

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF**  
**MONK HESLEDEN PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER 2018**

Councillors Present: Mrs G M Crute (Chairman)  
R Bowes Mr B Johnson, Mrs A Marley Lawson, Mrs A Mason, O Deinali, K Stanley  
N Thompson.

mh18-1955 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors' Mrs L Davison & P G Ward

**RESOLVED** apologies be received and accepted.

mh18-1956 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

A declaration of personal interest was made by Councillor Deinali in item 4, as his wife has applied to be co-opted onto the parish council.

mh18-1957 **TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 17<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018**

A draft copy of the minutes for the above meeting had been issued with the agenda.

**RESOLVED** the minutes be approved, confirmed and signed as an accurate record.

mh18-1958 **TO CONSIDER THE CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS**

**Councillor O Deinali declared a personal interest in this item and took no part in the discussion or vote.**

Members were asked to consider two applications for co-option on to the Parish Council from Mr G Duddin and Mrs S Deinali, the Clerk advised there were currently three vacancies in the Blackhall Colliery ward and two in the Blackhall Rocks ward.

**RESOLVED** to co-opt Mr Duddin to serve the Blackhall Colliery ward and Mrs Deinali to the Blackhall Rocks ward, **FURTHER RESOLVED** the Clerk informs the Returning Officer at Durham County Council of the appointments.

mh18-1959 **POLICE REPORT**

PCSO Ian Goodwin provided a verbal report to members of recorded incidents from 17/9/18 to 19/10/18:

211 incidents recorded – anti- social behaviour is down 9%/incidents are up by 6%

Members asked questions with regards to private landlords and powers which the Police may have with regards to tenants and their behaviour. PCSO Goodwin advised unless a criminal act takes place the Police have no powers, matters of this nature are referred to Durham County Council. The Chairman referred to the County Council's proposal to apply to the Government to introduce county-wide licencing for private landlords. A key benefit of such a scheme would be that Police, Local Authorities and other service providers would know who to contact when there are issues with their tenants for example, anti-social behaviour, criminal activity and environmental damage. It was stressed this is not a quick and easy process and could take a number of years to put in place.

The Clerk advised members two burglaries had taken place in compound at the Welfare Park, access was not gained to the garage and fortunately very little was stolen. CCTV of the incident has been passed to the Police and a further update is awaited. A meeting has taken place with the local crime prevention officer, details of which are to be discussed later in the meeting.

A bollard preventing access to the Attlee Avenue has been stolen again, this has been reported to the Police and has been replaced at a cost of £177.60

**RESOLVED** the information be received and noted and **FURTHER RESOLVED** PCSO Goodwin be thanked for attending the meeting.

mh18-1960

#### **COUNCILLORS REPORTS OF THEIR ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS/EVENTS ON BEHALF OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

Councillor Crute & the Clerk attended a free introduction to social media course and the Clerk requested to be allowed to attend the follow-up course at a cost of £30.00.

Councillor Crute gave details of a meeting with a representative from Blackhall Cricket Club, which was also attended by the Councillors' R Bowes, A Marley-Lawson, Parks & Facilities Manager and the Clerk.

This meeting had been requested with the Club for a number of months to discuss issues regarding the forthcoming fireworks event, hosted by the Club, and to discuss the day to day management of the social club. Photographs were shown to the club representative of rubbish which has accumulated to the rear of their building, full Co2 cannisters which are not stored securely, empty beer kegs, full rubbish bins. Concerns were raised that the gate to the building not being locked. There is a clear fire and security risk to the building and visitors to the Club.

With regards to the fireworks the Clerk had prepared a risk assessment which was to be forwarded to the Club and confirmation was given that the Parish Council are meeting the cost of first aid cover and crowd control barriers.

It was acknowledged by the Club representative that the matters raised were justified and would be passed back to the Club to be addressed.

Councillor Bowes had attended the opening of the café at Castle Eden Nature Reserve Councillor Mason represented the Parish Council at the Blackhalls & Hesledens Community Partnership and provided a full report.

Councillor Deinali continues to represent the Council on the "Make Blackhall Dementia Friendly" working group and reported good progress.

**RESOLVED** the information be received and members be thanked for their attendance at these meetings **FURTHER RESOLVED** the Clerk be requested to write to Blackhall Cricket Club to summarise the meeting and to clarify what is expected from the Club going forward.

mh18-1961

### **EVENTS UPDATE**

Funding of £2500 has been received from County Councillors Crute & Pounder this is allocated to the Flower & Vegetable Show 2018 & 19 and the Community Christmas concert. A further £200 has been awarded from the County Councillors to fund the refreshments following the Blackhall Remembrance Service.

Members of the events committee proposed an event to celebrate the Parish Council's anniversary which would incur expenditure of £9000 in December 2019.

**RESOLVED** approval is given to this expenditure under spending power LGA 1972 S145.

An invite has been received from Blackhall Library to attend an open day on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2018 9.30am – 12.30pm, the purpose of the event is to highlight the facilities, organisations and benefits that available to people in the community.

**RESOLVED** the Parish Council will attend the event.

mh18-1962

### **ENVIRONMENT UPDATE**

The Clerk provided a verbal update from the recent environment meeting which included confirmation that the following repairs have been added to Durham County Council's work plan:

Footpaths on the Coast Road from Crimdon Terrace to the former Seagull public house and also Mickle Hill Road leading from High Hesleden to Blackhall Rocks.

Highway between Meadow Avenue & Leaholme Terrace, Blackhall Colliery

Concerns have been raised once again with Durham County Council planning enforcement regarding the possible over development of stables on the Monk Hesleden road.

**RESOLVED** the information be received and noted.

mh18-1963

### **COUNCIL PROJECTS UPDATE** (mh18-1938)

#### Lighting of Pit Wheel

The mains electricity feed has now been connected and the next stage is the installation of a meter and supply, the Clerk confirmed a contract with SSE has been agreed.

mh18-1964

### **BLACKHALL WELFARE PARK**

As reported in the Police report above mh18-1959 the Clerk and Parks & Facilities Manager met with the local crime prevention officer who undertook as security risk report on the park and a number of points were raised to be considered by the Council.

A list of actions has been prepared to be considered and actioned, however, a key priority identified by the Police report is the closure of the barrier within the Park and the main gates. Instructions were given in the pas for the barrier to be put down at the close of the

working day and historically the main gates have not been closed or locked due to out of hours access being required by the Blackhall Cricket Social Club. It recommended the gates and barrier are closed every night either by employees or by the club when their building is closed, failure to do so could invalidate any future insurance claims.

**RESOLVED** the information be received and **FURTHER RESOLVED** the main gates are to locked with immediate effect, the Clerk to relay this information to the Parks & Facilities Manager to ensure this is undertaken and the cricket club are advised.

There continues to be an issue with youngsters riding over the bowling greens and memorial lawns on bicycles and whilst the Parish Council does not wish to prohibit exercise and enjoyment, there is a need to protect these areas. A request to display no bicycle signs at the two entrances has been requested this will provide staff with the means to challenge cyclists.

**RESOLVED** Approval is given to erecting no cyclists signs at the Welfare Park.

mh18-1965

### **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

#### Schedule of Payments

A list of payments for the period 19<sup>th</sup> September and the 24<sup>th</sup> October 2018 was issued with the agenda for information and approval.

**RESOLVED** that the payments be received and approved.

#### Bank reconciliation @ 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018

A copy of the Bank Reconciliation for the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018 was issued with the agenda for information and approval.

**RESOLVED** that the information be received and approved.

#### Income & Expenditure @ 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Copies of the income and expenditure report as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018 were issued to members with the agenda for information and approval. Due to long term sickness of an employee it has been necessary to engage a contractor to cut Blackhall Cemetery on a fortnightly basis at a cost of £3150.00 which will be paid from general reserves.

**RESOLVED** the information be received and noted.

#### Donation of Christmas Trees

The Clerk requested approval to provide Christmas trees for Blackhall Community Centre & Hesleden Methodist Chapel, to a maximum of £50.00 per tree.

**RESOLVED** approval be given.

LGA 1976s 19

Blackhall Community Centre £50

Hesleden Methodist Chapel

mh18-1966

**REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Request for financial assistance had been received from the Great North East Air Ambulance a copy of which had been forwarded with the agenda.

It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council will donate £100 to the Great North Air Ambulance

LGA 1972 Expenditure Power S137  
Great North Air Ambulance £100

mh18-1967

**PLANNING & CORRESPONDENCE REPORT**

DM/18/02772/FPA	Mrs L Pittam	10 Hardwick Street Blackhall TS27 4LT	Single storey extension to rear.
DM/18/02909	Mr C Towell	The Beacon Coast Road Blackhall Rocks Hartlepool TS27 4BH	Erection of single storey extension to rear, two storey bay window front elevation, chimney stack to gable and off white sand/cement render to external walls.
DM/18/01800/FPA	Mr B Sullivan	8 Milton Avenue Blackhall Colliery Hartlepool TS27 4NW	First floor rear extension.

**RESOLVED** the Parish Council has no comments to make re the above application.

British Legion- Letter of thanks for recent donation of £334.00  
Press release Ron Hogg Durham Police, Crime & Victims Commissioner re proposed county-wide licencing scheme for private landlords  
Peterlee Town Council- invite to Community Alcohol Partnership  
Durham County Council- Temporary Road Closure- Hardwick Street, Blackhall Colliery

mh18-1968

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED** the next meeting will be held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2018 6pm at the Resource Centre, Blackhall.

**CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD**

**CHAIRMAN**.....

**DATE**.....