

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
MONK HESLEDEN PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON THE 21<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER 2024**

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

**Officer** L Wardle (Parish Clerk) A Peace (Estates Manager)

**mh24-2568 TO RECEIVE & ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors' K M Dingle, H Smiles,  
D Teasdale

**RESOLVED** apologies received and accepted

**mh24-2569 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

No declarations of interest were received

**mh24-2570 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE  
30<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024**

A copy of the minutes had been forwarded with the agenda

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

**mh24-2571 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public were in attendance

**mh24-2572 POLICE REPORT**

PCSO K Hall had sent a report via e-mail which had been distributed to members for  
information.

**RESOLVED** the report is received and noted

**mh24-2573 MEMBERS REPORTS OF ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS/EVENTS ON BEHALF  
OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

Councillor Crute attended the East Durham Bowls presentation evening where she  
was asked to present awards.

Councillor Duddin attended the Blackhall ATC meeting and gave a full report.

Councillor O Deinali attended the County Durham Association of Local Councils AGM.

**RESOLVED** the report is received and noted

mh24-2574 **BLACKHALL WELFARE PARK PROJECT** (mh24-2514)

The Clerk provided an update –

- Invitation to tender has been placed on the Gov.uk website and to date 12 contractors have responded
- Planning permission is not required subject to certain height conditions
- A funding application for £20,000 has been submitted to the National Lottery, unfortunately all other sources of funding have been closed to Parish & Town Councils

**RESOLVED** the information is received and noted

mh24-2575 **ESTATES MANAGER REPORT**

The Estates Manager provided a verbal update on the work undertaken since the last meeting and the positive public response to the planters recently installed in Blackhall Colliery.

**RESOLVED** the report is received and **FURTHER RESOLVED** thanks is passed on to the Estates Manager and his team for their hard work in improving the Council's outside spaces.

mh24-2576 **FINANCIAL**

a) To endorse invoices for payment

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

The Clerk confirmed receipt of the VAT refund claim of £25612.14 for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024

| Date       | Payee        | Description                 | Amount    |
|------------|--------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| 01.10.2024 | Grenke       | Copier Rental               | £123.19   |
| 01.10.2024 | Screwfix     | Hardware                    | £113.81   |
| 01.10.2024 | Mastercopy   | Photocopies                 | £63.48    |
| 02.10.2024 | Amazon       | Signs                       | £6.40     |
| 02.10.2024 | Amazon       | Lights                      | £82.97    |
| 02.10.2024 | Event groove | Tickets                     | £92.41    |
| 03.10.2024 | NWG          | Water Supply Council Office | £156.13   |
| 04.10.2024 | P&P Windows  | Bungalow Doors              | £1,696.00 |
| 09.10.2024 | COOP         | Bacs Fees                   | £7.68     |
| 13.10.2024 | EE           | Mobile Phones               | £113.72   |

|            |                       |                           |           |
|------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| 14.10.2024 | Right Fuel Card       | Fuel                      | £108.76   |
| 15.10.2024 | ITC Service           | Anti-Virus Mailbox        | £73.98    |
| 15.10.2024 | DCC                   | Bus Rates B Hall Cem      | £236.00   |
| 15.10.2024 | DCC                   | Bus Rates Council Office  | £323.00   |
| 15.10.2024 | DCC                   | Bus Rates Hes Cem         | £52.00    |
| 15.10.2024 | DCC                   | T Waste Welfare Park      | £108.50   |
| 15.10.2024 | DCC                   | T Waste Blackhall Cem     | £126.62   |
| 15.10.2024 | DCC                   | Dog Bins Grass Cuts       | £768.59   |
| 15.10.2024 | Haswell Catering      | Rem Sunday Buffett        | £574.00   |
| 15.10.2024 | Charles Dickens       | Materials PPE             | £287.29   |
| 15.10.2024 | Affordable Landscapes | Grass Cuts                | £1,248.00 |
| 15.10.2024 | JT Dove               | Materials                 | £262.14   |
| 15.10.2024 | Wykeham               | Trees                     | £927.00   |
| 15.10.2024 | ITC Service           | Anti-Virus Mailbox        | £73.98    |
| 18.10.2024 | HMRC                  | LGPS                      | £5,858.28 |
| 22.10.2024 | A1 Trophy             | Signs                     | £144.00   |
| 22.10.2024 | Regal Print           | Printing Order of Service | £206.00   |
| 22.10.2024 | Blackford's Nurseries | Plants Shrubs             | £240.00   |
| 22.10.2024 | Debmat                | Chickens Green Path       | £8,997.60 |
| 22.10.2024 | Right Fuel Card       | Fuel                      | £43.02    |
| 22.10.2024 | EON                   | Elec Hes Xmas Tree        | £50.50    |
| 22.10.2024 | One Stop Spray Shop   | Van Repairs               | £780.00   |

| Date       | Income          | Amount      |
|------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 01.10.2024 | DCC Precept     | £171,156.44 |
| 02.10.2024 | DCC Grant       | £500.00     |
| 03.10.2024 | Refund Screwfix | £4.49       |
| 04.10.2024 | Bank Interest   | £2,013.66   |
| 08.10.2024 | R G Bennett     | £220.00     |
| 20.10.2024 | Durham Police   | £250.00     |
| 20.10.2024 | Coop Horden     | £220.00     |

b) To accept bank reconciliation @ 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024 & bank transfers

The Clerk had distributed bank reconciliations which as of 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024 showed combined bank balances of £527,013.50, Councillor S Childs checked and signed the reconciliation.

**RESOLVED** the information is received and noted

c) Bank transfers

The following transfers were reported:

£30,000 transfer to Barclays

£30,000 internal transfer from savings to current account

£170,000 internal transfer from current account to savings

**RESOLVED** the information is received and noted

d) To receive income & expenditure report @ 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024

A copy of the income and expenditure report as of 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024 had been distributed with the agenda. The Clerk provided a detailed report and confirmed several of the variances had been approved by members previously with the additional expenditure being allocated from general reserves. The following items were also highlighted for approval-

Amendment to digital cemetery maps additional £300.00

Signage - new noticeboards additional £1500

Defibrillators - replacement batteries and pads additional £500

Pit wheel lights - improved lighting/timer/control box additional £1450

Bungalow repair - replacement doors additional £1000

Blackhall Cemetery grass cutting - one more cut, required additional £1000

**RESOLVED** the report is accepted and **FURTHER RESOLVED** approval is given to the additional expenditure to be met through virements from general reserves

### **TO CONSIDER REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

A request for funding from 1932 Blackhall Squadron Air Training Corps had been circulated with the agenda

**RESOLVED** a funding of total payment of £140.00 is approved

LGA 1972 S137 1932 Blackhall Squadron Air Training Corps

mh24-2577

### **PLANNING**

#### **Durham County Council Planning Applications received**

None received

#### **Durham County Council Planning Applications approved**

None received

#### Update DM/22/00010/MIN Former Colliery Spoil Heap, Hesleden (mh24-2534)

The Clerk provided details of a meeting she attended with County Councillor's Crute & Deinali and the Head of Planning and Solicitor at Durham County Council. Durham County Council are shortly to issue a Breach of Condition Notice, Enforcement Notice and is pursuing the provision of performance guarantee of restoration bond for the site.

Members raised concerns as to how this action would be enforced and regulated.

**RESOLVED** the information is received and noted and **FURTHER RESOLVED** the Clerk is requested to raise with the Head of Planning members concerns with regards to enforcement of the notices

mh24-2578    **CORRESPONDENCE**  
None received

mh24-2579    **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED** the next meeting will be held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 6pm in the Council Office, 68 Middle Street, Blackhall Colliery

**CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD**

Chairman .....

Date .....