

Minutes of a meeting of Healeyfield Parish Council
Held on 26th November at 7.00 p.m. Castleside Village Hall.

PRESENT

Councillors D Dixon, J Forster, J Robson, A Pearson (Chair) A. Hird.
County Councillors O Johnson County Councillor R Young.

R Wright Clerk.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

1516/66 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

1516/67 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The public participation policy was on display. One member of the public was present during the meeting.

1516/68 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting 29th October 2015 were RESOLVED as a true record.

Matters arising from the minutes:

1516/68/1 There has been one response to the co-option notice for the councillor vacancy.

1516//68/2 Sandy path repair will be done by Andy Guthrie and he will extend the V-ditch to catch the water run-off from the houses.

1516/68/3 The complaint about water draining onto a public footpath has been lodged with the Highways department, CRM41989125. Mrs McGuigan was informed and she said the pipe had been moved which appears to have solved the problem.

1516/68/4 A new notice board has been delivered and will be erected soon.

1516/68/5 The internal auditor has the clerk's number and will make contact to arrange a date.

1516/69 AAP & PARISH COUNCIL'S REPORT

Andy Coulthard gave a brief overview of a pilot project to help people who want to work but find difficulty travelling to their place of employment. The AAP have produced two leaflets, one covering all the services available to older people and the other giving employment information for young and old and businesses. These leaflets are intended as a one stop shop and are available in electronic or paper forms. It was RESOLVED that a copy of the first leaflet would be delivered along with the newsletter (if they 750 can be printed by Monday).

Dementia Friendly is a project to raise awareness and understanding of dementia in the community. In order to become a Dementia Friendly council a training session has to be arranged and early January dates will be considered. Clerk to liaise with Karen Gibson and confirm a date.

1516/70 POLICE AND PACT REPORT

1516/70/1 Unfortunately, there has still been no response from the PC or PCSO to any email. There was no response from the PCSO to a request for the last PACT meeting report. The Chairman will try and contact the PCSO.

1516/70/2 The fly tipping has been reported to Nick Snowdon the neighbourhood warden and he has been out checking the area. He has agreed to send the monthly report to the clerk for onward distribution.

1516/71 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

County Councillor Johnson and Young attended the Remembrance Day service at the War Memorial and despite the blustery weather it was well attended. It appears that the lettering is starting to degrade and needs refurbishing. The Cllrs agreed they would contribute to this work.

The move of the DLI collection to Spennymoor alongside a rolling exhibition at the Palace Green near Durham Cathedral has caused huge controversy. The Trustees of the DLI and Durham County Council have made the decision based on the costs of running the building and also the lack of visitor numbers among other factors.

There is an ongoing consultation across the county about the terms and conditions of teaching assistants. This is extremely contentious and the aim is to standardise however the is the potential for many people to lose money. There is a proposal that a one-off compensation payment may be offered however the consultation is ongoing so nothing has been decided.

The management of the Phoenix Centre in Moorside is likely to pass into the private sector. At this time a rigorous examination of potential companies is being conducted by DCC to ensure they have the depth and strength to take on the role.

1516/72 FINANCE

It was RESOLVED that the finance report be received.

EXPENDITURE - Cheques presented for approval on 26 November 2015

CHQ No.	Date	Cost	VAT	Total (£)	Payee	Detail
1388	26 Nov 15	17.50	0.00	17.50	Royal British Legion	Poppy wreath
1389	26 Nov 15	261.00	52.20	313..20	DCC	Winter flowers for tubs
1390	26 Nov 15	1174.81	234.96	1409.77	Greenbarnes Ltd	New notice board
1391	26 Nov 15	121.41	0.00	121.41	Clerk - administration	Postage, stationary, IT
Total		1574.72	287.16	1861.88		

INCOME RECEIVED	
Community Account	0.00
Business Money Manager Bank	0.00
Total Income in month (£)	0.00

LATEST BANK BALANCES

- a. HSBC Business Money Manager Account as at 11 Sep 15 £18,624.86
b. HSBC Community Account as at 11 Nov 15 £4522.60

BALANCES	
Balance Brought Forward	23147.46
Add Income	0.00
Less Expenditure	1861.88
Less o/s cheques	1082.34
Balance Carried Forward	20203.24

1516/72/1 It was RESOLVED to accept the budget for 2016/17.

1516/72/2 The precept for 2016/17 was discussed and a four year planned was considered to make allowance for the decrease and disappearance of the LCTRS grant. It was RESOLVED to accept the four year precept plan.

1516/73 CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence were received by email;

1516/73/1 Neighbourhood Development – planning progress consultants.

1516/73/2 Neighbourhood Planning related grants.

1516/73/3 Neighbourhood Protection – monthly reports.

1516/73/4 Dates for future meetings of Older People's and Road Safety task Groups.

Road safety will meet on Thursday 14th January at 2pm in the miners Institute.

Older People's will meet on the following dates: Wednesdays 9th Dec, 27th Jan, 24th Feb and Thursday 31st Mar – all 10am until 11.30am.

1516/73/5 Mid Durham AAP agenda and notes from September meeting.

1516/73/6 Mid Durham AAP – honours presentation and accident summary.

1516/73/7 AAP Community speedwatch.

1516/73/8 North East Region Parish and Town Council Event – 9 March 2016.

1516/73/9 Local Councils Working Group – key points.

1516/73/10 NALC affiliation fee increase from 5.6 to 6.6 per elector

1516/73/11 Smaller Local Council Forum Member – meeting held on 20 November 2015.

1516/73/12 Devolution for Parish Councils paper.

1516/73/13 CALDC – amended constitution

1516/73/14 Consultation regarding bin collections from properties situated on private or unadopted lanes and farm tracks.

1516/73/15 Stay well winter roadshows.

1516/73/16 North Durham Health Services Focus Group – meeting 7th December 2015, 1100-1300hrs at Willow Burn Hospice.

1516/73/17 Pocket Park Initiative.

1516/73/18 Tesco's carrier bag scheme – bids in by 30th Nov 2015.

1516/73/19 Eleven Arches Show – Kynren tickets on sale now.20.

1516/73/20 Community Engagement Project

Correspondence via post:

1516/73/21 Letter from Durham Cathedral requesting a donation towards welfare and upkeep. This will be considered in the March meeting.

- 1516/73/22 Garden Waste Collection service – letter plus posters for distribution around parish.
1516/73/23 DCC Request for Precept.

1516/74 PLANNING MATTERS

- 1516/74/1 No planning requests to be considered.
1516/74/2 Neighbourhood Plan – The parish council would like to move forward on preparing a neighbourhood plan. There are grants available and it was RESOLVED that an application should be made for funding to help start the process.

1516/75 CLERKS REPORT

1516/75/1 The application to the Transparency Fund for £195 has been granted. Steve Ragg is in discussion with NALC about funding for a new laptop since the problems which have arisen were not foreseen.

1516/75/2 The clerk and chairman attended the Standards training at County Hall and it was a very interesting and useful evening. Members are reminded that they are responsible for keeping their Register of Interest up to date.

1516/75/3 The clerk was unable to attend the WWI funding event in Newcastle. However the organiser has sent the web address of a site which may prove useful when considering any war projects in the parish. It will be circulated to members.

1516/76 MEMBERS REPORT

1516/76/1 Feedback from Councillor Surgery – no residents attended. The Parish Council agreed to continue making the surgery sessions available.

1516/76/2 Bulb planting – The parish council would like to fund a bulb planting project around the village and get school children and other local organisations involved. The area identified were the grass verges from the white gates at the top of the village and some grass areas in the village itself. It was RESOLVED to allocate £100 which can be reviewed if necessary and Cllr Robson will run the project.

1516/76/3 Consett Road – Steven Craig from DCC has agreed to clean up the land in front of the company houses. There is ivy and weeds encroaching on the public pavements. The ivy will be cut back and the weeds treated with weedkiller. It was RESOLVED that a letter will be hand delivered to each resident explaining what is happening and also warning that the weedkiller may leach into the garden soil and harm the ivy.

1516/77/4 War Memorial Access – it was RESOLVED that an application be made to the Tesco carrier bag project to fund improvements in the access. At present there is limited scope for disabled people to visit the site. The grant applications close tomorrow and it may be too late however the next round is in April/May 2016.

1516/78 COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS

Cllr Cllr Forster gave details of the following:

- 1516/78/1 Quotes for a poppy mosaic – paved area £1900 with no maintenance; gravelled area £1100 – requires maintenance.
- 1516/78/2 A lead miner sculpture would cost approx.. £2000.
- 1516/78/3 The Village Hall will be getting a defibrillator which will be paid for by a grant from the AAP. The crate will cost £477.
- Other topics which need to be included on the next agenda:
- 1516/78/4 Parish wood – poles are up for information signage.
- 1516/78/5 Cats eyes on the stretch between the Grove to Consett A692.

1516/79 **CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

The letter received from a local resident applying to be co-opted onto the parish council was discussed. It was RESOLVED that an interview be arrange on Thursday 10th December 2015 at 6.30 pm. Clerk to arrange.

Conclusion of Meeting 8.35 p.m.

Signed.....Chairman of the Council 28th January 2016