

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
MONK HESLEDEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 22nd JANUARY 2024**

Councillor: G M Crute (Chair)

Councillors: R Bowes, S Childs, O Deinali, S Deinali, K M Dingle, G Duddin, A Mason, A Paterson N Thompson

Officer : L A Wardle (Parish Clerk)

mh23-2490 **TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors' L Davison, G Morris, D Teasdale

Apologies were received from A Peace (Estates Manager)

mh23-2491 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

None were received

mh23-2492 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON THE 20TH NOVEMBER 2023 & 4TH DECEMBER 2023**

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

mh23-2493 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public were present

mh23-2494 **POLICE REPORT**

PCSO Goodwin had forwarded an email report for the period 17th December 2023 to 22nd January 2024, a copy of which had been forwarded to members.

RESOLVED the report is received and noted

mh23-2495 **MEMBERS REPORTS OF ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS/EVENTS ON BEHALF OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

The Chairman, Councillor GM Crute attended the Parish Council Christmas tree lighting events at Blackhall & Hesleden, all were well attended. Everyone agreed the trees were the best they have ever been, and thanks were given to the staff for their efforts.

A suggestion was made that perhaps there could be a social media live feed for these events and the annual Remembrance services.

Councillor S Childs attended the Friends of Library Christmas coffee morning and has now appointed as secretary of this group. He also attended the Haswell Mencap Carol service in Durham Cathedral and gave very positive feedback on the service and venue.

Councillor G Duddin attended the Blackhall ATC meeting and advised new officers were now in place, contact information was passed to the Clerk.

With regards to the non-attendance at the annual Remembrance Service 2023 at Blackhall Welfare Park, it was advised this was due to an administration error by the squadron. It was confirmed they would be attending the 2024 fireworks event and Remembrance Service.

The Clerk suggested a working party is formed with regards to the S106 Better Play project.

RESOLVED members were thanked for their attendance and **FURTHER RESOLVED** Councillors' R Bowes, G M Crute, O Deinali & N Thompson are appointed to the S106 Better Play working party.

mh23-2496

ESTATES MANAGER REPORT

A detailed report been forwarded with the agenda and members

RESOLVED the information is received and noted and **FURTHER RESOLVED** thanks is given to the Estates Manager and the team for their continuing hard work and commitment.

mhh23-2497

CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk had distributed a report with the agenda for actions undertaken under delegated authority following consultation with the Chairman

Emergency water repairs Blackhall Welfare Park (mh23-2487)

Due to extreme weather conditions, there had been two leaks on main water feed in the park which required immediate repair which, together with the installation of a stop tap on the bungalow supply, cost £4056.61. This will be an ongoing problem as the pipework in the park is over 80 years old, a quote has been obtained to replace in full at cost of £18,268. The Clerk recommended £20,000 is allocated from reserves to undertake this work, if needed in the future.

RESOLVED the information is received and approval given **FURTHER RESOLVED** the sum of £20,000 is allocated from general reserves to undertake the repairs, if required, in the future.

Durham County Council Tree Grant

The Parish Council has secured a Durham County Council tree grant of £250 towards purchase of 4 sycamore trees at a total cost of £340.00 to be planted in Blackhall Welfare Park.

RESOLVED the information is received and noted

Staffing matters

The apprentice has resigned, there are no plans to replace at the present time.

The vacant full time grounds maintenance post has been advertised with a closing date 15th Feb 2024

RESOLVED the information is received and noted

Website (min ref mhh23-2479)

As agreed in the Council's business plan a contractor has been appointed to build and host a new WCAG compliant website, at a cost of £975.00 this is inclusive of SSL certificate and hosting.

RESOLVED the information is received and noted

Refurbishment of pit wheel lights (min ref mhh23-2480 b)

A contractor has been appointed for work to commence as soon as possible at a cost of £2840.38

RESOLVED the information is received and noted

Purchase of electric fine turf grass cutter (min ref mhh23-2480 b)

Further to the delegated approval given to the Estates Manager and Clerk an order has been placed for an electric grass cutter plus battery at a cost of £14738.38 to be delivered in April 2024. Due to the specialist nature and superior quality of the required machine it was not possible to secure any further quotes.

RESOLVED to waive Financial Regulation 10.2 as three quotes could not be obtained and **FURTHER RESOLVED** retrospective approval for the purchase under the delegated authority given.

mhh23-2498 **TO REVIEW COUNCIL RISK REGISTER & FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT**

A copy of the Council's risk register, together with an action plan and financial risk assessment had been distributed with the agenda for review and approval.

RESOLVED the risk register and financial risk assessment be received and approved

mhh23-2499 **REVIEW OF INTERNAL AUDIT**

A copy of the annual internal audit plan had been distributed with the agenda

RESOLVED the updated audit plan is approve

mhh23-24100 **FINANCIAL**

a) To endorse invoices for payment

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

Date	Payee	Description	Chq/DD/IB	Amount
01.12.23	SSE	Elec Pit Wheel	DD	£52.97
04.12.23	Right Fuel Card	Fuel	DD	£73.75
07.12.23	Standard Security	Alarm repair	IB	£98.34
07.12.23	Speedy Hire	Barriers - fireworks	IB	£351.00
07.12.23	Medics UK	First Aid- fireworks	IB	£234.00

07.12.23	Hutton Fire	Fire Ext annual service	IB	£84.00
07.12.23	DCC	Play Insp Repair	IB	£113.79
07.12.23	MKM	Sand	IB	£39.60
07.12.23	Turfcare	Fertiliser	IB	£536.40
07.12.23	Turfcare	Xmas Trees	IB	£2,880.00
11.12.23	Mulcahy	Xmas Tree H/Hes	IB	£60.00
11.12.23	Co Operative	BACS Fees	IB	£7.68
11.12.23	Right Fuel Card	Fuel	DD	£81.29
13.12.23	A Peace	Re-imburement	IB	£156.41
13.12.23	EE	Mobiles	DD	£105.56
15.12.23	DCC	Rent	DD	£200.00
15.12.23	DCC	Bus Rates Office	DD	£293.00
15.12.23	DCC	Bus Rates BH Cem	DD	£215.00
15.12.23	DCC	T Waste BH Cem	DD	£105.34
15.12.23	DCC	T Waste WP	DD	£105.34
15.12.23	DCC	H&S SLA	DD	£171.54
15.12.23	DCC	Dog bins/grass cut	DD	£1,097.98
15.12.23	ITC	Mailbox Anti -Virus	DD	£76.67
18.12.23	DCC	HMRC LGPS	IB	£8,123.60
18.12.23	Right Fuel Card	Fuel	DD	£30.04
20.12.23	DCC	Salaries	DD	£10,312.91
20.12.23	Lido Garage	HH Battery	IB	£156.00
20.12.23	KwikFlow	Water Repairs	IB	£4,867.93
20.12.23	G Robinson	Hardware	IB	£80.17
20.12.23	KCS	Cleaning	IB	£622.80
20.12.23	Safechem	HT/ T Roll	IB	£82.63
20.12.23	Arco	Staff PPE	IB	£181.76
20.12.23	Babble	Tel/B Band	IB	£186.82
20.12.23	Affordable Landscape	Groundworks	IB	£2,520.00
20.12.23	CK Electrical Services	Elec Works	IB	£3,670.00
20.12.23	Amazon	Tyre Seal Kits	DC	£61.95
21.12.23	Eon	Elec BH Cem	DD	£53.21
22.12.23	Screwfix	Invertor	DC	£104.99
22.12.23	EDF	Electricity WP	DD	£143.22
25.12.23	Right Fuel Card	Fuel	DD	£50.00
27.12.23	EDF	Electricity Office	DD	£124.13
27.12.23	EDF	Elec Xmas Tree	DD	£21.39
28.12.23	Mastercopy	Print Rental	DD	£233.74
05.01.24	NWG Business	Water Supply Office	DD	£138.06
08.01.24	Right Fuel Card	Fuel	DD	£3.30
08.01.24	Corona	Gas Office	DD	£11.52
09.01.24	BACS Fees	Bank Fees	DD	£7.68
10.01.24	GRENKE	Photo Copy Hire	DD	£123.19

11.01.24	Amazon	Folding Door	DC	£215.98
13.01.24	EE	Mobile Phones	DD	£105.56
14.01.24	ITC	Anti V, Mailbox	DD	£95.87
15.01.24	Right Fuel Card	Fuel	DD	£70.18
15.01.24	DCC	B Rates BH Cem	DD	£215.00
15.01.24	DCC	B Rates Office	DD	£293.00
15.01.24	DCC	T Waste W P	DD	£105.34
15.01.24	DCC	T Waste BH Cem	DD	£105.34
15.01.24	DCC	Dog Bins Grass Cut	DD	£1,097.98
17.01.24	GRENKE	Photocopy Set Up	DD	£168.00
18.01.24	DCC	HMRC LGPS	IB	£5,173.20
19.01.24	EON	Elec Xmas Tree	DD	£70.16
22.01.24	Right Fuel Card	Fuel	DD	£30.01
23.01.24	A1 Trophy's	Plaque Refurb	IB	£93.60
23.01.24	Standard Security	Fire Alarm Repair	IB	£86.40
23.01.24	EDF	Elec Supply WP	DD	£82.71
23.01.24	Affordable Landscape	Tree work	IB	£336.00
23.01.24	Krystal Cleaning	Cleaning	IB	£373.68
24.01.24	DCC	Monthly Wages	IB	£9,716.10
26.01.24	New Row Farm	Trees	IB	£504.00
26.01.24	NWG Wave	Water WP	IB	£512.01
28.01.24	Right Fuel Card	Fuel	DD	£123.79
29.01.24	EDF	Elec Xmas Tree	DD	£22.03
29.01.24	EDF	Council Off Elec	DD	£134.83
31.01.24	JT Dove	Cement/Concrete	IB	£62.46
31.01.24	Bristol Street Motors	Service	IB	£398.41
			TOTAL	£59,242.34

RESOLVED the information is received and approved

b) Bank reconciliation @31st December 2023

The Clerk had distributed a bank reconciliation as of 31st December 2023 which showed combined bank balances of £586547.31

RESOLVED the information is received and approved

c) Review of income & expenditure 31st December 2023

A copy of the above report had been forwarded with the agenda for consideration by members.

The Clerk provided information with regards to variances and confirmed overall the Council are within agreed budgets.

RESOLVED the information is received and approved

Durham County Council Planning Applications approved

DM/23/02873/FPA	Mr V Ambler 17 Station Road, Blackhall Rocks, TS27 4AR	Dropped Kerb
DM/22/00102/OUT	Gary Hughes Developments Gateway House 55 Conscliffe Road Darlington DL3 7EH	Outline planning consent for 18 dwellings. Land to the east of Eden House, High Hesleden, TS27 4QF.
DM/23/03139/AD	Knights Meikle Pharmacy 51 Middle Street Blackhall, TS27 4EE	Display of one illuminated sign and one non illuminated sign.

Durham County Council Planning Applications received

DM/23/03698	Hillside Developments Land to the rear and adjacent to 23 Station Road.	Demolition of existing domestic detached garage and re development of a brownfield site with 3 detached houses.
DM/24/00037/FPA	Mr G Holmes 1 Bevin Grove Blackhall Rocks TS27 4BU	Radio antenna to rear.
DM/24/00042/PND	McLarens 55 Attlee Avenue Blackhall Rocks TS27 4BZ	Demolition of residential dwelling formally known as 55 Attlee Avenue, Blackhall Rocks, TS27 4BZ.

Durham County Council Planning Applications withdrawn

DM/23/02924/LB	Mr P Garner Hesleden Hall Farm Monk Hesleden Hesleden TS27 4QB	Removal of existing garden shed and replacement with purpose-built garden room.
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RESOLVED the Parish Council has no comments to make with regards to the applications received

Enforcement Notice Appeal: APP/X1355/C/23/3332060 former colliery spoil heap Hesleden

The Clerk confirmed the Parish Council's comments and objection to this appeal had been forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate

mh23-24102 **CORRESPONDENCE**

The following items were circulated for information:

CDALC – nomination for CDALC President

RESOLVED Monk Hesleden Parish Council nominates Mary Kelly Foy MP as CDALC President

mh23-24103 **DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Monday 19th February 2024 at 6pm in the council office 68 Middle Street, Blackhall Colliery

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD

Chairman

Date