

Minutes of a meeting of Healeyfield Parish Council
Held on 29 January at 7.00 p.m. Castleside Village Hall.

PRESENT

Councillors A D N Addison, P Archer, D Dixon, A Hird, J Forster, J Robson, A Pearson (Chair).

County Councillor Johnson, Councillor Burton, G Miller (Clerk) and 2 members of the public.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor R Young.

1415/99 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were submitted.

1415/100 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Public Participation policy was displayed for the benefit of the public present.

1415/101 The Chair announced agenda item 13 (iii) would be considered at this point in the meeting as Mr Davidson was in attendance.

Mr Davidson addressed the meeting requesting support for his planning application to hold more than 28 off road sessions per year at the quarry site on the A68. Mr Davidson advised he had received support from Durham Constabulary and the Area Action Partnership (AAP) he also advised he had not received any objections from residents. Mr Davidson circulated a letter of support from a service user with disabled children who wholly supported the activities and opportunities available at the quarry site.

Members noted the improvements made to the site which had been a hotspot for fly tipping and various problems previously, it was RESOLVED to provide Mr Davidson with a letter of support.

Mr Davidson left the meeting.

1415/102 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record with the following amendments;

1415/85/2 The police advised they will arrange for the bus shelter on Consett Road to be deep cleaned. It was RESOLVED the Clerk to notify Mrs Disberry.

Matters arising

1415/102/1 It was RESOLVED to leave the noticeboard adjacent to Wesley Terrace/ParkTerrace in the same location however slightly change the position. It was RESOLVED the Clerk to notify the landowner Mrs Lee.

1415/102/2 Councillor Johnson advised the County Council were recently discussing 20mph speed restrictions outside of 33 school areas within the County. It was

RESOLVED the Clerk to investigate with the County Council the policy for 20mph speed restrictions in residential areas.

1415/102/3 Members discussed the fence surrounding the school field on Drover Road, Councillor Robson advised the school would be reluctant to use funds to repair or replace the fence although it was noted it was the schools responsibility. It was RESOLVED to investigate costs for repair or replacement for the next Parish Council meeting.

1415/103 AAP & PARISH COUNCIL'S REPORT

Councillor Pearson and Foster advised they had attended the Mid Durham AAP open day event on 29th November. Councillor Foster gained valuable information regarding services for the elderly which was shared in the winter newsletter.

1415/104 POLICE AND PACT REPORT

Councillors Archer and Addison reported issues from the local PACT meeting;

- The current PACT priority continued to be the proxy buying of alcohol at Derby Drive and Deneburn shop.
- An increase in ASB which is to be believed following the youth club and an increase in snowball incidents.
- The uncertainty of the Phoenix centre.
- Issues around Grorud regular patrols liaising with the factory staff to improve security.
- Funding is now in place for a streetscene camera to be installed in Moorside the location is still to be determined.

Councillor Archer informed members about the Countryside 999 programme airing on Monday 9th February at 11am on BBC which features Consett focusing on rural crime. Councillor Dixon informed members about the Farmwatch initiative taking place to reduce thefts from farms and those living in rural areas who are vulnerable to crime.

1415/105 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

County Councillor Johnson provided an update from DCC advising there had been a reduction on Central Government funding which will result in reductions being made from front line services. The County Council would be looking at and consulting residents on services such as libraries, children's centres, street cleaning and garden waste. Councillor Johnson advised it is likely austerity levels would remain low and communities need to pull together. It was RESOLVED County Councillor Johnson to provide an update on the Pheonix Centre, Moorside for the next meeting.

1415/106 FINANCE

EXPENDITURE - Cheques presented for approval on 29 January 2015

CHQ No.	Date	Cost	VAT	Total (£)	Payee	Detail
1251	29 Jan	397.00	79.40	476.40	Northern Power Grid	Disconnection
1252	29 Jan	53.92	0.00	53.92	Npower	Admin fee Festive Lighting
1253	29 Jan	126.00	25.20	151.20	Marmax	Seat Laths to

					Products	repair seat
1254	29 Jan	209.00	41.80	250.80	DCC	Flower tubs
1255	29 Jan	170.20	0.00	170.20	Conway Printing	Newsletters Dec 2014
Total		956.12	146.40	1102.52		

INCOME RECEIVED		
Community Account		0.00
Business Money Manager Bank Interest		3.04
VAT refund		75.65
Total Income in month (£)		78.69

BALANCES		
Balance B/F		19507.50
Add Income as above		78.69
Less Expenditure		1102.52
Balance C/F		18483.67

1415/106/1 It was RESOLVED that the finance report be received.

1415/107 PRECEPT 2015/16

Members received a report of the Clerk which outlined in detail the budget and precept recommendations for 2015/16 including information which impacted upon the Council.

Members were keen to maintain Council Tax at the current level, a 0% interest and noted that it would impose a deficit of £41 less resources than in 2014/15.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the budget for 2015/16 shall be set at £9027.69
- (ii) That the precept request for 2015/16 shall be £8590.69
- (iii) In addition a LCTRS grant of £437.00 will be awarded in 2015/16 from DCC.

1415/108 CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence were received;

1415/108/1 Letter from Mr Gill

Mr Gill was in attendance at the meeting, the Chair explained that Police were present at the November meeting to provide an update on the Police/PACT report. Mr Gill appeared aggrieved with the response from the Chairman and subsequently left the meeting. It was RESOLVED the Clerk to send written communication to Mr Gill.

1415/108/2 Royal Garden party nomination ballot, it was RESOLVED to nominate Councillor Adam Pearson for not only his work with the Parish Council but in recognition of his work in the wider community.

1415/108/3 Capital Highway works update from DCC.

1415/108/4 Information from Lanchester Banner group, it was RESOLVED to circulate amongst members.

1415/108/5 Donation request from Thornhill Primary School Shildon.

1415/108/6 Donation request from Real Care Ltd Consett.

1415/108/7 Letter from EnergieKontor regarding the public exhibition for the proposed wind farm application at Lanchester.

1415/108/8 Gathering information exercise regarding allotment sites from DCC.

1415/108/9 Gathering information exercise regarding public open space from DCC.

1415/109 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL

No Planning applications to consider.

The Chair thanked Councillors Archer and Hird for their attendance at a recent planning committee meeting, it was RESOLVED Councillor Archer to provide an article for the Parish newsletter.

1415/110 CLERKS REPORT

No report to receive.

1415/111 MEMBERS REPORT

1415/111/1 feedback from Councillor Surgery, no residents attended the surgery; however Mr Henderson requested the Street Scene camera pole be removed from Consett Road. It was RESOLVED the Clerk to investigate with the County Council the pole being removed, relocated or sold.

1415/111/2 Smelters Public House – The Chair had spoken to the new owner of the Smelters Pub, who informed Councillor Pearson that no decision had been taken with regards to the future of the site. The Chair did inform the owner that the Parish Council would like to acquire the grassed area. It was RESOLVED to set up a separate planning meeting with Steve France from DCC to discuss planning processes in the village and the possibility of developing a neighbourhood plan.

1415/111/3 Public Seat Rowley Bank – The Chair advised the seat is in disrepair it was RESOLVED the Clerk to request the seat be removed by DCC.

1415/112 PARISH WOOD

Members considered the request from Sue Mullinger to use the Parish wood for woodland management and training courses it was RESOLVED to agree to the use of the woodland on the condition the Parish Council would have priority to attend the courses.

It was agreed to hold a briefing meeting with Simon Wilson on the 14th February 10am to discuss the Parish wood consultation event.

Members welcomed the donation from the AONB of a cast alloy sign, they noted the Parish Council would be required to pay for the installation and associated administration charges.

Councillor Hird advised the resident on Front Street had agreed to install a Parish Wood sign on his land to indicate one of the entrances into the wood.

1415/113 WW1 GRANT

Following discussion it was RESOLVED to postpone the grant process pending investigations into using other areas within the Parish which may benefit greater from a lottery grant.

1415/114 COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS

No Councillor questions were submitted.

Conclusion of Meeting 9.25p.m.

Signed.....Chairman of the Council
26th February 2015