

**Minutes of the meeting of Healeyfield Parish Council  
held on Thursday, 29th March 2012, at 7.00 p.m.**

**PRESENT**

Councillor A.D.N Addison, D. Dixon (Chairman), G Anderson, H Thompson, R C Thompson and M Wotherspoon.

L Stephenson (Clerk), Councillor C Burton (AAP)

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor W Robson.

**1112/113      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest submitted.

**1112/114      MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd February 2012 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**1112/115      POLICE REPORT & PACT MEETING**

Councillor Anderson provided an update on matters which had reported by the Police at the PACT meeting, which had taken place prior to the Council meeting in the Village Hall.

**1112/116      NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDEN'S REPORT**

The Clerk reported that the warden for the area had now moved on to alternative employment, details of his replacement would be provided in due course. The Clerk further reported that a letter of complaint had been submitted to the service regarding the lack of progress and feedback with regard to various issues that had been reported.

**1112/117      AREA ACTION PARTNERSHIP & PARISH COUNCIL'S  
COMMITTEE**

Councillor Burton provided an update in respect of recent issues being dealt with within the AAP and PCC as follows:-

- Gateways works have ground to a halt across the Mid-Durham AAP area, with some projects almost 12 months behind schedule. He advised that discussions were still ongoing with Highways Officers with regard to completion of these works.
- Next Small and Medium Local Council's Forum – scheduled to take place on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2012.
- Changes in Neighbourhood Planning – very important that the Council familiarise themselves with this information. Booklets could be obtained upon request.
- Councillor Burton circulated copies of two new Lanchester Parish Council publications, Lanchester Heritage Walks and Lanchester Wildlife.

**1112/118      COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS**

No information had been provided to the Clerk in the County Councillor's absence to report on their behalf.

**1112/119      FINANCE****EXPENDITURE - Cheques presented for approval on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2012**

CHQ No.	Date	Cost	VAT	Total (£)	Payee	Detail
1123	29 - Mar	50.00	0.00	50.00	C O'Hanlon	News Spring
1124	29 - Mar	400.00	80.00	480.00	Emerson Fencing	Grasscutting 2011/12
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>450.00</b>	<b>80.00</b>	<b>530.00</b>		<b>530.00</b>

<b>INCOME RECEIVED 24/02 – 29/03</b>	
Bank Interest – Community Account	0.00
Bank Interest – Business Money Manager Account	1.95
<b>Total Income in month (£)</b>	<b>0.00</b>

<b>BALANCES</b>	
Balance B/F	14829.32
Add Income as above	1.95
	<b>14831.27</b>
Less Expenditure	530.00
Less Debit Charge	0.13
<b>Balance C/F (Year End Position 31.03.12)</b>	<b>14301.14</b>

**1112/120      CORRESPONDENCE**

**RESOLVED:** that the following correspondence be received:-

- 1112/120/1      Durham County Council – Notification of availability of the old youth club premises. Members agreed that any future use should be done so within the existing building and members would be opposed to it being demolished for new development.
- 1112/120/2      Durham County Council – notification of receipt of a request to buy land at 45 Consett Road, Castleside.

**1112/121      DEVELOPMENT CONTROL**

There were no planning applications presented for consideration.

**1112/122      OLYMPIC TORCH - UPDATE**

The Clerk advised that details of the route had now been published, along with names of the torch bearers. Members were reminded that a public meeting would be taking place on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2012 to discuss this topic.

Councillor Thompson further suggested that the Council should explore options for holding a tea party over the bank holiday weekend, to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. Members agreed that this would be a good idea and would also help to support the business of the Village Hall.

Members instructed the Clerk to obtain quotes for the purchase of commemorative jubilee mugs, which could be given to school children in the village. The Clerk agreed to report back to the next meeting.

#### **1112/123      CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk reported on the following matters for information / discussion:-

- (i) Lumsden Carroll – State of picnic site following works had been reported.
- (ii) Public Rights of Way – Damage to stile reported, awaiting works.
- (iii) Bike Track – Newt survey had been carried out on proposed bike track site, and there were good numbers of smooth newts and palmate newts. Three further surveys would be undertaken over the coming months, however the ecologist had noted that even without evidence suggesting there were crested newts on this site, the area should be considered as a conservation project as a good pond.

#### **1112/124      MEMBER REPORTS**

The following Member reports were received:-

- (i) Councillor R Thompson advised that bank mandates for the Friends of the Village Hall had been published in the parish newsletter. He advised that he would report back further at next month's meeting.
- (ii) Councillor Dixon reported that he was sad to see that a sign had been displayed in the Smelters car park advising that parking was for customers only. Members agreed that the open use of this car park was so important for the village especially for those attending church services. Councillor Dixon agreed to discuss this further with the landlord and would report back to the next meeting.

Further discussion took place with regard to Jubilee celebrations and working in partnership with local businesses such as the Smelters.

#### **1112/125      ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The following further items of business were raised:-

**Councillor H Thompson then declared a personal interest in the following item. Members agreed that Councillor Thompson be permitted to remain in the meeting, as no decision was to be taken on the following issue, and the matter to be reported was for information only.**

- (i) The Clerk advised that a number of households within the village had recently received a letter which had been circulated by a resident of the village. The content of that letter mainly referred to issues which had previously been dealt with by the Parish Council under separate correspondence.

The Clerk advised however that a response to this letter had been prepared and would be circulated alongside the parish council newsletter, which provided accurate information in relation to the points outlined in the resident's letter.

- (ii) Councillor Anderson reported that there was a current problem with litter in the area. He requested that this should be reported to the Neighbourhood Wardens team. Members further suggested that the Scout's group should be approached to see whether they would be interested in undertaking a litter pick within the village.
- (iii) Councillor H Thompson advised that she had caught a group of people picking large quantities of daffodils on the A68 and had explained to them that they could not be taken.

The meeting closed at 8.16 p.m.

Signed.....Chairman  
Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2012