

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
HUTTON HENRY PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON MONDAY 13 JANUARY 2020**

**Present:** Councillor Mrs J Thomas (Chair)  
Councillor K Knight, Mrs M Farry, Mrs J Grieves, Mrs M Lightowler, Mrs N Wood,  
Mrs B Drake, F Drake

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor P Marsh.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. POLICE REPORT**

The Clerk advised that there had been 1 incident of criminal damage in Hutton Henry, 10 incidents of ASB, 3 burglaries, 3 criminal damage and 3 thefts from vehicles/person/property in Station Town. There had been a multi agency walkabout that had taken place on 7 January in order to combat ASB and crime. Crime had increased by 24% in the last month and 3% in the year to date.

**RESOLVED** that the information given be noted.

**4. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** held on **9 DECEMBER 2019**, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member were approved and signed by the Chair.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence.

**6. PLANNING PROPOSALS**

Consideration was given to the following planning applications:

**a) DM/19/03785/FPA Single storey rear extension at 16 Heaton Terrace, Station Town**

**RESOLVED** that no objection be made.

**b) DM/19/03959/FPA Installation of ground mounted photovoltaic (PV) solar energy generation system (Solar Farm), associated infrastructure and the creation of an electricity substation (132kV) at Hulam Farm, Hutton Henry**

Some residents had expressed their concerns at the impact the development would have on the landscape, would have a visual and overbearing impact and in close proximity to houses in the village.

**RESOLVED** that an objection be made.

7. **CEMETERY REPORT**

The cemetery was clean and tidy,

8. **PRECEPT 2020/21**

The Clerk advised that the notification of the Tax Base and request for Precept for 2020/21 had now been received from Durham County Council. The Clerk circulated an estimate of income and expenditure for 2020/21.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the 2020/21 budget be set at £42,971. This comprised a Precept of £40,000 and Local Council Tax Support Scheme grant of £2,971 which equated to a 1.71% decrease on the previous year.

9. **PARISH ISSUES**

a) **Noticeboard in Station Town**

Councillor Drake suggested that a noticeboard be purchased for the community to use to post notices of forthcoming events. The Clerk advised that there were community notices in the Parish Council noticeboard, however, council business must come first. Notices could be placed if there was sufficient space. Enquiries would be made to ascertain if an additional key could be purchased.

**RESOLVED** that the use of the parish council noticeboard for community use be monitored over the coming months.

b) **Flower Planter Location in Station Town**

Councillor Mrs Drake advised that she had identified 6 locations for possible flower planters to be installed. Councillor Knight advised that there were 2 possible locations in Hutton Henry.

**RESOLVED** that the Councillors provide locations on a map to enable permission to be sought from landowners.

c) **Waste Bin next to noticeboard in Station Town**

It was reported that the bin next to the noticeboard keeps being taken by youths and the dog bin had been set fire to.

**RESOLVED** that a replacement dog bin be requested and the rubbish bin to be cemented into the ground.

d) **Allotments in Station Town**

Councillor Mrs Farry advised that there was a report on allotments in Station Town being considered by DCC the following week. The allotments were owned and managed by DCC. The Chair advised that the parish council had previously rented the allotments but demand was low so they ceased leasing the land.

**RESOLVED** that the information given be noted.

10. **Consultation on the proposal to change the name of the Parish Council**

The Clerk advised that a press release would be printed in the local free paper, consultation would also take place with residents via a leaflet drop, local councillors, adjacent Parish Councils and the Area Action Partnership explaining the reasons why the council would like to change its name.

**RESOLVED** that a leaflet be drawn up and circulated to residents.

11. **FINANCE**

**Invoices for Endorsement of Payment**

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	Amount	CHEQUE NO
Anglian Water	Utilities	£44.30	104071
JRB Enterprises	Dog Bags	£164.40	104072
N Power	Utilities	£42.13	104073
Clerk	expenses	£43.04	104074
Groundsman	expenses	£49.28	104075

**Bank Balances as at 15 December 2019**

Bank Statements were viewed by the Chair

Bank Balances were as follows:

Tracker Account £34,767.54

Current Account £124,767.54

12. **Exclusion of the Public**

That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

13. **Common Land**

Consideration was given to correspondence received regarding the registration of Common Land in Hutton Henry.

**RESOLVED** that a SIMR search be carried out to ascertain if any applications for ownership had been made.

14. **Anti-Social Behaviour**

Consideration was given to the report of Councillor Mrs Drake regarding anti-social behaviour in Station Town, a copy of which had been previously circulated.

Following the walkabout in Station Town, street lighting in Townsend Court and Dormand Court had been identified as being poor. It was suggested that the County Councillors and the Police be requested to attend the next meeting to ascertain if additional street lighting could be installed. Councillor Drake commented that Parish Council's had the power to fund street lighting.

Councillor Mrs Drake suggested that an email be sent to Inspector Kay thanking her for the extra patrols in Station Town.

**RESOLVED** that County Councillors and the Police be requested to attend the next meeting and further advice be sought on Parish Council's powers to fund street lighting.