

## HAZLERIGG PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 29<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2024 at HAZLERIGG VILLAGE MEMORIAL HALL

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

**In attendance:** Ward Councillor Avaei, 1 resident and & Ali Lamb (Clerk)

#### AGENDA

Item	Action
<p><b>1. Welcome &amp; apologies</b> Cllr Locke welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p><b>Apologies</b> were received from Cllrs Garbett &amp; Young, Ward Cllr Campion &amp; PCSO Mood, James Cowen &amp; Mark Jamieson.</p>	
<p><b>2. Minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024</b> were agreed and signed by Cllr Locke.</p>	
<p><b>3. Matters arising not otherwise on the agenda</b></p> <p><b>Grass Cutting</b> – whether or not NCC were observing ‘No Mow May’ was discussed and Cllr Avaei agreed to find out. It was also agreed that NCC should be approached to establish what the grass cutting regime for Hazlerigg would be this year. The City Council have also confirmed that there will be an increase in the cost of the Grillo cuts on High Ridge in line with inflation. The cuts must be booked in with NCC for June &amp; September. It was also agreed that if ‘No Mow May’ is being observed, this must be communicated to the residents. Cllr Down asked if there was a map of NCC’s grass cutting areas and Cllr Barbour agreed to forward it.</p> <p><b>Ogle Avenue Roundabout</b> – Cllr Fairley reported that the box plants have survived the winter, but the roundabout needs more attention. Cllr Campion was looking into getting a planter for the centre of the roundabout – Cllr Avaei will chase this up. Cllr Barbour confirmed that there was some funds available from the Parish’s budget for project work to improve the roundabout and it was agreed that some of that budget should be used to purchase a cordless strimmer to keep the roundabout and other areas tidy. Cllr Barbour will research the purchase of a strimmer. It was agreed that hydrangeas would be a suitable container plant and would be purchased by the Parish Council together with a container if Cllr Campion’s enquiries were unsuccessful. Cllr Fairley also agreed to approach Plants Plus to see if they could donate plants. The project work on the roundabout will be progressed after Easter.</p> <p><b>Urban Green actions</b> – it was agreed that the Clerk would write to UG – Sarah Capes &amp; Barbara Hooper – to chase up the written response to the Parish Council’s questions as agreed at the January meeting.</p> <p><b>Swifts</b> – the Parish Council will contact the Northumberland Wildlife Trust to identify any opportunities to work together to deliver the swift boxes funded by the Castle Ward Committee. A resident said that Bellway Miller’s commitments to put up swift</p>	<p><b>Cllr Avaei</b> <b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Barbour</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Avaei</b> <b>Cllr Barbour</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Fairley</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Locke</b></p>

<p>boxes on their properties was unfulfilled. It was also noted, in relation to the developer, that the pavilion they had built remained unoccupied and there was construction rubbish evident all over. Cllr Locke agreed to contact Chris Bird of Bellway Miller to raise the issue of the swift boxes, the pavilion, and the build-up of rubbish in the SUDs ponds.</p> <p>The Clerk was also asked to print off the plan of bird box sites in the village.</p> <p><b>WW1 Commemoration</b> – Cllr Down has been able to access some records of fallen villagers through the Tyneside Irish Centre. He will continue his research and approach local regiments to ask if they want to be involved in an event in November (not Remembrance Sunday).</p> <p>Cllr Barbour will look into the possibility of purchasing large poppy decorations for the lamp posts in the village and the Clerk will make enquiries about fixing them.</p> <p><b>Council Tax Base</b> – following enquiries with NCC, it was confirmed that the 198 properties reported to pay council tax at the previous meeting, were in fact the number of band D properties paying council tax not the total number of properties paying council tax.</p>	<p><b>Cllr Locke</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Down</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Barbour / Clerk</b></p>
<p><b>4. Issues raised by residents</b></p> <p>A resident said that he wanted to discuss parish boundaries which will be discussed under the item later in the agenda and the flooding in the drainage ditches in Havannah. It was agreed that the flooding issue would be picked up in the email to Urban Green.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<p><b>5. Actions / updates from Ward Councillors</b></p> <p>Cllr Avaei noted several panning updates which he had received which HPC had not. He agreed to forward those to HPC and contact the Cabinet member to establish why HPC aren't being consulted even though a request has been made to Planning to be added to the mailing list.</p>	<p><b>Cllr Avaei</b></p>
<p><b>6. High Ridge – Grant Funding &amp; planned expenditure</b></p> <p>Cllr Locke confirmed that a strimmer was included in the funding bid as previously discussed. The bid also included interpretation boards, commissioning a management plan and community events.</p> <p>Cllr Barbour noted that we are still waiting for an outcome from the Brunton Quarry Planning application which, if successful, would mean work on High Ridge to install water pipes which could affect the timing of planned interventions. Cllr Barbour agreed to chase up progress.</p>	<p><b>Cllr Barbour</b></p>
<p><b>7. Boundary Commission Review</b></p> <p>Following a briefing for Ward and Parish Councillors, it was reported that the boundary commission had agreed that Newcastle City Council's size would remain at 78 councillors – 3 for each of the 26 wards. The second phase of their consultation – ward boundaries and ward names, known as Warding Arrangements – had opened on 23<sup>rd</sup> January until 1<sup>st</sup> April. The boundary commission are seeking community views on where ward boundaries should be and what those areas should be called. There are 3 criteria being considered – (1) the new boundary must deliver electoral equality – that is that all 26 wards have roughly the same number of electors; (2) that ward boundaries respect communities of identity and interest; and (3) the boundaries lead to effective and convenient local government.</p>	

<p>A change in ward boundaries is necessary in our ward because the population of electors is 37% greater than the average so the new ward boundary must reduce that number.</p> <p>A map of the ward and parish boundaries was given out to take away and draw suggestions on – a final submission from the Parish Council will be confirmed at the next meeting but submissions from individuals to the consultation are also welcome. It was also noted that Parish boundaries will not be considered under this review and that changes to those boundaries can only be considered by NCC under a Community Governance Review. It was agreed to write to the Head of Democratic Services at NCC to establish when a Community Governance Review is possible given the enthusiasm from some residents in Havannah Park to be part of the Hazlerigg Parish given their close connections to the village and also to establish when City Boundaries might be considered for change given that the village is split between Newcastle and North Tyneside. It was also noted that residents in the North Tyneside part of the village aren't eligible to use Brunswick Tip.</p> <p>Cllr Avaei said that currently 40% of the electorate in Castle Ward live in Newcastle Great Park.</p>	<b>Clerk</b>
<p><b>8. Police Matters</b></p> <p>Reported crimes in December 2023 in Hazlerigg were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 x violence or sexual offense – Lieven Street</li> <li>1 x anti-social behaviour – Lola Street</li> <li>1 x violence or sexual offense – Charles Street</li> <li>1 x violence or sexual offense – Matfen Street</li> <li>1 x anti-social behaviour – Windt Street</li> <li>1 x criminal damage or arson – Arkle Street</li> <li>2 x violence or sexual offenses &amp; 1 x public order offense – Ferguson Crescent</li> <li>2 x violence or sexual offenses – Castle Street</li> </ul> <p>It was noted that the reported crime hadn't necessarily been committed in these locations, it was the location that the report had been made from.</p> <p>Parish Councillors reported that the problem of trying car doors had decreased and noted that arrests had been made for this offense in another area of the city.</p> <p>On the issue of pavement parking and checking to find out if the vehicles were taxed or not, Cllr Locke agreed to write to the Police &amp; Crime Commissioner.</p> <p>Cllr Fairley also raised concern for car owners left with little choice other than to park on partially pavements where road conditions meant that emergency services and bin lorries would not be able to access the streets if everyone parked fully on the road.</p>	<b>Cllr Locke</b>
<p><b>9. Correspondence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All Parishes meeting with NCC – 13.3.24 at 4pm. This is an online meeting that Cllrs Barbour, Locke &amp; the clerk will attend. The clerk was asked to write to NCC to request the agenda and notes from the previous meeting.</li> <li>- Litter on High Ridge – this is actually an issue about the communal bins at Ridge Court. Cllr Avaei agreed to take this up with the resident and the clerk was asked to write to her to explain.</li> <li>- A resident also complained about fly tipped garden furniture on Havannah Park. Cllr Locke agreed to add this issue to her letter to Bellway Miller and raise it with Brunswick PC.</li> <li>Bee's Needs Week – seeking commitments to do things to support Bees -. Cllr Fairley suggested holding an event in the Centre – it was agreed to put this on the March agenda for further discussion.</li> <li>-Proposed Brunswick Pavilion and cricket pitch – it was agreed to invite Castle Ward Communities Officer to the March meeting to discuss the project.</li> </ul>	<b>Clerk</b>  <b>Cllr Avaei / Clerk</b>  <b>Cllr Locke</b>  <b>Clerk</b>  <b>Clerk</b>

<p>- The Great Park Panning Officer has offered to provide a written answer to the Parish Council's questions about planning issues there.</p> <p>- Keep Britain Tidy – Great British Spring Clean 15<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> March – invitation to make a pledge to collect litter during the campaign.</p>	
<p><b>10. Financial Matters</b></p> <p>Cheques were approved and signed for £149.96 – Clerk and £37.60 – HMRC.</p> <p>The balance at the bank after this month's cheques is £4,648.50. Plus, the £3,000 grant funding set aside for High Ridge.</p>	
<p><b>11. Environment, Planning &amp; Highways</b></p> <p><b>Orchard Planting Day</b> – Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 11am. Register with NE Community Forest.</p> <p><b>Trees</b> – it appears that the planting plan is not being followed since 3 trees have been planted behind the Centre which will eventually interfere with residential gardens. It was agreed to chase up the planting with the Tree Officer and enquire about the locations for the rest of the tree allocation for the village.</p> <p><b>Litter</b> – the request for the relocation has been submitted and a link to an online plan of bin locations circulated. Cllr Down noted that the plan didn't appear to be accurate, and the Clerk was asked to raise this with the Team.</p> <p>Litter pick Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March.</p> <p><b>Hedgehogs</b> – deferred to the March agenda.</p> <p><b>Speeding, road safety and traffic management</b> – Coach Lane speed humps are planned to be installed between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> May.</p> <p>It was agreed to seek an update on the highway maintenance issues previously raised with NCC.</p> <p><b>Newcastle Plan</b> – Cllrs Locke &amp; Fairley attended the drop in event and a submission will be made on behalf of the Parish Council highlighting our priorities of protecting green space, biodiversity, telecommunications, and allotments.</p> <p><b>Newcastle Great Park</b> – Strategic routes – more information has been requested from the developer by NCC. HPC are looking forward to a written update from the planning officer.</p> <p><b>Elliot Walk</b> – a site visit is to be arranged with Mark Todd (NCC) to secure their cooperation with the boulder project.</p>	<p><b>Cllr Locke</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Locke</b></p>
<p><b>12. Other issues raised by Councillors</b></p> <p>Cllr Fairley reported an ongoing problem with buses being unreliable, especially in the early evening. Cllr Avaei agreed to ask Cllr Campion to investigate.</p>	<p><b>Cllrs Avaei / Campion</b></p>

**Next meeting of Hazlerigg Parish Council will be held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024 at Hazlerigg District Memorial Hall at 7pm.**