

**MINUTES OF THE HETTON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 15th MARCH, 2016 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THE HETTON
CENTRE AT 7.00 p.m.**

Present: Councillor Mrs. Juliana Heron, Mayor in the Chair

Councillors: Mrs. Adamson, Mrs. Anderson, Blackburn, Mrs Campbell, Coates, Costello, Elvin, Coulson, Geddis, Hepple, R. Heron, Holt, Mrs. Sinnott, Mrs. Turner, Mrs. Wallace, D. Wallace. (17).

Prior to the commencement of the Meeting the mayor made the following statement:-

'To advise both Members of the Council and members of the public that the Meeting may be recorded by both audio and video and photographs may also be taken. Indeed the Town Council are recording the Meeting, in accordance with their adopted policy. Any objections to this should be stated before the commencement of the Meeting.'

Prior to the start of the Meeting Sgt. Andy Taylor of Northumbria Police Community Team attended and spoke to Members relating to recent issues raised in the Town and following a visit by Inspector Pescod. He confirmed that extra resources had been deployed to target youth disorder and rouge motorcyclists. To date he explained that there had been action taken, 25 youths had been issued with Anti-Social Orders and visits had been made to parents at home addresses with Gento Officers. Members thanked Sgt. Taylor for his efforts.

Cllr Geddes stated that his personal matters raised had been addressed.

Cllr Elvin referred to the CCTV cameras in the Town centre and asked if they were used to their optimum benefit.

Cllr Wallace stated he had been working with the C.S.O. who is to put a programme of work into schools; she was touring schools introducing herself and addressing issues.

Cllr Coats said the police were doing a good job, but still problems at Downs Lane with youths congregating at the car park area.

Cllr Sinnott with support from Cllr R Heron stated police were suffering due to severe financial cutbacks and it should be remembered that not all young persons are a problem, many young people just hand around the streets socialising and not causing issues.

Cllr Campbell with support from Cllr Geddes stated that whilst the Police Inspector had met with City Councillors, it would have been good manners for the Independent Councillors to be invited to the meeting, as a courtesy as they had raised issues.

7.00 p.m. Public Participation

The Mayor announced that there was to be a period of 15 minutes to allow any members of the public to address the meeting on matters which are on the Agenda. Each member of the public may speak on one matter for a maximum of 3 minutes.

Mrs Susan Waterson from the Hetton Heritage Group asked if the Town Council had considered the funding applications from the Sculpture Group.

She was advised that the Report of the Finance Committee would advise of situation.

Ms Kathleen Pearson asked what the 4% Council Tax rise on the Hetton Precept would be used for?

Again she was advised that the Report of the Finance Committee would give information.

Mr. Matthews reported and expressed concern at the volume of illegal fly-tipping that was occurring in the town, particularly at Moorsley and East Rainton; Hazard Lane Hetton School entrance and in Moorsley at land near Valley View footpath.

The Clerk stated several similar reports had been made by residents and passed on to Sunderland City Council for action.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received, considered and accepted from Cllrs Alcock, Cummings, Geen and Defty. (4)

2 To receive, accept and approve the Minutes of the last Meeting of the Town Council held on Tuesday 16th February, 2016

The Minutes having been distributed to Members it was MOVED by Councillor Hepple and seconded by Councillor Mrs. Wallace and RESOLVED that they be accepted as a true and correct record on the proviso the following amendments be made: Cllr Sinnott stated that as referred to Item 5 that she suggested that ideas of work and preliminary discussions only had been examined regarding working with Two Castles and Hetton School

3 To consider matters arising from the Minutes

Cllr D. Elvin made reference to Item 7 relating to Hetton Lyons Boys' Club. Cllr R. Heron stated Trustees were appointed to the Boys' Club Management Committee as volunteers not Hetton Councillors, the HLBC is no longer a Registered Charity, reason being is that they are not now on Charity Commission website register, as no work or action for years. He clarified that there is no Gentoo land involved.

4 To Record Declarations of Interest from Members for any items on the Agenda

Cllr.Mrs Turner declared an interest as a member of Union Street Church in relation to Item 7.

5. Reports for Members – Ward Matters to be investigated

Cllr Elvin again highlighted the need for repair/repaint the public seats adjacent to Moorlsey Hut, he also reported fly-tipping at 'the trod footpath' which needs urgent attention.

Cllr Geddes and Cllr Holt expressed concern at the car wash business at Four Lane Ends, where customers queing spread onto A182 and cause congestion at this roundabout location. He also questioned the reduction in opening hours at Hetton Library and felt it should be open at similar times to Houghton-le-Spring.

The Town Clerk stated that Sunderland City Council had undertaken a full library review and public consultation in 2012; a copy would be made available.

Cllr Turner referred to the vandalism and unsightly fly-tipping at the derelict Fox and Hounds Pub.

Cllr Blackburn stated it was in private ownership and perhaps a letter should be sent to him for his hopeful co-operation to clear it up.

Cllr Blackburn similarly reported the condition of the former Three Tuns Public House, which was now residential apartments, looked unsightly and need repainting.

Cllr Wallace stated he had attended the recent P.A.C.T. Meeting at Eppleton School where elderly resident had been reassured of support by Police C.S.O. and was very active in the Ward.

Cllr Coats again expressed concern at the indiscriminate congestive parking by customers at the Hetton Pool and Fitness suite each day and hoped that police and Traffic Enforcement Officers could spend more time in this area.

Cllr Coulson referred to the car park area opposite the former Black Boy Public House, Moorsley Road and asked if it could be determined who actually owned this land. He also asked that contractors doing soil surveys at the proposed housing development in East Rainton, using heavy plant and machinery travelling through a rural village causing disruption to residents.

Cllr Campbell asked if an update report could be obtained from Sunderland City highway Officers regarding the situation as discussed at Rectory Road.

The Mayor, Cllr Mrs Heron explained that she had attended the City of Sunderland Young Achievers Awards 2016, where the following local young people had been recognised and given Awards, (Members were distributed with details)

Laura Tipton – winner in 8-13 years sport – exceptional cricketer

The Flatts Youth Kickboxers Group – highly recommended – Sport

Sam Blacklock – Highly Commended 14-20 years – Sport, Sports Cricket Co-ordinator
Eppleton Primary Academy – Anti-bullying Team

The Mayor was to write on behalf of the Council to all, offering sincere congratulations

6a Planning Consultations

App. No. 16/00193/FUL
14 Bailey Way
Erection of two storey extension
No objections were made

b Note of a site visit to App No 16/00216/ Markle Grove, East Rainton Development
Members were advised that comments had been made regarding concerns at proposed access road to site, the report was distributed to Members for reference and the Town Clerk stated the report had been sent to the Sunderland City Planning Officer dealing with the case application.

7 To receive and accept the Minutes of the Finance and Resources Committee Meeting held 7th March 2016

Members examined the Minutes and Reports contained therein, together with proposals for precept 2016/17.

It was moved by Cllr R Heron and seconded by Cllr Hepple and RESOLVED that the Minutes be approved and accepted.

8 Hetton Lyons Country Park

Matters relating to surface damage from cycle-cross event.

Cllr Coats also highlighted damage from mis-use of cycles and motor bikes racing around the site.

The Town Clerk stated the issues had been raised with Springboard who manages the site and a full report was to be provided.

9 Correspondence received from Sunderland City Council in reply and response to several traffic issues raised by Town Councillors in recent months

Members received information and action reports.

10 Restoration of Nicholas Wood Tomb

Members received reports and details of the proposed scheme which is to be led by Durham County Council Limestone Landscape Project.

11 H. M. Queen Elizabeth II 90th Birthday Celebrations

Members agreed that a meeting of the Town Council Special Community Events Committee should be convened to look at suggested programme and community celebrations.

12 C.D.A.L.C., the Clerk Magazine Publication and N.A.L.C. Membership details

Members were issued with copies of the above publications for advice and information.

Signed
Councillor Mrs. J. Heron
Mayor