

HAZLERIGG PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 26TH JANUARY 2023 AT HAZLERIGG VILLAGE MEMORIAL HALL

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

In attendance: Councillor Avaei (Castle Ward Councillor), Councillor Fox (Weetslade Ward), Councillors Littleton & Couchman (Woolsington Parish Council), Ali Lamb (Parish Clerk), 7 local residents, PCSOs Linda Smith & Anthony, & Chris Croft former North Tyneside Councillor and 5G mast campaigner.

AGENDA

Item	Action
<p>1. Welcome & apologies Cllr Locke welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from - Parish Councillors Young, Younghusband & Garbett, Alison Flanagan-Wood (NCC)</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of the meeting held on 24th November 2022 were agreed and signed by Cllr Locke.</p>	
<p>3. Matters arising from the previous meeting None that aren't already on the agenda.</p>	
<p>4. Issues raised by residents Residents raised ongoing concerns about the 5G mast in the village and the health risks they fear it poses. Cllr Locke explained that the Parish Council, after careful consideration, believe that all the avenues open to them have been exhausted and that they can't take the matter any further. She appealed for the City Councillors to get involved. She also noted that the matter would be discussed later in the meeting following contact from a campaigner in North Tyneside offering new information. Cllr Avaei said that he had arranged a meeting with Parklands Ward Councillor, Robin Ashby, to discuss procedural issues in relation to the installation of the mast and how they might be used as a basis for further challenge. Cllr Avaei will report back on the outcome of that meeting in due course. Cllr Locke confirmed that the window for legal challenge had now closed but a challenge based on procedural issues had no time limit.</p>	Cllr Avaei
<p>5. Woolsington Parish Council – information sharing and the potential for joint working in relation to their biodiversity projects. Cllrs Littleton & Couchman outlined the biodiversity projects going on in Woolsington Parish including 3 special projects funded by the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) from housing developments – Bluebell Dene; Parish Ponds; Abbotswood & the Airports plans. The Cllrs explained that they believed that conservation work should have no boundaries and the proximity of Hazlerigg & Woolsington Parishes opened up an important opportunity to work together on this issue. The health & wellbeing benefits of access to biodiverse, natural spaces are now widely understood as evidenced by the NHS programme of Social Prescribing which can include patients being referred for outdoor activity programmes as part of their recovery plan.</p>	

<p>WPC is looking to support the City Council's plans and strategy for Wildlife Enhancement Corridors (one of the key targets in their draft Nature Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) – Landscape, Trees & Biodiversity which has been prepared in accordance with the Town & Country Planning Act. The Ouseburn River is an important link between wild life areas and runs through both parishes and the Airport's land. Woolsington and Hazlerigg parishes share a border at Throckley.</p> <p>Cllr Locke noted that the Environment Act obliges all public bodies to conserve and enhance wildlife.</p> <p>The Airports commitment to enhancing wildlife corridors was also noted.</p> <p>Woolsington Parish Council would like to explore the possibility of establishing a Forum for both parish councils to work together on this topic.</p> <p>Hazlerigg Parish Councillors agreed with this approach.</p> <p>A paper outlining Woolsington Parish Ponds project was circulated at the meeting. The ponds are now under the ownership of Taylor Wimpey / Persimmons.</p> <p>Funding from Northumbria Water Ltd.'s Blue Spaces fund has been match funded by Woolsington Parish Council and Callerton & Throckley Ward Committee for the Parish Ponds project.</p> <p>Cllr Thorp asked if the project included work with schools. Cllr Couchman said that grants of up to £500 were on offer to the 4 primary schools in the parish for biodiversity work. Unfortunately, schools weren't able to visit the ponds currently because of poor access to the area – they are 1 mile from Newbiggin Hall, and mini bus access isn't possible. However, the new owners are committed to improving access.</p> <p>Cllrs Littleton & Coachman were thanked for their presentation by Cllr Locke.</p> <p>Action – a joint forum between Woolsington & Hazlerigg Parish Councils will be established.</p>	<p>Woolsington & Hazlerigg Parish Clerks</p>
<p>6. North Tyneside Council & Cross Border Working</p> <p>Cllr Michelle Fox (Weetslade Ward) introduced herself and said that she was a newly elected councillor. She acknowledged the issues that affected Hazlerigg Village could be complicated by half the village being in North Tyneside and half in Newcastle. Currently, speeding on Coach Lane and public transport / bus services were such issues. A speed reduction plan for the North Tyneside part of Coach Lane was in hand but she would like to see more joined up work between the Councils in future.</p> <p>Cllr Locke asked if any progress had been made on securing funding to extend the circulation of the Hazlerigg Parish Council newsletter to the north Tyneside part of the village?</p> <p>Cllr Barbour explained that the newsletter was funded from the precept and that it wasn't appropriate to spend that money outside the area it had been collected from. Cllr Fox said she would chase up her original enquiries about funding for the newsletter – it was confirmed that the amount that would be needed was around £120 per annum.</p> <p>Cllr Fox said she would like more information about the numbers of residents and households shared by HPC & Weetslade Ward. A resident suggested that Council Tax records might be a source.</p> <p>Cllr Locke thanked Cllr Fox for attending and it was resolved to email HPC agendas to her with an open invitation to attend our meetings</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>7. Arts Development – Artists in Residence Programme</p>	

<p>Alison Flanagan- Wood wasn't able to attend the meeting but it was resolved to write to her to ask for more information about the programme and possibly invite her to a future meeting.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>												
<p>8. Police Matters PCSOs Linda Smith & Anthony in attendance. Online reported Crime Statistics for a 1-mile radius around Hazlerigg Village Memorial Hall or January 2022 to January 2023:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Violence & sexual offenses – 18</td> <td style="text-align: right;">(43) national average</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Criminal Damage & arson – 1</td> <td style="text-align: right;">(10)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Anti-Social Behaviour - 12</td> <td style="text-align: right;">(12)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Burglary – (0)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">(5)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Public Order – (4)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">(11)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total – 41</td> <td style="text-align: right;">(124)</td> </tr> </table> <p>Residents commented that more crime took place in the village than was reported and Cllr Fairley agreed that the crime statistics didn't feel realistic. Cllr Thorp raised his ongoing frustrations with progressing his application to be a Speed Watch Volunteer. It was noted that 2 volunteers were needed in an area and that the original restrictions on volunteering in your own area had been lifted. On the issue of Police presence / visibility, PCSO Smith said that police deployment was determined by demand rather than regular patrols. Cllr Fairley said that crime was growing in the village and referenced a spate of car doors being tried and a recent car theft. She also noted increasing posts on Facebook about criminal activity that clearer weren't being converted into reports to the Police. PCSO's recommend ringing 999 if residents witness a crime that's in progress A resident asked if that message could be conveyed on Facebook. PCSO's noted that increased reporting would lead to greater Police presence in the area. Residents noted the pressure on Police resources following funding cuts and the difficulties of getting through on the 101 number. PCSOs reiterated that 999 should be used for reports of crime going on at the time and 101 for retrospective reports, Cllr Locke thanked the PCSO's for attending the meeting.</p>	Violence & sexual offenses – 18	(43) national average	Criminal Damage & arson – 1	(10)	Anti-Social Behaviour - 12	(12)	Burglary – (0)	(5)	Public Order – (4)	(11)	Total – 41	(124)	
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<p>9. Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification on the number of seats on the Parish Council – the Clerk has written to the City Council to confirm that there are 8 seats on Hazlerigg Parish Council. • Great Park Management Company – Rachel Kadansky has accepted an invitation to attend the February meeting of HPC. • Bellway / Miller – Chris Bird has confirmed that the Ground works associated with replanting the hedge will be completed by the end of January and the replanting by the end of February. Cllr Locke expressed concerns about the process because significant regeneration has taken place since the hedge was removed 5 years ago and all that is needed now is to fill the gaps in the regenerated plants, not weed kill and remove them and replace them with whips in plastic tubes. Cllr Locke will contact NCC's Ecologist to raise this issue. • Wideopen RAF Air Cadets have 2 vacancies for Civilian Committee members to help with fundraising and other duties. Meetings are quarterly. Cllr Fairley 	<p>Cllr Locke</p> <p>Cllr Fairley</p>												

<p>offered to publicise the vacancies on Facebook. Any other enquiries will be passed on to the group by the Clerk.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>10. Conducting Council Business – HPC Objectives Following discussion about the list of previous objectives, the following were agreed for action going forward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To amend the parish boundary as agreed in June 2019 • To work with North Tyneside Council to secure traffic calming measures throughout the village • To improve the current website and make sure it is more engaging for parishioners • To work with Your Homes Newcastle to ensure Ferguson Crescent Road works are completed and garages across the village are refurbished and available • To achieve a National Association of Local Council’s Foundation Award so that the parish council is able to demonstrate that it meets the requirements for operating lawfully and according to standard practice and to ensure all relevant policies are in place – (on hold for 12 months to give the new Clerk time to complete the necessary accreditation). • To collaborate with neighbouring parishes and other stakeholders to deliver a wide range of benefits for communities and the natural environment • To work with academic staff and students to produce a map of wildlife and habitats in the parish • To work with the Urban Green Newcastle to ensure the whole of Havannah Nature Reserve is protected. • To work with Newcastle City Council to increase tree cover in the village • To produce a litter strategy so that the parish council takes a more active role in making the village a cleaner, greener environment & encourage more resident involvement in the issue. <p>YHN Garages – the lack of progress being made by YHN towards the refurbishment and recommissioning of their stock of garages in the village is frustrating. Cllr Locke will write to Catherine McKinnell MP to ask her to raise the issue with YHN.</p> <p>Dog Fouling is a persistent problem on Elliott Walk. Cllr Locke will contact the Dog Warden about the issue and clarify whether the Parish Council has the power to issue fines under By Laws.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>Cllr Locke</p> <p>Cllr Locke</p>
<p>11. Financial Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work towards a new Bank Mandate continues • The parish current account stands at £3,886.49 • Parish Precept 2023 / 24 Councillors agreed that the Precept should be set at £9,000 for the financial year 23/ 24 which would result in an increase of £1 to £2 annually for residents. The decision will be communicated to the City Council on 27.1.23 • Payment Authorisations Cheques were signed for £350.24 (Clerk December & January salary) and £87.40 (HMRC income tax) 	<p>Cllr Barbour</p> <p>Clerk</p>

12. Environment Planning & Highways

• Speeding

NCC's Area Traffic Management Engineer has confirmed that work to re-install the speed bumps on Coach Lane in line with the specification will take place in the spring when the weather is better. Date to be confirmed.

• Public Transport

Residents reported that the situation was improving and that the timetable has been updated providing an hourly bus service. The petition is still open but there were no updates on previously agreed actions to circulate paper copies.

• 5G Mast

Chris Croft (former North Tyneside Councillor and 5G Mast campaigner) outlined his involvement with a group of residents who had successfully campaigned for the relocation of a 4G telephone mast in Hadrian Park, away from housing to an area of waste land ½ a mile away.

He noted that the location of the mast in Hazlerigg had not been correctly identified with the required 3 location markers in the planning application and that HPC had not been made aware of the telephone company's appeal when NCC refused planning permission or the subsequent planning inspection.

On that basis, he recommended that HPC ask NCC to arrange a meeting between the telephone company, HPC and Planners.

He noted that it had taken 6 years to get the mast moved in Hadrian Park and that over those years, the number of cabinets around the mast had increased (but it was a 4G mast).

It was also noted that NCC may be getting payments from the telephone company in respect of hosting the mast.

Cllr Barbour asked if moving the mast wasn't just moving the problem.

It was suggested that best way of approaching NCC was to submit a question to Council – Cllr Locke will draft a question and circulate for comment.

Chris also recommended contacting the Chief Executive of 3 and will provide the contact details.

A resident noted that there had been some recent staff activity around the mast which might suggest that the switch on will be imminent.

Cllr Locke thanked Chris for attending the meeting and sharing his knowledge and insights.

• Planning applications

A resident raised the issue of the planning application to build 3 houses off Ferguson Crescent and the impact they would have on existing residences at Dolphin Villas including his own home and garden. He explained that he had 5 beehives that would be detrimentally affected by the development.

Cllr Barbour suggested that he contact Planning to complain about the inadequate communication with residents on the matter.

Cllr Locke said that regrettably there was nothing that the Parish Council could do to help as this matter fell outside their sphere of influence.

• Tree Planting

Hedgerow planting and the planting of a ceremonial tree have been agreed with NCC. An event is being planned.

Unfortunately, it is not possible to go ahead with plans for an orchard this planting season because the soil sample investigations aren't complete – planting is expected to be undertaken in November 2023.

• Pavilion

The ground works for the new building are expected to start in July.

Clerk

Cllr Locke

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Havannah Nature Reserve Cllr Locke confirmed that the CEO of Urban Green was receptive to working jointly with HPC and a meeting had been arranged on 23rd February at 10.30am – meet outside the Community Centre – all Parish Councillors welcome. • Land at High Ridge Documents have been discovered evidencing the conveyance of the land at High Ridge from the National Coal Board to the Parish Council in 1967. Cllr Barbour will work with the Clerk to register the ownership with HM Land Registry. NCC are putting a proposal together in respect of grass cutting services for the land. Cllr Fairley advised that the Parish Council should not be paying for the whole area, just the area HPC owns. • Ogle Avenue Roundabout planting A circular layout of low shrubs around the centre of the roundabout was suggested and Cllr Locke will look in to sourcing the plants. 	<p>Cllr Barbour</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Locke</p>
<p>13. Other issues raised by Councillors – none</p>	

Next meeting of Hazlerigg Parish Council will be held on Thursday 26TH February 2023 at Hazlerigg & District Memorial Hall at 7pm.