

HAZLERIGG PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 28th November 2024 at HAZLERIGG VILLAGE MEMORIAL HALL

Present: Councillors Locke (Chair), Barbour, Down, Fairley & Garbett.

In attendance: 2 residents & Ali Lamb (Clerk)

AGENDA

Item	Action
<p>1. Welcome & apologies Cllr Locke welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>Apologies were received from ward councillor Cllr Avaei.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of the meeting held on 31st October 2024 were agreed and signed by Cllr Locke.</p>	
<p>3. Matters arising not otherwise on the agenda</p> <p>Urban Green – Newcastle City Council’s Cabinet have made the decision to bring their responsibilities for parks, open spaces, and allotments back in house. Urban Green’s staff will also be brought back to the Council. David Theobald will be overseeing the transition. It was agreed, that through David Theobald, a request would be made for Sarah Capes to attend the Parish Council’s January meeting to update the Parish Council on progress since her last visit in January 24.</p> <p>All Parishes Meeting – 28.11.24 – Cllrs Barbour & Locke attended the meeting earlier today and reported that there had been presentations on the Movement Strategy consultation and the Ouseburn Way Project (OW). Paul Balmont, the newly appointed OW Project Manager had said that he was looking for project ideas. It was agreed that the Parish Council would respond to the Movement Strategy Consultation.</p> <p>It had also been noted that the Local Plan (Newcastle Plan) would now be a joint venture with Gateshead.</p> <p>On housing issues, Vicky McDermott had been introduced as the new Director of Housing, but Parishes were invited to forward specific casework issues to Christine Herriot.</p> <p>It was also confirmed that NCC would not consider a trial ban on herbicide use. Cllr Barbour noted that the Parish should put their agenda requests in earlier.</p> <p>Castle Annual Ward Meeting – Parish Councillors attending reported that they didn’t like the market place format and would be conveying that view to the Communities Officer.</p> <p>It was noted that there was an appeal made at the meeting for residents to report sightings of masked e-bike riders to the Police who were mapping their movements.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Locke</p> <p>Cllr Locke</p>
<p>5. Actions / updates from Ward Councillors None</p>	
<p>6. Police Matters</p> <p>4 reported Crimes in September 2024:</p> <p>On or near Charles Street – 1 x theft</p>	

<p>On or near Ferguson Crescent – 1 x violence or sexual offense.</p> <p>On or near Norham Avenue - 1 x violence or sexual offense.</p> <p>On or near Newmarket Close – 1 x theft from a person.</p>	
<p>7. Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suggested contact person for Kenton Hub (Housing) – Claire McGuinness - Various Newcastle Parks Forum & Urban Green updates. - Clarification / confirmation that the proposed footpath through the show field will be the subject of a separate planning application. Cllr Locke also reported that she has been informed that the Environment Agency had objected to the Strategic Routes Planning application. - The advert for Parish Council meetings has been distributed to shops etc in the village. - It has been confirmed that there are no posters available to advertise the polling places consultation. - Updates from the Communities Team and Community Action Northumberland. - Northern Gas Networks stakeholder updates including an invite to a webinar. - Reply from Planning Enforcement about the demolition of the Spring Vale factory. - Reply from Housing Services about the ASB issues in the garages – Cllr Down said that following a site meeting, street wardens are now visiting the site occasionally and that the vandalised garage door will be repaired. Streetlighting in the area is being reviewed. Housing are reluctant to remove the fly tipping in case it encourages more to be dumped there. Cllr Down was thanked for his work on this. - Lithium Battery Safety Campaign updates. - Adverts for new websites, fitness apps and playground equipment. - Promotion of the Parks & Allotments consultation. RL to respond. - Information about how to access NCC's Tree Issues portal. - Circulation of options for a memorial bench for the village. Cllr Barbour said that a bench made of recycled materials would be maintenance free and could be easily engraved with a commemorative message. It would cost around £500. A decision on the location is deferred to the January meeting. - Banks Group – offer to meet the Parish Council. - Ferguson Crescent resurfacing – scheduled to begin on 13th December 24. - New houses (Ferguson Crescent) – permission granted. - Notification that a planning application for 7 new kennels has been made for Hawthorn Cottage. 	<p>Cllr Locke</p>
<p>9. Financial matters</p> <p>Current banking position after tonight's cheques - £5993.15</p> <p>The invoice for this year's grass cutting hasn't been received – AL to chase up.</p> <p>Cllr Locke would like to get a balance on the NWL grant.</p> <p>Cheques were authorised for HMRC - £70.20 and the Clerk - £281.16.</p> <p>The precept discussion was deferred to the January meeting.</p>	<p>Clerk Cllr Barbour</p>

10. Environment Planning & Highways

- **Litter** – Cllr Avaei will report back on the decision about the location of a pop-up recycling facility in 2025 to a future meeting.
- **Environment** – 700 bulbs have been planted since the last meeting in the roundabout and at the entrances to the village.
The bushes near the Premier Shop have been trimmed and litter picked by NCC.
- **Orchard** – The pruning event on 7.12.24 has been advertised on Facebook and a flyer placed in the notice board. It has been agreed that a pear tree will be provided to replace the dead tree.
It was suggested that a ward grant application might be made for maintenance costs for the orchard – this year’s ward funding round closes on 31.12.24.
- **Speeding** – it has not been possible to get a more detailed breakdown of the speed survey results from NCC. It was agreed to request more speed surveys, further away from the village on Coach Lane next year.
- **Springvale demolition** – enquiries had been made to NCC in relation to the demolition of the old mine building at the Springvale factory and a holding email response was received so more details are needed.
- **Great Park Developments** – Cllr Locke attended the Nature Conservation Steering Group meeting in November and provided an update. It was noted that the new mounds in Cell 3 appear to be just as high as the previous ones and that the soil being moved doesn’t seem to be processed in anyway before being relocated. This was raised at the meeting, as well as the fact that deer are accessing the fenced off areas and running around between diggers and trucks. A request was also made to remove the broken plastic tree tubes.
Wildlife surveys for the group reveal a decline or loss of many species. Cllr Locke commented that there did not appear much proactive work to halt the declines, despite this being set out in the original legal agreement for NGP. A resident noted that Havannah Park was attracting more birds because residents were putting food out.
- **High Ridge** – the Parish Council agreed to accept the easement offer and asked AL to write to them and ask for more information about the arrangements for solicitors; tree loss and a possible site visit; the trench sharing idea raised at the last meeting; clarity on the impact on High Ridge users during the works and their knowledge of any mine workings.
A risk assessment for High Ridge needs to be completed as part of the Public Liability Insurance cover. AL will draft in the coming weeks.
- **Havannah** – Cllr Locke spoke to the UGN ranger at the Newcastle Parks Forum and asked about outstanding works in the reserve and is waiting for a response.
- **Grass cutting** – despite site meetings, the actions agreed are still not being delivered. The issues will be deferred to the January meeting together with a discussion about HPC buying a mower.

Clerk

Cllr
Locke

Clerk

Clerk

4. Issues raised by residents

A resident asked if the names of the war heroes from the village would be engraved on the memorial bench. Cllr Barbour said that the preference was for a general commemorative phrase because the names of the individuals had already been commemorated on other local memorials.

Cllr Down suggested that the findings from his research could be made into a booklet.

<p>A resident enquired about the results of the air quality monitoring being done by the Airport and Cllr Down said they would be reported at the next Airport Consultative meeting and shared at the Parish Council meeting in January.</p>	<p>Cllr Down</p>
<p>11. Other issues raised by Councillors Cllr Locke passed on her thanks for the work on the Newsletter.</p>	

Next meeting of Hazlerigg Parish Council will be held on Thursday 30th January 2025 at Hazlerigg District Memorial Hall at 6pm.