

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
MONK HESLEDEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 29th APRIL 2024**

Councillor: G M Crute (Chair)

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

Officer : L A Wardle (Parish Clerk)

A Peace (Estates Manager)

mh23-24135 **TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors' A H Childs, L Davison,
A Mason, A Paterson & D Teasdale

RESOLVED apologies are received and accepted

mh23-24136 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Councillors' G M Crute, O Deinali, S Deinali declared a Registerable Interest in Item 12

mh23-24137 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 18th MARCH 2024**

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

mh23-24138 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None present

mh23-24139 **POLICE REPORT**

PCSO Goodwin had forwarded an email report for the period 18th March 2024 to 29th
April 2024, a copy of which had been forwarded to members.

RESOLVED the report is received and noted

mh23-24140 **MEMBERS REPORTS OF ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS/EVENTS ON BEHALF OF
THE PARISH COUNCIL**

Councillor G Duddin had attended the Blackhall ATC meeting and gave a verbal report

RESOLVED the information is received and noted

mh2324141 **ROYAL BRITISH LEGION – BRIAN DRUMMOND**

Brian is the Secretary Easington and District RBL and he has been responsible for the
erection of the kneeling soldiers and poppies which are installed in our villages near to
Remembrance Sunday, all are self-funded

A number of requests were made –

Supply of timber for the manufacture of more soldiers

A flagpole to be installed next to the War Memorial in Blackhall Welfare Park
Purchase of a suitable flag

The Clerk enquired if assistance could be given to secure a cornet player for the Hesleden Remembrance service, Brian was hopeful he could help

RESOLVED agreement to the supply of timber and the installation of a suitable flagpole and flag

mh23-24142 **ESTATES MANAGERS REPORT**

The Estates Manager's report had been distributed with the agenda, providing an update on the work undertaken over the past month and confirmed all areas are ready for the forthcoming bowls and cricket season.

It has been one of the wettest winters on record with the drainage being at full capacity at Blackhall Cemetery. There have been very few days when flooding has occurred and when it has, this has been due to an extreme downpour, with the area draining quite quickly. An on-site meeting has been held with a contractor to discuss if any steps which could be taken to improve the drainage at Blackhall Cemetery and in their opinion, they cannot suggest any further works to improve the drainage.

RESOLVED the information is received and noted

mh23-24143 **CLERK'S REPORT**

No items to report

mh23-24144 **FINANCIAL**

a) To endorse invoices for payment

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

Date	Payee	Description	Amount
26.03.24	J T Dove	Sand	£58.74
26.03.24	Durham County Council	Removal seat, install new & noticeboard	£230.40
26.03.24	Durham County Council	Playgrounds inspect 23-24	£1120.90
26.03.24	Arco	Uniform	£121.18
26.03.24	KCS	Cleaning	£539.76
28.03.24	C Dickens	PPE uniform	£129.11
01.04.24	Right Fuel Card	Fuel	£109.12
02.04.24	Zurich Insurance	Annual renewal	£7376.39
02.04.24	EDF	Electricity Council Offices	£131.29
02.04.24	EDF	Electricity Xmas Tree	£20.75
03.04.24	NWG Business	Water Supply Council Office	£130.17
04.04.24	GRENKE	Photocopier Hire	£123.19
04.04.24	Mastercopy	Copies Printing	£75.46
08.04.24	Right Fuel Card	Fuel	£43.61

08.04.24	Corona Energy	Gas Supply office & changing rooms	£289.24
13.04.24	EE	Mobile Phones	£113.72
13.04.24	BACS Fees	Charges	£7.54
15.04.24	ITC Service	Mailbox Anti -Virus New pc	£937.31
15.04.24	Right Fuel Card	Fuel	£89.10
15.04.24	Durham C Council	Bus Rates Hesleden Cemetery	£53.06
15.04.24	Durham C Council	Bus Rates Blackhall Cemetery	£239.02
15.04.24	Durham County Council	Bus Rates Council Offices	£320.53
16.04.24	Safety First	First Aid Boxes	£51.54
18.04.24	Babble Cloud Ltd	Tel Broad Band	£322.62
18.04.24	HMRC LGPS	HMRC LGPS	£5,115.86
18.04.24	Eon	Elec Cem	£54.85
22.04.24	Right Fuel Card	Fuel	£38.77
24.04.24	Salaries	Monthly Wages	£10665.95
25.04.24	EDF	Elec Welfare Park	£67.42
25.04.24	Babble	Telephones	£83.52
29.04.24	EDF	Elec Supply Xmas Tree	£21.39
29.04.24	EDF	Elec Council Off	£127.87
29.04.24	Right Fuel Card	Fuel	£86.09
30.04.24	Durham County Council	Bedding Plants	£1,433.23
30.04.24	WEL Medical	Defib Pads	£151.02
30.04.24	Rialtas	Omega Sub	£428.40
30.04.24	PENA	Pat Testing	£93.00
30.04.24	G Robinson	Hardware	£83.21
30.04.24	Durham County Council	Occupational Health Appt	£100.00
30.04.24	Turfcare	Travelling Sprinkler	£216.00
30.04.24	Steadfast Security	Annual Maintenance	£312.00
30.04.24	JT Dove	Paving Flag	£12.30
30.04.24	GNG Waste	Skip Empty	£276.00
30.04.24	Hutton Fire Protection	Fire Extinguisher	£21.60
30.04.24	CDALC	Annual Sub	£852.63
30.04.24	CDALC	Cllr Training	£10.00
30.04.24	GNG Waste	Skip Empty	£276.00
30.04.24	NWG Business	Water Supply Cem	£100.47
30.04.24	Posturite	Workstation Assessment	£210.00
30.04.24	Rialtas	Cem Software	£330.00
30.04.24	Pear Technology	Mapping Maintenance	£1,200.00
30.04.24	Pear Technology	Map	£240.00
30.04.24	JRB Enterprise	Dog Bags	£1846.32

30.04.24	The Print Factory	St Georges Sign	£331.20
30.04.24	Thomas Sherriff	Ultra Mower	£17484.00
30.04.24	Aitkens	Grass Seed Fert	£502.00
			£54,614.80

RESOLVED the information is received and approved

b) To receive bank reconciliation @ 31st March 2024

The Clerk had distributed a bank reconciliation as of 31st March 2024 which showed combined bank balances of £526,739.73

RESOLVED the information is received and noted

c) To receive Income & Expenditure report @31st March 2024

A copy of the above report had been forwarded with the agenda for consideration by members, the Clerk confirmed expenditure will be below the agreed budget

RESOLVED the information is received and noted

d) To approve Statement of Accounts @31st March 2024

A copy of the Council's statements of accounts at 31st March 2024 had been distributed members for approval

RESOLVED the statement of accounts @ 31st March 2024 be received and approved

e) To receive Internal Audit report for year ending 31st March 2024

A copy of the 2023/24 internal audit report undertaken by the council's appointment internal auditor W D Moore had been distributed with the agenda. The report provided a substantial level of assurance confirming the Council's control framework and procedures are effective in managing the associated risks

RESOLVED Internal Audit report for year ending 31st March 2024 is received and accepted

f) Appointment of internal auditor for the year ending 31st March 2025

The Clerk recommended WD Moore be appointed as the council's internal auditor for the financial year ending 31st March 2025 at a cost of £600.00.

RESOLVED W D Moore is appointed as the council's internal auditor for the financial year ending 31st March 2025

g) To endorse Durham Council Service Level Agreement for H R Services

RESOLVED the Service Level Agreement is received and approved

h) To approve contract for installation new footpath at Chicken's Green Play area

As discussed previously there is a need to install a new footpath leading to the play area at Chicken's Green. It has been difficult to secure 3 quotations as required by the council's financial regulations and therefore the Clerk requested financial regulation 11.1(h) is waived

Company 1 £7498.00

Company 2 £13999.00

RESOLVED Financial Regulation 11.1(h) is waived and the contract is awarded to Company 1

mh23-24132 **PLANNING**

No notifications for the Parish had been received

Appeal against enforcement notice alleging breach of Planning Permission DM/19/02315/VOCMV, former colliery spoil heap Hesleden

The Clerk confirmed Durham County Planning has withdrawn this enforcement notice, it is unclear why this action has been taken. The Clerk is to attend a meeting with the Head of Planning, County Councillors and Councillor Morris on 2nd May 2024, a report will be given at the next council meeting.

RESOLVED the information is received and noted

mh23-24133 **CORRESPONDENCE**

Blackhall Banner Group

Councillors’ G M Crute, O Deinali, S Deinali declared a Registerable Interest in this item as they are members of the banner committee. They took no part in the vote and Vice Chair Rob Bowes took the chair for this item.

The Clerk confirmed due to timescales the request to print tickets had been provided.

After discussion the Clerk was requested to provide raffle prizes to the value of £30.00 for the forthcoming fundraiser.

RESOLVED

Blackhall Banner Group
S137 £30.00

Thank you card from a resident praising the staff for their good work at Blackhall Cemetery

RESOLVED the information is received and noted

mh23-24134 **DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Monday 20th May 2024 at 6pm in the council office 68 Middle Street, Blackhall Colliery

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD

Chairman

Date

