by the Grey Horse owners. Cllr Hood to continue to pursue Durham County Council regarding this issue.</i>		
8.6	Flooding – Haswell Plough and Mazine Tce	County Cllr Miller	<b>OPEN</b>
<i>Action /Update</i>	<i>Cllr Miller was not in attendance to report on the issue.</i>		
8.11	Football Team Changing Rooms – investigate fully fitted container	Cllr Ramsey	<b>OPEN</b>
<i>Action</i>	<i>Cllr Ramsey reported that the changing rooms had been purchased and delivered. The footballers are delighted and the further work to be undertaken regarding power, water etc will be undertaken in due course. It was discussed that it would be worth investigating cladding at a later date.</i>		
8.12	Triangle of Land – Gloucester Tce – investigate option of peppercorn rent	Cllr Hood	<b>OPEN</b>
<i>Action</i>	<i>No further response from Durham County Council – escalated with Cabinet.</i>		
8.13	Football team changing rooms – investigate the issue of planning permission.	Cllr Hood/ Clerk	<b>OPEN</b>
<i>Action</i>	<i>Cllr Hood has received a response from the planning officer. Due to the dimensions no planning permission will be required but it should be placed in an appropriate position due to potential concerns from Sport England.</i>		

Action Point	ACTION/ UPDATE	RESPONSIBLE	Action Status
	<i>Clerk to send dimensions over to Durham County Council.</i>		
8.14	Additional signatories required.	Cllr Gray /Clerk	<b>OPEN</b>
	<i>Banking arrangements are being addressed</i>		
8.15	CCTV for Parish Council facilities. Further investigations to be undertaken.	Cllr Hood/Clerk	<b>OPEN</b>
	<i>Cllr C R Hood has made enquiries with South Hetton PC. The details have been provided to the Clerk to follow up.</i>		
8.16	Horticultural meetings to resume.	Parish Council /Cllr Gray	<b>OPEN</b>
	<i>Meetings have resumed and a plan is being developed – next meeting 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022. Plants have been purchased for all planters.</i>		
8.17	Carnival meetings to resume.	Parish Council/ Clerk	<b>OPEN</b>
	<i>No further meetings have taken place but arrangements are ongoing. Clerk to arrange a further meeting.</i>		
8.19	Investigate the possibility of having a contract with a local nursery to grow plants for the Parish Council.	Cllr Gray	<b>OPEN</b>
	<i>The Shaw Trust at Seaham have been approached to provide the plants for next year. The costs are £1505 Summer Plants £1004 Winter Plants £2509 Total Various local nurseries have been approached and many are closing or unable to assist. It was agreed to go ahead with purchasing the plants from the Shaw Trust. Cllr Gray to pursue.</i>		
8.20	New larger container for Groundstaff.	Cllr Ramsey	<b>OPEN</b>
	<i>Cllr Ramsey reported that he is having difficulty finding a suitable container as the prices are going up very fast. They have doubled in the last 2 years. Cllr Ramsey will continue to persue.</i>		
8.22	Children activities in village – Pump Track – further investigations and costings	Cllr Hood	<b>OPEN</b>

Action Point	ACTION/ UPDATE	RESPONSIBLE	Action Status
	<i>Cllr Hood is having a meeting with planning to pursue the matter.</i>		
8.23	The Parish Council to write a letter to Durham County Council regarding the Grey Horse and the demolished property on Front Street.	Cllr A Wainwright / Clerk	OPEN
	<i>Cllr Wainwright reported that a letter had been sent to Durham County Council on behalf of Haswell Parish Council raising concerns about both properties on Front Street. A response is still awaited.</i>		
8.24	The Parish Council to purchase lights for the Haswell Pit Head and improve the facilities at the Pitt.	Cllr Hood / Parish Council	OPEN
	Cllr Hood is pursuing this matter.		
8.25	Cllrs Overton and Morton to be sent the links to the policies.	Clerk	CLOSED
	Links to the policies have been sent to Cllrs Overton and Morton		
8.26	Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2021/22 to be completed, submitted and approved by the Parish Council by 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2022.	Clerk	CLOSED
	Submitted to the Parish Council 29 <sup>th</sup> June 2022.		
8.27	Internal Audit Report for consideration and acceptance and Assurance by Risk Area to be completed, submitted and approved by the Parish Council by 30 <sup>th</sup> June.	Clerk	CLOSED
	Submitted to the Parish Council 29 <sup>th</sup> June 2022		
8.28	Path between Haswell Plough and Shotton – reduce the costs – Cllr C Overton to look at whether the Parish Council could get materials at a lower cost.	Cllr Overton	OPEN
	Cllr Hood is pursuing this matter.		
8.29	Parish Council to facilitate the installation of seat in memory of a Parishioner.	Cllr Hood	OPEN
	Cllr Hood to pursue this matter		

Action Point	ACTION/ UPDATE	RESPONSIBLE	Action Status
8.30	A grant to be provided to Haswell Mencap subject to a more detailed business case.	Clerk	OPEN
	A business case had been provided. It was agreed that a £3000 grant would be provided.		

## Resolved

- That the actions being taken were noted.
- That the Shaw Trust be approached to provide the flowers for the villages for next year.
- That the £3000 grant to Haswell and District Mencap be awarded

## 7. Police Report / Update

Police Officers from Durham Constabulary were unable to attend but sent the following report:

Total calls - 37

ASB – 3

Personal – 0

Nuisance and Environmental – 3

- 03/06/22 – Howarth Terrace - Unknown adult males drinking alcohol and riding a motorbike around the area – NPT seized a motorbike as abandoned from the Howarth Terrace area.
- 11/06/22 – Windsor Terrace - X2 unknown intoxicated males kicking at a bus stop
- 18/06/22 – Richmond Terrace – egg thrown at a property window.

Burglary – 0

Criminal Damage- 5

- 26/05/22 – McAteer Court – windows damaged X2 – Closed, full investigation complete with no suspect identified.
- 30/05/22 – Pesspool Avenue – Object thrown at window causing glass to crack – Closed, full investigation complete with no suspect identified.
- 02/06/22 – Front Street – Brick thrown at window causing damage – Open Investigation
- 20/06/22 – Pesspool Avenue – Bricks thrown at windows causing damage – Closed, full investigation complete with no suspect identified.

Theft and Handling- 2

- 27/05/22 – Faraday Terrace – Male cuts DVLA clamps off vehicle and puts clamps in boot of
- vehicle and drives off – Closed, full investigation complete and no suspect identified.
- 14/06/22 – Front Street – Theft of pedal cycle – Open investigation.

#### Vehicle- 1

- 25/06/22 – Phillips Close – Delivery van with keys left in ignition stolen whilst delivery was made – Open investigation.

#### Other –

#### PACT Meeting details –

- 6th July – 6pm to 7pm – Online Pact meeting – Officers from local Policing team will be available online via the Seaham and Easington Police Facebook page using the Messenger service.
- 11th July – 10am to 11am - Mobile Pact Meeting – Officers from the local Policing team will be available at the Howarth Terrace Car park, opposite the green.
- A Warrant was conducted on Wednesday 8th June on East Villas. This is still an open investigation with our CID.

**Resolved that the information contained within the report be noted.**

### **8. Correspondence and Funding Requests**

A request has been received for the use of the football field for a youth football team on a Saturday morning.

**Resolved that this be agreed at a cost of £200**

### **9. Finance**

(a) The monthly accounts payments for April & May 2022 were approved.

(b) The bank reconciliation for April & May 2022 was approved.

**Resolved that the monthly accounts and bank reconciliation be approved.**

### **10. Audit**

#### Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/2022

- The Internal Audit Report and Assurance by Risk Area was considered and accepted
- Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2021/22 was considered, approved and signed by the Chair
- Section 2 – Accounting Statements for 2020/21 was considered, approved and signed by the Chair.

- (d) The Summary of Payments and Receipts for the Year Ended 31st March 2022 was approved and signed by the Chair.
- (e) Bank Cash and Investment Reconciliation as at 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022 was considered and approved

**Resolved that the above documents are approved.**

### **11. Planning**

There were no planning applications within or impacting upon the Parish

### **12. Strategic Planning**

- (a) Neighbourhood Plan.

The proposal for the Neighbourhood Plan from the consultant Jo-Anne Garrick was considered and agreed. The next step is to apply for the grant to develop the Plan.

**Resolved that the Clerk makes the application for the grant.**

- (b) Strategic Priorities

A discussion took place regarding the strategic priorities for the Parish Council. The initial areas identified were; Heritage – for example the stone of Parish Field to have a commentary board, improved car parking at the Pitt and lighting, seating and floral displays in the centre of the village.

It was agreed that a further discussion regarding priorities should take place at the next meeting.

**Resolved that a further discussion regarding strategic priorities takes place at the next meeting.**

### **13. Sub Group Meetings**

This was discussed under Agenda Item 5.

### **14. Members Reports**

Cllr Hood reported that the missing fencing and the condition of the paths had been reported to Durham County Council.

Cllr Hood requested that the Parish Trips for all members of the community resume in the summer. Prices had been received for trips to Holy Island, York, Scarborough and Durham. The cost is £1900. This was agreed by Parish Councillors.

**Resolved that the Parish Trips be resumed and booked as detailed above.**

### **15. County Councillor's Update Report**

County Cllr Hood provided the following report:

As always, I am privileged to be working in partnership with this parish council and the residents of Haswell.



Since my last report, and on behalf of Haswell, here are just some of the things I have worked at on behalf of the village:

- Reported the three missing drain covers that are on Salters Lane between Haswell and the Blue House. For reference, it is logged as FS-Case-425073548.
- Logged the potholes on Richmond Terrace in Haswell for repair. For reference it is logged as FS-Code-425111062
- Asked the team to come out and cut back the hedges around the bus stop at the junction of Gloucester Terrace and Hessewelle Crescent/Church Street in Haswell Plough (FS-Case-426317289)
- Reported the potholes on Chapel Lane in Haswell (FS-Case-426686476)
- Reported the Fly tipping that had taken place on Burt Close, Haswell. It was removed the next day
- Reported the issues residents were having when passing through the roadworks on Salters Lane near the Blue House
- Reported the several missing drain covers along Salters Lane
- Reported the obstruction at The Blue House junction that had been left, causing issues for residents
- Reported the damaged fence and roots at junction of Station Street and Kestrel Way, Haswell- Reference: FS-Case-431275723
- Reported the potholes on Dent Close, Haswell - Reference: FS-Case-431287519
- Reported the damaged fence on Burt Close at entrance to Haswell Mencap Car Park - Reference: FS-Case-431290760
- Logged the potholes on Phillips Close, Haswell - Reference: FS-Case-431294860
- Asked for the White lining missing off speed bump on Phillips Close, Haswell to be re-painted- Reference: FS-Case-431297555
- Reported the birdsmouth Fencing missing at rear of 1 Church View, Haswell - Reference: FS-Case-431300015
- Asked for all of footpath on Church View, Haswell to be included in the annual maintenance programme - Reference: FS-Case-431304091
- Logged the missing safety fence missing outside Giant Steps Nursery, Church Street, Haswell - Reference: FS-Case-431313409
- Logged the glass on road at 4 Kingston Crescent, Haswell - Reference: FS-Case-431314933
- Reported the poor road surface on Richmond Terrace, Haswell - Reference: FS-Case-431316608
- Reported the poor road surface on George Street, Haswell - Reference: FS-Case-431317164
- Logged the potholes top of Pesspool Avenue, Haswell - Reference: FS-Case-431317676
- Reported the fly tipping on George Street, Haswell (Trampoline and bed) - Reference: FS-Case-431319137
- Logged the missing Fencing at Philips Close, Haswell - Reference: FS-Case-431319916
- Logged the overgrown Hedging along Salters Lane from Haswell to Shotton - Reference: FS-Case-431321060
- On behalf of all three villages, I have also:
- Informed residents of the £200 grant for ex-miners and their partners.

- Attended a special joint scrutiny meeting at DCC to examine Transport policy and activity in County Durham and the wider region.
- As it's Chair, held a meeting to plan the work schedule of the DCC Children & Young Peoples Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the forthcoming year.
- Reminded residents of the chance to take part in the consultation into Pharmacies in County Durham.
- Attended the DCC Joint Administration Cabinet meeting at County Hall.
- Attended the DCC Corporate Parenting meeting at County Hall.
- Attended the Durham County Council meeting to look at improving the council's civil contingency plans in response to Storm Arwen and the 12 initial conclusions.
- Updated residents on the financial support available to households from Durham County Council.
- Informed residents that The Gypsy, Roma, Traveller Service and Community Cohesion Team are hosting a series of events across County Durham to celebrate Gypsy, Roma and Traveller History Month in June 2022.
- Met with Rev. Ali Williams from The Little House of Hope and Alice Morton Eddy, the Centre Manager of a new Christians Against Poverty UK debt counselling service to see how I can support their work in our three villages.
- Attended the 2022 Durham County Council AGM, where a new Chairman and Vice-Chairman were voted in for the forthcoming year.
- Helped announce the two charities selected by the Chairman of Durham County Council for the forthcoming year. I'm delighted that she has selected Haswell & District Mencap as one of them.
- Invited residents to have their say on the £20 million Levelling Up plans for Horden.
- Attended the City of Culture 2025 announcement event at Beamish where we unfortunately were announced runners up to eventual winners Bradford.
- Shared the new safety guide for cyclists using County Durham's country roads.
- Attended the Thanksgiving service at Durham Cathedral in honour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee, where my daughter was part of the Platinum Choir.
- Shared information on Durham County Council's Carers Week.
- Informed residents of our efforts to secure up to £117m of investment in County Durham through the government's 'Levelling Up' scheme.
- Let everyone know our new targets to tackle climate change at Durham County Council
- Announced information about Free Home Energy Advice.

## **16. Any Other Business**

There were no items of Any Other Business

## **17. Public Participation**

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

In relation to Agenda Item 12(b) a member of the public stated that the history of Haswell should be celebrated more as there is a huge amount of history in the area. For example; an iron age encampment was revealed when Transco were laying gas pipes a number of years ago and consequently there was a full archeological dig; High Haswell is the original village;

there is evidence that the Romans settled in Haswell; Haswell Pitt was a pioneering Pitt as it was the first Pitt to have the safety cage and the safety lamp. Councillors agreed that this history should be celebrated and captured within the Neighbourhood Plan and priorities.

#### **18. Date & Time of the Next Meeting**

The next meeting shall be held on the 27<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 6.30pm in the meeting room at St Pauls Church, Church Street, DH6 2DT Haswell.