

Minutes of the Meeting of Hexhamshire Parish Council held on Thursday 11th July
2024
in the Malcolm Caisley Meeting Rooms, Whitley Chapel Parish Hall

1. Present – Marge Rastall (Chair), John Austin, Roger Rutherford, Nicola Matthews, Ed Parker, Lauren Porteous, Hilary Kristensen, Davy Short, Greg Finch, Susanna Nixon (Clerk)

Apologies for Absence –Colin Horncastle (County Councillor), Gill Whatmough

2. Minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 09th May 2024.

It was agreed the minutes were a true record of the meeting.

3. Declarations of Interest – None

4. Matters Arising

4.1 Verges:

- The verges were cut, however there are stretches that have been incorrectly cut. A stretch along Mire House has been incorrectly cut. This matter will be followed up as it is of high concern that it remains a health & safety issue.

4.2 Rushwood complaint:

- No further action has been taken on formal complaint. Colin Horncastle was to follow up, but this has not been reported back. Parish Clerk will reach out to Colin Horncastle for information. Concerns were expressed by council members that they do not there is an effective way to communicate with Colin Horncastle or and have these issues addressed and resolved.

5. Resilience Hub

5.1 The work on the fuse board and the Electrical Compliance Report have now been completed. Invoice to be submitted.

6. Public Participation - None

7. Matters for discussion with the Unitary Councillor

7.1 Whitehall Chapel Junction –

Hilary Kristensen reported the matter on Fix My Street and it was reported that the works would be done in the next 14 days. The works promised have still not been completed.

- 7.2 Lilswood Caravan Park – The council wrote to the Head of planning at NCC to complain about the lack of enforcement of planning conditions at Lilswood Caravan site. Reply expected by July 30th.

8. Correspondence -

There have been website issues for concerning the Parish Council website. The version of Wordpress that is used is now outdated. Edward Robson is helping to resolve the issue.

9. Finance

£99 for playground inspection.

£90 Whitley Chapel Parish Hall -multiple bookings of the meeting room.

Mistakenly paid Mr White a salary of £205.28, which Mr White has been informed of and is refunding the amount. DD is now definitely cancelled.

9.1 Balances as of 28th June 2024:

Treasurer's Account	£16107.74
Sportsfield Account	£2,104.52
Dukesfield Account	£5,389.83
Wetlands Account	£1,193.91
Resilience Account	£7,035.56

9.2 Agar Forms – The Parish Council accounts are open to public inspection as of June 17th 2024. There was missing information consisting of an accepted Account Reconciliation in the first documents sent over which will now be resolved.

10. Planning–

- 24/01767/FUL – Installation of double skinned oil tank and installation of external metal stair to access loft storage space in garage – Dairy House, Steel – Council approve and support.
- 24/02102 VARYCO -Change to materials at Dairy House – Council approve and support.

11. Highways, footpaths and BOATS

Footpaths/BOATS: - No reports.

Roads:

Highways –

11.1 Rennys Barn – Hilary Kristensen offered to go and take photographs of previously discussed concerns raised about the stability of the road. This will be reported via Fix my street.

11.2 - The concern of high speed vehicles on the country lanes was raised.

Richard McKenzie from the Highways & Transport department at NCC replied with the following statement;

'I will need to confirm on site but from an initial look it appears that bend warning signs may be appropriate, particularly for northbound traffic which can't see the bend because of the hill. I'll look into it further and add the signs to the programme if appropriate. Signs to warn of horses, pedestrians and cyclists are not permitted where they are part of the traffic flow.

Motorists are expected to know that they could come across any of those at any time virtually anywhere on the network, so we cannot provide these.

They are only permitted where horses frequently join or cross a road, or where a signed cycle route joins a road.'

12. **Reports**

Wetlands: No Report.

Dukesfield Arches: No report.

Sportsfield: - Following the playground inspection report, 1 concern was raised, and that was that the Basketball Hoops need removing.

School: - Mrs A Haywood has begun a shared headship role between Whitley Chapel C of E School and Slaley First school.

13. Any Other Business: None.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm.