



**THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF  
THE HEALEYFIELD PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD THURSDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2021**

Present:

Councillor A. Pearson (Chair)

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

Durham County Councillor M. McGaun

L. Standish (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)

1. Apologies for Absence  
Councillor Douglas Oliver has prior commitments
2. Declarations of Interest  
Councillor A Wallace pays an annual subscription to Castleside & District Local History Society
3. Public Participation  
2 members of the public attended; Public Participation policy was explained. Concerns were raised regarding the traffic in and around the Castleside area, including speeding, accidents and near misses. It was **AGREED** that residents need to report all incidents to either Durham County Council, the police or the parish council. Durham County Council assess the areas on all aspects but they need to be reported to them and not many have been reported over the last 3 years. The more that are recorded will contribute to installing traffic calming methods. It was **PROPOSED** and **AGREED** that a form be made available to collate data, recording information such as date, time, description (whether a near miss, speeding or accident) and car registration if possible. Information will be made available on the parish noticeboards, newsletter, and website, or to contact the parish council either by email, letter or contact a parish councillor. Councillor Pearson will collate the data monthly.
4. Chairman's Report  
Chairman advised that it has been a quiet period during recess but he did meet with one of the trustees of the village hall. Relationships between the parish council and village hall was discussed. Plans for the Queens Jubilee were discussed and the village hall would like to work with the parish council and produce a shared leaflet on the whole weekend's activities. The village hall would like to partner the parish council for a Christmas window competition in December and requested a meeting with members. A response to the play equipment, land query and request to hold meetings downstairs in the village hall.

5. Confirm Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 29 July 2021 **AGREED** with amendment to remove the ONLINE in the heading.  
Confirm Minutes of Extra Meeting held on 26 August 2021 **AGREED** with amendment to remove the ONLINE in the heading.  
Confirm Minutes of Extra Meeting held on 6 September 2021 **AGREED**
6. County Councillor Report  
Councillor McGaun advised that staff had started to filter back in to work, up to the end of October. With regards to County Hall a 3<sup>rd</sup> party wants to purchase it or have a long lease for the building. The DLI is being re-opened as a DLI and Arts Centre. 2/3 of the collection will be displayed in the DLI and 1/3 will be in The History Centre. Councillor's McGaun and Oliver have been out in the area and spoken to residents. Durham County Council are still chasing as to why the costs were so high for the verge at Consett Road. Last month project Genisis was refused but they are going to appeal. They will need to revise the plans and reapply. Councillor McGaun advised that he challenged the information provided regarding incidents at the viaduct but Durham County Council have advised that there are no concerns as there have not been a lot of incidents compared to other areas in the North East. They need to be reported.
7. Correspondence
  - a. Gill Wood query is awaiting a response. Clerk to respond advising no applications have been received.
  - b. Consett Road query is awaiting a response. Councillor McGaun advised that Durham County Council are chasing the quotes.
  - c. Wesley Way query is awaiting a response. Clerk to respond advising that it is privately owned land but the owner has now cleared the area and planted a heather rockery.
  - d. Castleside & District Local History Society requested funding. Clerk to respond that all donations will be assessed in February's meeting. Members discussed other methods of funding (AAP) and TESCO Community Funding, possibly requesting them to write a paragraph on the parish council's photographs. Councillor Pearson will draft a Grant Application Policy for our next meeting.
  - e. A Halloween party is being organised in the parish woods 30 October; the organiser has proof of insurance.
  - f. Email received 19 September regarding parish benches. Clerk to respond and advise of issues with contractors and COVID but will be resolved the second week of October
  - g. Village Hall hire. It was **AGREED** to carry the balance overpaid to next year.
  - h. Defibrillator. It was **AGREED** that Councillor Robson complete and return the form with regards to registering the information to The Circuit.
  - i. Email received 19 September regarding a proposed development. Clerk to respond and advise that the parish boundaries will not be affected. The development is with a private firm and landowner and is currently going through the consultation stage. There does need to be a strong justification for the development to go ahead.
  - j. Air Ambulance. Clerk to respond that all donations will be assessed in February's meeting.

8. Finance - **AGREED**
  - a. Accounts for Payment  
Items over £100 August  
NE Drones £750, Lloyds  
Items over £100 September  
RB Tree & Landscape Summer grass/strimming £762 (£127 VAT to be reclaimed)
  - b. Account balances summary update  
August bank balance is £32,362 less an uncleared balance of £2,217  
= £30,145  
September bank balance is £30,896 less an uncleared balance of £2,248  
= £28,648
9. Clerk's Report
  - a. Drone footage links have been added to the website
  - b. Events have been updated on the website
  - c. NE Drones have not received their cheque yet. This has been posted, members advised to cancel and reissue if not received by the end of next week.
  - d. Remembrance Sunday Parade application has been forwarded to Durham County Council for the road closures.
  - e. Poppies have been ordered automatically from last years.
  - f. Contractor has been booked for the supervision of the road closures
  - g. Grass cutting was completed at the beginning of September. Note be sent with cheque advising that cuts have not to the standard of previous cuts and needs to be cut shorter in future.
  - h. Rosettes were ordered as requested and have arrived
  - i. The removal of the CCTV pole was chased and Durham County Council are still waiting for the disconnection certificate from NEDL before they can remove the pole
  - j. The bench installation has been delayed due to staffing issues with the contractor but are due to commence the second week of October
10. Planning Applications
  - a. DM/21/02884/TPO Brockwell Tree (27/09/21) Surgery Allensford Hall Allensford Bank Allensford Consett DH8 9BA. Members support the application as they feel it will improve road safety, line of sight and pedestrians in that location.
  - b. DM/21/00854/FPA 12 Moorland View Castleside Consett DH8 9QU (Accepted)
  - c. DM/21/00845/FPA Prospect Estates Castleside Industrial Estate Consett Road Castleside DH8 8JA (Accepted)
11. Outstanding Items  
Members discussed the outstanding items list and assigned the outstanding items to members of the council. Clerk to update the list and circulate to members.
12. Social Media Policy Review  
It was **AGREED** to retain the current policy with the addition of noted amendments.
13. Parish Paths and Woods Review  
Covered in outstanding items

14. Parish Benches Review  
Installation of repaired and new benches to be installed second week of October 2021 by contractor. Next stage of repairs to be prepared by Councillor Wallace.
15. Consett Road  
No movement, awaiting response from Durham County Council.
16. Horse & Groom  
No change. Councillor Pearson to contact current owner.
17. Upcoming Events
  - a. Scarecrow Competition 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Councillor Robson will go around the village at 11am to take photographs to be forwarded to members to judge. Rosettes have been received.
  - b. Remembrance Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 2.45pm from South Side St Johns. Forms have been forwarded to Durham County Council and Beacon will be providing the traffic management. Councillor Pearson will forward invitations over the next couple of weeks. A mini pipe band may lead the parade and Consett Academy will be invited to represent local schools and lay a wreath. Councillor Wallace forwarded his apologies in advance as he will be unable to attend due to a prior engagement.
  - c. Christmas Tree Switch On. The switch on will be Thursday 25 November at 6pm. The school choir and Consett Brass Band will be invited to attend. Councillor Pearson to contact, and also ask the church if mince pies will be available. He will also ask if Councillor Holden will do the "switch on"..

The tripod will need to be set up at the beginning of November, for the poppy net, councillor's Spencer and Robson to arrange.

18. Defibrillator Replacement Pads  
Clerk to purchase 2 sets of pads. Councillor Robson to forward details of type of pads to be ordered.
19. Playground  
It was **AGREED** to defer this to the next parish council meeting
20. Branding/Marketing  
It was **AGREED** to defer this to the next parish council meeting
21. Date of the next Ordinary Meeting  
Thursday 28 September 2021
22. Confidential Items  
None

Conclusion of meeting at 21:06

Signed ..... Cllr A Pearson Chair of the Council