



Haswell Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Haswell Parish Council held on

Wednesday 27th July 2022 at 6.30pm at St Paul's Church

Present

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

County Cllrs C R Hood, J Miller,

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr A Morton and County Cllrs L Hovvells, C Varty.

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

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 29th June 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on the 29th June were agreed as a true and correct record subject to some minor amendments.

5. Matters Arising and Action Points from the Minutes Held on 29th June 2022

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

Action Point	ACTION/ UPDATE	RESPONSIBLE	Action Status
8.1	Speed Indicators on Salters Lane – further enquiries to be made with Durham County Council.	Cllr Hood	OPEN
	<i>Cllr Hood has requested a follow up meeting with Officers from Durham CC and is still awaiting a response.</i>		

Action Point	ACTION/ UPDATE	RESPONSIBLE	Action Status
8.2	Painting of the race course fencing. Parish Council to obtain costings and consider funding.	Cllr Hood	OPEN
	<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	OPEN
	<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	OPEN
	<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	OPEN
	<i>County Cllr Miller reported that the problem had been resolved but would make further enquiries.</i>		
8.11	Football Team Changing Rooms – investigate fully fitted container	Cllr Ramsey	CLOSED
	<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. investigate cladding at a later date.</i>		
8.12	Triangle of Land – Gloucester Tce – investigate option of peppercorn rent	Cllr Hood	OPEN
	<i>No further response from Durham County Council – escalated with Cabinet.</i>		

Action Point	ACTION/ UPDATE	RESPONSIBLE	Action Status
8.13	Football team changing rooms – investigate the issue of planning permission.	Cllr Hood/ Clerk	CLOSED
	<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. This has been done.</i>		
8.14	Additional signatories required.	Cllr Gray /Clerk	OPEN
	<i>Banking arrangements are being addressed</i>		
8.15	CCTV for Parish Council facilities. Further investigations to be undertaken.	Clerk	OPEN
	<i>Cllr C R Hood has provided details to the Clerk to follow up.</i>		
8.16	Horticultural meetings to resume.	Parish Council /Cllr Gray / Clerk	CLOSED
	<i>Meetings have resumed and a plan is being developed. Further meeting took place 13th July.</i>		
8.17	Carnival meetings to resume.	Parish Council/ Clerk	CLOSED
	<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	CLOSED
	<i>The Shaw Trust at Seaham to provide the plants for the winter bedding.</i>		
8.20	New larger container for Groundstaff.	Cllr Ramsey	OPEN
	<i>Cllr Ramsey reported that he is continuing to have 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 pursue.</i>		
8.22	Children activities in village – Pump Track – further investigations and costings	Cllr Hood	OPEN
	<i>Cllr Hood is pursuing this but is still waiting for a meeting to take place.</i>		

Action Point	ACTION/ UPDATE	RESPONSIBLE	Action Status
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>A letter has been written and a response has been received reiterating what planning have done over the years. Cllr Wainwright and Clerk to pursue further.</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
	<i>Cllr Hood is pursuing this matter.</i>		
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
	<i>Cllr Hood is pursuing this matter.</i>		
8.29	Parish Council to facilitate the installation of seat in memory of a Parishioner.	Cllr Hood	OPEN
	<i>Cllr Hood to pursue this matter</i>		
8.31	Apply for a grant for the Neighbourhood Plan	Clerk	OPEN
	<i>Due to specified timeframes in the application framework – grant will be applied for in September.</i>		

Resolved

- That the actions being taken were noted.

6. Police Report / Update

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

Haswell Parish report – 23/06/22 to 21/07/22

Total calls – 37

ASB – 2

Personal – 2

Nuisance and Environmental – 0

Burglary – 2

- 05/07/22 – Local Farm – Burglary reported where entry was gained to a barn but nothing taken – Closed, full investigation complete with no suspect identified.
- 07/07/22 – Pesspool Lane – Metal Container belonging to Highways England cut open but nothing taken – Closed, full investigation complete with no suspect identified.

Criminal Damage- 1

- 10/07/22 – Front Street – Unknown suspect kicks at front door causing damage – Open Investigation

Theft and Handling- 0

Vehicle- 1

- 28/06/22 – Pesspool Lane – Number plates stolen off a parked vehicle and placed onto another stolen vehicle in the area, the stolen vehicle was seized by officers – Open Investigation.

Other

PACT Meeting details –

- 3rd August – 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.
- 18th August - Haswell Pact Meeting – 6pm to 7pm – Lisa Dixon Centre (Mencap) – Officers from Easington Neighbourhood Policing team will be available to any residents.
- Over the weekend of 16th and 17th July officers from Easington Neighbourhood Policing Team took part in an Operation Endurance weekend of action. The aim of this was to tackle the use of illegal off-road bikes in the area. One off-road motorbike was seized by officers in the Dent Close area of Haswell.
- Keep In The Know is a messenger platform used by the Police to pass out local messages via email on local topics, for example dates and times of Pact meetings. If anyone would like to sign up to this please pass your name, date of birth, house number, post code and email address to your local officers

Cllrs also raised the issue of the theft of drain cover and requested an update from the Police. The Clerk to pursue this.

Resolved

- **that the information contained within the report be noted.**
- **That the Clerk would request and update from the Police regarding the theft of drain covers.**

7. Correspondence and Funding Requests

The Clerk reported that e mail correspondence had been received from East Durham AAP regarding the AAP Towns and Villages Fund (TVF) which is a devolved allocation of funds to each of the 14 AAPs to deliver localised projects to revitalise and enhance towns and villages. Projects can be capital or revenue with an aim to make a real difference and a significant impact to beneficiaries within their communities.

East Durham AAP have created a Towns and Villages Priority Group which has carried out research into the area to identify gaps in delivery and areas in need of investment. The East Durham AAP Board have considered this and allocated £20,000 to six settlements for projects that meet the criteria of the Towns and Villages fund. TVF projects should clearly demonstrate a link to the revitalisation of towns and villages within the AAP and be themed around a number of areas. A meeting has been requested after the school holidays to discuss potential projects that the Parish Council would like to consider submitting to the AAP. This can be in person or via Teams.

Resolved that the Clerk would request a meeting be requested to take place on the 6th September at 7.30pm.

8. Finance

(a) The monthly accounts payments for June 2022 were approved.

(b) The bank reconciliation for June 2022 was approved.

Resolved that the monthly accounts and bank reconciliation be approved.

9. Planning

There were no planning applications within or impacting upon the Parish

10. Strategic Planning

(a) Strategic Priorities.

A discussion took place regarding the strategic priorities previously identified and how these would link into the AAP Towns and Villages Fund.

Resolved that the strategic priorities would be further discussed at the meeting to be arranged with the AAP on the 6th September 2022.

(b) Neighbourhood Plan

A discussion to place regarding the neighbourhood plan. The Parish Council are keen to pursue this.

Resolved that the Clerk would submit the bid for the neighbourhood plan in September and that the consultant would be approach to commence the work.

11. Sub Group Meetings

- **Horticultural Sub Group Meeting**

It was reported that planters had been planted up and that the tyres and rims were being planted and placed in various locations

- **Carnival Sub Group Meeting**

Cllr Wainwright requested information regarding all of the booking so that it could be included in the event safety plan

Resolved that the information be noted.

14. Members Reports

Cllr E Major

- requested that the seat damaged by the storm be replaced. County Cllr Hood agreed to get a price for its replacement.
- The sign pointing to High Haswell is pointing the wrong way. To be reported to Durham County Council.

Cllr S Hartly

- reported that she had received a number of compliments about the flowers in the village.
- She reported that there was a damaged curb near the Rainbow on the road to Shotton - to be reported to Durham County Council.

Cllr B Ramsey

- reported that, as previously agreed, a new tractor had been purchased for the sum of £20,000 and will be arriving shortly.
- It was agreed that it would be financially disadvantageous to trade in the remains of the old tractor and that sealed bids had been invited for the parts.

Cllr O Gray

- reported that the Parish trips had been very popular apart from the trip to Durham to which there had been no interest. It was agreed that the trip and the bus would be cancelled.
- reported that the wall on Dent Close was dangerous and unsightly -to be reported to Believe Housing.
- raised the issue of the memorial seat for George Dunstone. A discussion took place about its potential location.
- Plants have been removed from the planter at the seat at Haswell Plough. The groundsmen have been advised not to replace them until the winter planting is underway.
- reported that she had been to the Gables 3 times to discuss the tree planting but there had been no answer.

Cllr A Wainwright

- thanked everyone who had offer their help with obtaining poles and ropes for the Haswell Miners Banner to enable it to be taken to the Miners Gala.

Resolved that the items raised be noted and that the appropriate action be taken.

15. County Councillor's Update Report

County Cllr C 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:

- Arranged the repair of the fence that was damaged at the junction near Station Street and Kestrel Way in Haswell.
- Promoted The Haswells Carnival 2022 which is taking place on Saturday 10th September 2022.
- Promoted the notice of vacancy on Haswell Parish Council. On behalf of all three villages, I have also:
 - Gave an update on the Durham County Council Tax Energy Rebate scheme.
 - Attended the East Durham Area Action Partnership Towns & Villages Priority Group Meeting.
 - On behalf of some residents, spoke with the school transport team at DCC to investigate when concessionary applications were opening for the 2022/23 academic year.
 - Attended the DCC Full Council meeting on Wednesday 22nd June 2021
 - Attended the Joint Administration meeting on Wednesday 22nd June 2021.
 - Attended the DCC Corporate Parenting Panel meeting on Friday 24th June 2022.
 - On Monday 27th June 2022, I attended the June meeting of Shotton Parish Council and submitted my monthly activity report.
 - On Tuesday 28th June 2022, I attended the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting at County Hall.
 - Reported the missing drain covers from along Salters Lane.
 - Informed residents that the North East's only scheme to provide a 100 per cent discount on council tax payments to all financially vulnerable households could be extended for another year by Durham County Council due to the Joint Administration.
 - As it's chair, published the Children & Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report which outlines the work we as a committee have done in the previous year.
 - Announced that Children's services in County Durham have been rated Good by Ofsted following a recent inspection - an improvement on the previous rating. I'm delighted to report that our children's services department has seen amazing improvements over the last year or

so. The whole service is now rated Good, whilst the Leadership which includes officers, the leader of the council, portfolio holder, chief exec and scrutiny is now rated 'Outstanding'!

- On Thursday 7th July 2022, I attended the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board.
- Delighted that after months of hardwork and negotiations, as a part of the Joint Administration at Durham County Council, I have been able to secure the launch of a new hub of 'The Bread and Butter Thing' in Haswell.
- Reminded residents that properties which fall under a council's selective licensing scheme will be subject to an inspection programme from next month.
- Durham County Council's Warm and Healthy Homes (WHH) Team was crowned National Energy Champions of the Year at this year's Energy Awards!
- Attended the Area Planning Committee (Central and East) on Tuesday 12th July 2022 and Monday 18th July 2022.
- Assisted a resident with their social housing provider in getting some repairs complete on their property.
- Attended the Queen's Baton Parade as my mother-in-law carried the Queen's Baton past the iconic Tommy statue on Seaham's North Terrace in front of hundreds of people.
- Announced that three schools in County Durham are set for upgrades to their premises.
- Attended the Corporate Parenting Panel on Tuesday 19th July 2022. As always, the vast majority of my work has been on more personal issues that our residents have had in relation to residents' issues such as flytipping, littering, dog fouling, car parking, noise pollution etc. I continue to represent our residents and liaise with various officers, staff and departments, both at Durham County Council and external agencies.

I am always available and if I can help you, your family or neighbours in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will take it forward. Best Wishes Cllr. Chris Hood chris.hood@durham.gov.uk

County Cllr J Miller reported that:

- there was £20,000 available from the Towns and Villages fund which could be used to fund projects such as the path from Shotton to Haswell.
- fencing issues at Haswell Plough were to be addressed and he is chasing it up.
- he has written an Emergency Plan and will forward this to the parish council.
- he is chasing up the additional seat at Haswell Plough to be located beside the grit bin.

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.

Members of the public appreciated the work the parish council do but raised the following issues:

- Litter and dog fouling
- There are a lot of public footpaths but little signage
- Some landowners have placed barbed wire obstructing access to the public footpaths.

A discussion took place regarding the footpaths and the signage. A definitive map of the public footpaths needs to be obtained from the Rights of Way Officer at Durham County Council and then the paths need to be walked and then it can be taken up further. The members of the public agreed that they would let County Cllr Hood know when they walk any of the footpaths and find any issues.

Resolved that the issues raised by noted and the necessary action taken.

18. Date & Time of the Next Meeting

The next meeting shall be held on the 28th September 2022 at 6.30pm in the meeting room at St Paul's Church, Church Street, DH6 2DT Haswell.