

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
MONK HESLEDEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 19th NOVEMBER 2018

Councillors Present: Mrs G M Crute (Chairman)
R Bowes, Mrs L Davison, G Duddin, W H Johnson, Mrs A Marley Lawson, K Stanley,
N Thompson.

mh18-1969 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors' S & O Deinali and Mrs A. Mason.

RESOLVED apologies be received and accepted.

mh18-1970 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest where received.

mh18-1971 **TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 22nd OCTOBER 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.

mh18-1972 **POLICE REPORT**

PCSO Ian Goodwin had provided a written report to members of recorded incidents from 22nd October 2018 to 19th November 2018.

162 incidents recorded

RESOLVED the information be received and noted.

mh18-1973 **COUNCILLORS REPORTS OF THEIR ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS/EVENTS ON BEHALF OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

Councillor Crute attended the Remembrance Day Service at Blackhall Welfare Park and commented on how successful the event had been attendance was in excess of 200 people. Councillor Crute gave thanks to Wellfield Community School, St Joseph's RC & Blackhall Primary Schools, Blackhall Methodist Church, Blackhall ATC, County Councillors Crute & Pounder for their funding for the buffet, Ian Harris for his cornet accompaniment and other partners for their help and attendance on the day.

Councillor Crute also attended a meeting of the Blackhall Community Youth Group and also the fireworks display which was arranged in partnership with Blackhall Cricket Club.

Councillor Bowes attended the Remembrance Day Service at Hesleden and again spoke of a good turnout at the event. Hesleden Methodist Chapel were thanked for providing refreshments, Hesleden Guides & Brownies for their assistance with programmes and crosses, Christopher McDonald for his 11th year of playing at the service and the many others who help on the day.

CLlr Duddin attended the CAP (Community Alcohol Partnership) meeting at Shotton Hall and provided a verbal report for members.

RESOLVED the information be received and members be thanked for their attendance at these meetings.

mh18-1974

EVENTS UPDATE

Christmas tree lighting: Blackhall, Chicken's Green - Monday 3rd December 2018 at 4pm
Hesleden Village Green - Tuesday 4th December 2018 at 4pm

Christmas Community Concert, Blackhall Community Centre - Tuesday 11th December 2018 at 6.30pm

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

mh18-1975

ENVIRONMENT UPDATE

The Clerk provided a verbal update from the recent environment meeting which included persistent fly tipping at the chicken sheds on the Monk Hesleden Road and residents' concerns about the street light removals at Hardwicke Hall Manor Hotel, Blackhall. All of these issues have been passed to Durham County Council to respond.

RESOLVED the information be received and noted.

mh18-1976

CONSIDER QUOTATIONS FOR RECREATION EQUIPMENT - HESLEDEN

Members were requested to waive the following financial regulation as this project is in partnership with The Hesledens Residents Association who have requested 50% of the total contract cost be secured from the Hesleden Restoration Community Fund.

Financial Regulation 11b which requires contracts with an estimated value in excess of £25,000 to be subject to Regulation 109-114 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

RESOLVED to waive Financial Regulation 11b

The Clerk had distributed three quotes with the agenda:

HAGS-SMP	£48,840	plus VAT
Streetscape	£54,000	plus VAT
Wicksteed	£57,000	plus VAT

The Clerk confirmed all proposals are not on a like for like basis as each company provides a different design, however, consultation with residents and a subsequent letter confirms HAGS-SMP as their preferred choice.

After much discussion the Chairman requested a proposer and seconder, Cllr Johnson proposed the HAG/SMP and Cllr Thompson seconded a show of hands was taken 7 agreed to the motion with the Chairman voting against.

RESOLVED the contract be awarded to HAGS-SMP for £48,840.52 plus VAT

mh18-1977

REVIEW OF CEMETERY FEES

A comparison of cemetery fees had been forwarded with the agenda to assist members in reviewing the cemetery fees for 2019/20. The Clerk confirmed, as discussed previously, due to the updating of rateable values for businesses in 2017 the Council will be subject to a significant increase in expenditure:

	2016/17	2017/18
Blackhall Cemetery rateable value	£1325	£4100
Hesleden Cemetery rateable value	£385	£820

Whilst transitional relief is being given the business rates for both cemeteries will increase by approximately £1500. This revaluation also impacts the business rates payable for Blackhall Resource Centre, which rises from nil to £2600 per annum.

After much discussion it was **RESOLVED** the following fees be agreed for the financial year 2019-20

Exclusive Rights of Burial- resident	£200.00
Exclusive Rights of Burial- non-resident	£660.00
Exclusive Rights of Burial cremated remains-resident	£150.00
Exclusive Rights of Burial cremated remains- non-resident	£550.00
All other fees to remain unchanged.	

Hesleden cemetery

The Clerk advised a telephone call had been received from a resident living in Hazel Drive, Hesleden he is unhappy at the location and height of the spoil heap in Hesleden cemetery, youths accessing to go lamping and the cemetery gates not being locked on an evening.

Photographs were shown to members of the spoil heap, which is not excessive, does not exceed the height of the fence and is located in this area due to the concrete hard standing underneath. This is the ideal location for this waste which was previously deposited in a corner of the cemetery which looked unsightly, the soil is needed to top up graves and planters. Residents do use the cemetery as a short cut when walking between Blackhall and Hesleden, hence why the gates are not locked. There have been no reports of anti-social behaviour in the cemetery and this has been confirmed with local residents.

The Clerk recommends unless significant issues arise at the cemetery the gates are not locked and the spoil heap is monitored for height and to investigate the fitting of gates to the enclosed spoil area to prevent access.

RESOLVED information be received and the Clerk responds to the resident by letter.

mh18-1978

POLICIES

A copy of an updated Health & Safety and Mobile Phone Policy had been forwarded for consideration.

RESOLVED that the Health & Safety and Mobile Phone policies be approved and adopted.

mh18- 1979

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Schedule of Payments

A list of payments for the period 23rd October to the 20th November 2018 was issued with the agenda for information and approval.

RESOLVED that the payments be received and approved.

Request for Public Seat

A letter requested a public seat be installed between Crimdon Terrace and the building that was formerly the Seagull Public House had been distributed to members. Durham County Council have provided a quote of £526.46 to fit and install, this seat will be the standard recycled plastic seat which the Parish Council is now using as a standard for street furniture. There is a need for the location of the seat to be approved by Highways Durham County Council.

RESOLVED approval be given to the installation of the seat, subject to agreement with Durham County Council Highways.

Keep Britain Tidy- Dog Fouling Campaign

The Clerk made members aware of a successful campaign being launched by Keep Britain Tidy, in relation to dog fouling, this involves the purchase of plastic signs which glow in the dark and challenge dog owners to clean up after their dog. The minimum order is 10 signs at £25 each, when received the Council can work with partners to identify locations to be installed.

RESOLVED approval is given to the purchase of 10 signs at a cost of £250.00

mh18-1980

PLANNING & CORRESPONDENCE REPORT

DM/18/03131/FPA	Mr Craig Harrop	Land to the North of Blue House Farm, Hesleden Road, Blackhall. TS27 4LH	Construction of Dormer Bungalow.
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RESOLVED the Parish Council has no comments to make re the above application.

Correspondence

Durham Heritage Coast – Confirmation the Heritage Coast Partnership have been invited to submit a full second round business plan for funding from the Coastal Communities Fund.

County Durham Association of Local Councils – nominations for Royal Garden Party Buckingham Palace

Bulletins/ Consultations

Durham County Council – 2019/20 budget consultation
Hartlepool Borough Council – Consultation on Local Development Order – the Port Campaign to Protect Rural England- Newsletter -Autumn 2018

mh18-1981

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED the next meeting will be the precept meeting to be held on Monday 3rd December 2018 at Blackhall Resource Centre, Blackhall.

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIRMAN.....

DATE.....