



**THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
THE HEALEYFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD THURSDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2022**

Present:

Councillor A. Pearson (Chair)

Councillors J. Robson, A. Wallace, D. Dixon, A. Hird, K. Spencer

Durham County Councillor M. McGaun, D. Oliver

L. Standish (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)

1. Apologies for Absence
None
2. Declarations of Interest
None
3. Public Participation
Two members of the public attended. It was reported that the bus stand in Church Street had been taken down. This was passed to County Councillor's to investigate; it was **AGREED** that a stone-built shelter would be preferred blending in with the surroundings.
4. Chairman's Report
Due to the shortness of the month since our last meeting there is nothing to report at present.
5. Confirmed Minutes Ordinary Meeting held on 3 February 2022 (Rescheduled from 24 January 2022) **AGREED**
6. County Councillor Report
Councillor Oliver advised that road safety is a priority, primarily A68 and Consett Road. Durham is moving back to a full council and councillors will meet with traffic assets with more details to follow. Consett swimming pool is scheduled to open April/May but still awaiting updates and confirmation.
Councillor McGaun chased receiving police reports, reported incidents 08.11.21-13.02.22:

No reported burglary or criminal damage, 1 robbery/theft, 1 car theft, 7 ASB's mainly being off road bike issues and youths. Total police incidents = 81 (last year 59) least statistics compared with surrounding areas.

A resident reported a disturbance regarding a disturbance regarding bin collections
The council is still busy repairing the storm damage, residents are urged to report "threat to life" trees that may be a danger.

Councillor Pearson advised that there is a tree blown over the path in the parish woods (PROWT). Councillor Wallace advised that an online report had been completed and the path cleared.

7. Correspondence

- a. 21.02.22 Email from Councillor McGaun chasing the street lighting issue.
- b. 24.02.22 Email from Property help-desk regarding the car park lighting.

Councillor Hird advised that the village hall is losing the use of the car park due to new regulations with the local authority and gate will be locked daily, but it can be used for large events. Councillor Pearson advised to continue with the repairs and a meeting to be arranged with Councillors and the village hall committee.

8. Finance

Accounts for Payment

Expenditure over £100 - A-Byte annual website hosting invoice £288 and the banners and flags debit card payment of £370.36. Total payments = £1,136.64

Account Balance Summary

Lloyds Bank balance = £20,286.84 less £667.35 uncleared payments =
£19,619.49 Healeyfield Parish Council balance.

9. Clerks Report

- a. Clerk requested Councillor McGaun assist in chasing the overgrown verge between Beeches Lane to Brookside Cottages as no reply had been received.
- b. Clerk requested Councillor McGaun assist in chasing the CCTV Pole, to which an email was received from Durham County Council. NEDL attended the site 20 December but could not gain access to the column. We have been assured that this will be re-booked as soon as possible, no further update received.
- c. The marketing banners and flags have now been received.
- d. A draft complaint letter was emailed to Councillor Pearson 11 February with regards to Consett Road verge.
- e. The incident Reporting Form is now active on the website but no responses have been received.
- f. There is a confidential matter to be discussed at the end of the meeting.
- g. Awaiting specifications from Councillor Wallace in order to contact Special Branch, as per last month's meeting. Councillor Wallace advised that there are more trees to be cleared and is now preparing a report.
- h. Awaiting a copy of the last Newsletter issued 2021 from Councillor Pearson.
- i. Details emailed to Councillor Pearson with regards to the last beacon lighting in 2018. Details have been updated and awaiting confirmation in order to apply to Durham County Council end enlist Beacon Traffic Management, also require the risk assessment. Councillor Pearson advised that it needs an addition to the form to include catering vans parking on the road (see item 16).

10. Planning applications

None

11. Outstanding Items

Most items are ongoing or awaiting a response. 2 items are on tonight's agenda and 3 items have now been completed.

12. Parish Path and Woods Review

Councillor Wallace received an email from Durham Woodland Revival, dates of planting to follow shortly. Councillor Wallace is working with the village hall to be used for a small event afterwards, which will be discussed at their next meeting 7 March. Councillor Pearson advised that other improvements will be carried out during the summer. An application by The Woodland Trust for footpath improvements was going to be made for Lottery Funds but the funding officer has since left, Councillor Wallace to chase.

The public enquired about piles of wood and clearings in the wood. He was advised that The Trust had to install fire breaks due to the number of arson incidents. The land has been cleared and dragged towards the paths at the back of the houses. This will be cleared over winter and will be rectified when the weather improves. Councillor Pearson advised that a tree has fallen near the green bridge, Councillor Wallace will investigate.

13. Planting Wildflowers

Councillor Robson advised that the scrambler issue would need to be investigated first as it was the picnic area that was suggested for planting. It was RESOLVED that the parish council would like wildflower planting in this area. The land is owned by Durham County Council, previous quote received was £3/3.50 per square metre to plant, maintain and clear. Councillors to check what grants are available for next month's meeting.

14. Events Calendar

Events Calendar 2022-2023

Litter Pick. Saturday 9 April 10am-12noon

Platinum Jubilee. Thursday 2 June – Sunday 5 June

Autumn Festival. Sunday 25 September 2022

Remembrance Sunday. Sunday 13 November 2022

Christmas Tree "switch on". Thursday 24 November 6pm

Clerk to complete and forward booking forms to the village hall to book 9 April and 25 September. Newsletter AGREED at the end of April, Jubilee edition the end of May and newsletter at the end of August.

15. Banners and Flags

Discussed in item 9

16. Queens Jubilee Review

- I. Councillor Hird discussed comments arisen from the village hall meeting regarding events planned by the parish council. The lighting of the beacon is a national event and scheduled nationally for 9.15pm and fireworks are acceptable prior to 11pm. The village hall will be open for the community to meet prior to the event. Councillor Pearson advised that the parish council will arrange transport, the service at St Johns is being arranged the time to be confirmed and road closures are in process. Councillor Spencer advised she had contacted a caterer for the lighting of the beacon at no cost to the parish. Mobile catering unit will need to be added to the road traffic application, and will be parked on one lane in Drover Road, still allowing one lane of access.
- II. The village hall will not be going ahead with the high tea event.

- III. The village hall has nothing planned for Saturday. Councillor Hird advised that a band has been hired for the club but they have no kitchen facilities available for pie and peas, a caterer will be available for this. The club have advised they will provide games of Bingo.
- IV. Joint event with the parish council and village hall. Activities for children were discussed, such as face painting, fancy dress competition. There were concerns regarding bringing own food in to the village hall but within the next few weeks the COVID restrictions will be changing. It was AGREED that the parish council will decorate the hall.

The clerk advised that only the official logo can be used for merchandise, although we can add our logo and print to the opposite side of the cup. One quote has been obtained, and the design was AGREED, clerk to obtain 2 more quotes for 550 and 375 China mugs.

17. Litter Pick

Discussed in item 14, risk assessment to be reviewed.

18. Date of next Ordinary Meeting

31 March 2022 at 7pm. Meeting Closed 9.10pm

19. Confidential Items

1 item raised

Signed Cllr A Pearson Chair of the Council