

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
MONK HESLEDEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THE 3rd MARCH 2025**

Present Chairman: G M Crute
Councillors: R Bowes, S Childs, L Davison, O Deinali, S Deinali, G Duddin,
A Mason, G Morris, A Paterson, H Smiles, N Thompson, M Wells

Officers L Wardle (Parish Clerk) A Peace (Estates Manager)

mh24-25119 **TO RECEIVE & ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

All members were present

mh24-25120 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

None received

mh24-25121 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE
20th JANUARY 2025**

A copy of the minutes had been forwarded with the agenda

RESOLVED the above minutes be confirmed and approved as a true record

mh24-25122 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public were in attendance

mh24-25123 **POLICE REPORT**

The Clerk had circulated the monthly report provided by PCSO K Hall for information and comment.

RESOLVED the report is received and noted

mh24-25124 **MEMBERS REPORTS OF ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS/EVENTS ON BEHALF
OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

Councillors' A Paterson & H Smiles attended the Benridge Solar Farm consultation and provided feedback with regards to the proposal.

Councillor G Duddin attended the Blackhall ATC presentation evening which was well attended and where the Parish Council were recognised for their continuing support.

RESOLVED the information is received and members were thanked for their attendance

ESTATES MANAGER'S REPORT

The Estates Manager provided a verbal report, including the work undertaken in the park and the cemeteries using the newly purchased equipment and the shrub renovations. The bowls pavilion has been redecorated together with new flooring, the cricket tea pavilion kitchen cupboards have been repaired and the thoroughly cleaned, all undertaken in-house.

RESOLVED the information is received and thanks to the Estates Manager for his report

BLACKHALL WELFARE PARK PROJECT (min ref mh24-25110)

A report had been forwarded with the agenda detailing the eight tenders to be considered, members were asked to review the information and designs

Company 1	£187384
Company 2	£197000
Company 3	£199950
Company 4	£194924
Company 5	£197727
Company 6	£195000
Company 7	£199860
Company 8	£199999

After much discussion and consideration, two proposals received, and a vote taken
 Company 6 = 7 votes Company 7 = 5 votes

RESOLVED the contract is awarded to Company 6 HAGS £195,000

CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk had circulated a report with the agenda for information and approval

Hesleden Cemetery trees (min ref mh24-2587)

The Council's contractor has now completed the maintenance work on the trees which border the bungalows at White Crescent, Believe Housing have been informed. Further work has been undertaken in-house by the team.

Blackhall Welfare Park War Memorial

Approval for rails to erected around the bottom of Blackhall War Memorial to secure wreaths, cost £395.00

Blackhall Welfare Park CCTV

The Clerk is currently reviewing the Council's ASB policy for the park and a report will follow. Following discussions with the Chairman and Estates Manager it was been agreed there is a need to install CCTV cameras on the front and rear of the bowls hut. This will ensure we have most areas covered within the park, an order has been placed at a cost of £1466.00 under delegated authority to the Clerk, Financial reg 5.15

Crimdon Parking Order

Notice received from Durham County Council advising parking charges will come into force on 5th March 2025

RESOLVED the information is received and noted and **FURTHER RESOLVED** approval is given to the installation of the rails to be erected at Blackhall Welfare Park

mh24-25128

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL CONSULTATIONS

Housing allocations policy review (min ref mh24-25112)

RESOLVED the Parish Council has no comment to make

mh24-25129

REVIEW OF INFORMATION & DATA PROTECTION POLICY & APPROVAL OF ACCEPTABLE USE OF IT POLICY

Copies of the policies had been forwarded with the agenda for consideration and approval

RESOLVED approval and adoption of Information & Data Protection Policy & Acceptable Use of IT Policy

mh24-25130

FINANCIAL

- a) To endorse the following invoices for payment, including agreed direct debits and payroll.

Date	Payee	Description	Amount
21.01.2025	Amazon	Diesel Engine Oil	£71.25
21.01.2025	Amazon	Reception Bell	£5.99
21.01.2025	Amazon	Air Horn	£14.99
24.01.2025	Durham County Council	Monthly Salaries	£11,046.95
27.01.2025	Right Fuel Card	Fuel	£40.02
31.01.2025	Mastercopy	Photocopying	£72.37
03.02.2025	Right Fuel Card	Fuel	£32.52
03.02.2025	DVLA	Van Tax	£335.00
07.02.2025	Cathedral Hygiene	Hygiene Bins	£70.20
10.02.2025	Coop	Bank charges	£7.68
13.02.2025	EE	Mobile Phones	£105.64
14.02.2025	A1 Trophies	Plaque Plinth	£81.00
14.02.2025	ABR LTD	Roof Repair	£888.00
14.02.2025	Krystal Cleaning	Cleaning 1224	£539.76
14.02.2025	Thomas Sherriff Ltd	Cutter Repair	£427.17
14.02.2025	Zurich	Insurance	£153.84
14.02.2025	GNG Waste	Skip Hire	£648.00
14.02.2025	Spalding's	Prune Pole & PPE	£1,063.56
14.02.2025	Charles Dickens	Tools Materials	£200.27
14.02.2025	G Robinson	Hardware	£243.78
14.02.2025	Affordable Landscapes	Tree Cutbacks	£1,020.00

14.02.2025	Chapmans Plumbing	Toilet Repair	£50.00
17.02.2025	Durham County Council	Business Rates	£126.62
17.02.2025	Right Fuel Card	Fuel	£195.61
17.02.2025	NWG	Water Supply Cemetery	£71.34
17.02.2025	Corona	Elec MHPC	£220.17
17.02.2025	Corona	Elec Xmas Tree Dene Rd	£162.50
17.02.2025	Corona	Elec Pit Wheel	£26.22
17.02.2025	Corona	Elec 68 Middle	£134.80
17.02.2025	Corona	Elec Colliery Welfare Pav	£95.64
19.02.2025	BACS	Third party payments	£6,144.57
20.02.25	Amazon Prime	Annual subscription	£11.99
24.2.2025	BACS	Wages	£10,864.49
25.02.2025	Babble	Broadband/Tel	£99.58
27.2.2025	Charles Dickens	Chainsaw oil	£12.34
27.2.2025	Dove Building Materials	Sand	£59.88
27.2.2025	Standard Security	CCTV installation	£1,759.20
27.2.2025	Krystal Cleaning	Cleaning 0125	£539.76
27.2.2025	EDF	Elec - pit wheel	£154.05
27.2.2025	Spalding's	Pole pruner attachment	£228.66
27.2.2025	Bristol Street Motors	Van service & MOT	£469.45
			£38,494.86

b) To accept bank reconciliation @ 31st January 2025 & bank transfer information

The Clerk had distributed bank reconciliation which as of 31st January 2025 showed combined bank balances of £627267.35 Councillor S Childs checked and signed the reconciliation.

The following transfers were reported:

£30,000 Co-op inter account transfer to Barclays

£20,000 Co-op inter-account transfer

RESOLVED the information is received and noted

c) To approve annual insurance renewal

The Parish Council has an active long-term agreement with Zurich Municipal Insurance which expires 1st April 2026, the renewal premium for 2025-26 is £8361.51, this increase is primarily due to the revaluation of council buildings.

RESOLVED the renewal is approved

d) Provision of dog bags

The annual order of 130,000 dog bags is due to be made, if costs are to be maintained at 50p per bag for residents, the overall net cost the council will be £300.00.

RESOLVED approval is given to the purchase of the dog bags and **FURTHER RESOLVED** the current charge of 50p is to remain in place

e) Request from Blackhall Cricket Social Club to remove a tree

A request has been received from Blackhall Cricket Club to remove tree T16 (acer/maple) which is growing near to the social club. This is a recommendation

from their insurers as there is a potential it may affect the building in the future.

Members were requested to approve the removal at a cost of £650.00.

RESOLVED approval is given to the removal of the tree

mh24-25131 **PLANNING**

Durham County Council Planning Applications approved.

DM/24/02995/FPA	11 Leaholme Terrace Blackhall Colliery Hartlepool TS27 4JD	Single storey front, side and rear extensions.
DM/24/02997/FPA	31 Attlee Avenue Blackhall Rocks Hartlepool TS27 4BY	Two storey extension to side.

RESOLVED the Parish Council has no comment to make with regards to the above applications

mh24-25132 **CORRESPONDENCE**

Invitation to Mayor of Durham City Civic Dinner

RESOLVED information is received and invitation declined.

mh24-25133 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

RESOLVED the next meeting will be held on Monday 24th March 2025 at 6pm in the Council Office, 68 Middle Street, Blackhall Colliery

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD

Chairman

Date,