

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
HUTTON HENRY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2020**

Present: Councillor Mrs J Thomas (Chair)
Councillor K Knight, Mrs M Farry, P Marsh, Mrs N Wood

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors, F Drake, Mrs B Drake, Mrs J Grieves and K Lawson

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING held on **20 JULY 2020**, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member were approved and signed by the Chair.

Matters Arising

The park benches would be erected on the green the following day.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Hutton Henry Community Association - Request for Grant

The community association had submitted a request for a contribution towards works undertaken in the village hall which included treating the damp and fitting a new kitchen, the cost of which to date was approximately £9000. A grant of £1000 was requested.

RESOLVED that £1000 be agreed towards the cost of the works.

5. PLANNING PROPOSALS

Consideration was given to the following planning applications:

- a)** DM/20/02300/FPA Change of use of building to residential property at land To The South Of 85 Newholme Estate, Station Town

RESOLVED that no objection be made.

- b)** DM/20/02417/FPA Erection of bungalow to replace mobile home at The Stables West Of Newholme Estate, Station Town

RESOLVED that no objection be made.

6. CEMETERY REPORT

The cemetery was clean and tidy. The Chair advised that she had received a number of compliments regarding the new groundsman being helpful and the grounds being tidy.

7. **RESOLVED** that the compliments be passed onto the Groundsman.
PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY

The Clerk advised that there had been no response to the notice of vacancy. It was suggested that the Council do not advertise for co-option at present in the current pandemic.

RESOLVED that the vacancies on the parish council not be advertised for co-option at the present time.

8. **PARISH ISSUES**

a) **Drainage**

Councillor Knight reported that the drainage ditch from the kennels to the church was blocked with some waste from the road gullies which had gone into the ditch.

RESOLVED that the drainage be reported to DCC.

b) **Facebook Account**

Councillor Mrs Farry explained that she had attended training where social media was discussed. Coxhoe Parish Council had been suggested as a good example.

RESOLVED that Councillors Mrs Farry be authorised to obtain further information.

9. **FINANCE**

Invoices for Endorsement of Payment

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	Amount	CHEQUE NO
Durham County Council	Fuel Issues	£28.88	104110
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J Dent	Skip hire	£264.00	104111
N Power	Utilities	£94.21	104112
Gardens of Grace	Footpaths	£528.00	104113
Clerk	Expenses	£44.40	104114
Groundsman	Expenses	£43.03	104115
Cash	Replenish petty cash	£25.90	104116
Viking direct	Litter picking equipment	£60.37	104117
Hutton Henry Community Association	Grant donation	£1000.00	104118
M Bloomfield	Park benches	£416.67	104119

Bank Balances as at 14 August 2020

Bank Statements were viewed by the Chair

Bank Balances were as follows:

Tracker Account £34,789.07

Current Account £148,789.07

Covid19 Grant Funding

The Clerk advised that DCC had invited the Council to submit an application for a grant from the Covid19 Small Business Grant Fund. This was available to those Councils who received Small Business Rate Relief on properties they owned. An application was submitted and a grant of £10,000 was received.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

Local Government Services' Pay Agreement 2020/21

The Clerk advised that an agreement had been reached between National Employers and the NJC Trade Union on rates of pay applicable from 1 April 2020. This resulted in an increase in salary of 2.75% from 1 April 2020.

RESOLVED that the information be noted and payroll be instructed to implement the rise for all employees back dated to 1 April 2020.

10. **ANY ADDITIONAL URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

Insurance Policy

Councillor Mrs Drake had requested sight of the Councils insurance policy as she felt it should be readily available for all Parish Councillors and residents should they be interested.

Discussion ensued regarding the distribution of the insurance policy and Councillors undertaking their duties. Councillors who had attended recent training advised that all Councillors should be discussing and agreeing any projects with the whole Council prior to anything being commenced within the community.

RESOLVED that

- (i) The insurance policy be distributed to all Councillors, however this was confidential and not to be shared.
- (ii) Councillors be reminded that any projects/work they were planning in their particular wards/villages be discussed and agreed with the Council prior to any works commencing.