

Hetton Town Council



Minutes of the meeting of Hetton Town Council held on Monday 28 June 2021 at Rainton Arena

Note: The meeting was not audio or video recorded.

Present

Councillors J Blackburn, R Coulson, J Defty, T Dodds, P Dowell, R Elvin, D Geddis (Town Mayor), P Hall, R Heron, K Pearson, K Rowham, I Scott, D Turner, S Waterston and C Willis.

In attendance

G Keedy, Town Clerk (TC)
Members of the Public (MoP) x 6

1) Apologies for absence

TC advised that apologies for absence had been received from Cllr J Green (work commitment), Cllr S Reilly (domestic issue) and Cllr M Thornton (work commitment).

Town Council resolved to approve the apologies received.

No apologies for absence had been received from Cllr J Green, Cllr A Liversidge and Cllr D Liversidge.

Town Council resolved to record their absences as unapproved.

2) Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3) Public participation

There were no matters raised.

4) Minutes

a. Town Council resolved to approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting of Hetton Town Council held on 17 May 2021.

b. Town Council resolved to approve the minutes and recommendations of the meeting of the Events & Special Activities Committee held on 3 June 2021.

c. Subject to the inclusion of an amendment to record the apology for absence received from Cllr T Dodds, Town Council resolved to approve the minutes and recommendations of the meeting of the Management, Policy & Finance Committee held on 17 June 2021.

d. Town Council resolved to approve the minutes and recommendations of the meeting of the Events & Special Activities Committee held on 24 June 2021.

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5) Anti-litter campaign- Hetton and district

TC explained that SCC officers had been invited but were unable to attend. He had received an email update to advise that an evaluation and review of the campaign was taking place and that it may be more appropriate for a response to be provided following this next stage of work.

Members expressed disappointment at the response and Town Council resolved that TC request SCC officer attendance at the 19 July 21 meeting of Town Council.

6) Reports from Members

Cllr R Coulson:

Reported that construction traffic en-route to Quarry House Lane residential development was coming through centre of East Rainton. Requests that an alternative route be notified.

Cllr S Waterston:

Advised that she had been in contact with SCC re:

Poor condition of Hetton Cemetery Lodge.

Request for Arboriculture Team to attend to overgrown trees causing concerns outside of Laburnum House and Nicholas House.

Expressed concerns at speed of cyclists in Hetton Lyons Country Park causing a hazard to wheelchair users and danger to children. Requests details of speed limit within HLCP.

Requests that a loose manhole cover (causing noise nuisance) on A182 at Office Place / Burn Lane be remedied.

Requests that two new Northumbria Police officers working out of The Hetton Centre attend a future meeting of HTC.

Cllr K Rowham:

Expressed concerns at the condition of Hetton Cemetery Lodge and lack of action following reports to SCC.

Cllr K Pearson:

Reported that:

She was aware that Northumbria Police officers had attended HLCP re ongoing ASB issues. Air cadets (civilian section) were seeking volunteers for Committee membership.

Cllr D Geddis:

Requests the re-opening of the locked playground at Moorsley/Peat Carr and the refurbishment of the playground at Easington Lane Flatts.

Cllr P Hall:

Requests an upgrade to the play park at Moorsley (back Borrowdale Street).

7) Sunderland City Councillor(s)- Hetton and Copt Hill wards

There were no City Councillors present.

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8) Update from Town Clerk

TC reported that he had circulated details of feedback received from SCC to issues raised at May 21 meeting. He highlighted that some aspects required further information from Members.

TC advised that a replacement bench seat had been ordered and delivery was awaited.

TC informed Members that work to adjust the spotlight in Hetton Mini Park had been not been completed due to an administrative oversight at the contractor. The work would now need to be completed post BST.

TC reported that he had now successfully obtained a refund of £52.19 from his home telephone supplier after they had incorrectly charged him. This had arisen when TC had inadvertently used his home phone in January to call Barclays.

Town Council resolved to note the update from the Town Clerk.

9) Financial report

Town Council resolved to approve the financial report and expenditure outlined below.

Income:

Zurich Insurance (refund)	£102.99
Barclays (Business Premium Account - interest)	£0.71
Total:	£103.70

Staffing expenditure:

Town Clerk net salary	£1053.56
HMRC (Combined employer/employee liabilities)	£458.16
NEST Pension (Combined employer/employee contributions)DD	£66.40
Sub-total:	£1578.12

Town Clerk expenditure:

Zoom Video Communications (charge for Standard Pro monthly subscription)	£14.39
Sub-total:	£14.39

Other expenditure:

Konica Minolta (copy and print charges 10/02/21-09/05/21)	£3.96
Konica Minolta (BizHubC308 quarterly lease 10/05/21-09/08/21)	£132.77
Information Commissioner's Office (renewal of data protection registration fee)	DD £35.00
EE (invoice 4 June 21)	DD £7.60
ELCAP (Room hire 03/06/21)	£30.00
A Simpson Accounting & Financial Services (Internal Audit fee y/e 31/03/21)	£260.00
Sub-total:	£469.33

Total: £2061.84

Barclays Current account balance @ 22 June 21:	£75,571.09
Anticipated current account balance if all paid:	£73,509.25
Barclays Reserve account balance @ 22 June 21:	£28,403.38

Town Mayor fund:

Income:	£1750.00
Expenditure:	Nil
Co-op Bank balance @ 22 June 21:	£1750.00

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Signed:

Date:

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10) Community Grant Awards

Cllrs K Pearson and D Turner each declared an interest in the application received from Hetton Methodist Church and left the meeting during consideration of that application.

Following approval of Item 4c (above), Town Council resolved to approve the following applications for funding made under the Community Grant Award Scheme.

Hetton Juniors Football Club - £500.00 for provision of summer holiday training sessions.
Hetton Methodist Church - £50.91 for printing of Miners Service booklet.
Hetton Bowling Club - £500.00 for essential repairs and equipment purchase.

11) Internal Audit report 2020-2021

TC referred to and explained the report from the Internal Auditor, which was tabled with the completed Internal Audit Report section of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2020-2021.

Town Council resolved to approve the report of the Internal Auditor and Internal Audit Section of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2020-2021.

12) Draft Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2020-2021

TC introduced the item and outlined the two component sections.

TC reported the Annual Governance Statement.

Town Council resolved to approve the Annual Governance Statement.

TC reported the Accounting Statements 2019-20 to Town Council.

Town Council resolved to approve the Accounting Statements.

13) Potential Geothermal Energy Project

Cllr P Dowell introduced this item and provided a thorough explanation, outlining the topicality of the subject and potential benefits to the town.

It was noted that Sunderland City Council (SCC) had recently submitted a Heat Networks Investment Project grant application to the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

Following discussion, Town Council resolved to request that SCC keep Hetton Town Council (HTC) up to date with progress and formally consult HTC re any opportunities for the scheme to benefit the Hetton and district community.

14) Accessible website

TC advised that there was a pressing need to update the website to meet accessibility requirements. He reported that he had been in touch with potential suppliers with a view to obtaining quotations. He would bring a report to Management, Policy & Finance Committee for consideration as soon as possible.

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15) Planning matters

Town Council considered the following planning applications and resolved to take action as indicated below:

21/01174/SUB

Land South West of Cragdale Gardens, Hetton le Hole

Proposal: Erection of 84 residential dwellings (Class C3)

Applicant: Gentoo Group Limited

Submit an objection and request deferral pending outcome of appeal.

21/01201/FUL

19 Hedgelea Road, East Rainton, Houghton le Spring, DH5 9RR

Proposal: Erection of single storey extension to rear. Applicant: Mr and Mrs Marchant

No comments or objections.

21/01447/FUL

25 Hedgelea Road, East Rainton, Houghton le Spring, DH5 9RR

Proposal: Erection of two storey side and single storey rear extension.

Applicant: Donna Bennett and Gavin Goodings

No comments or objections.

19/01320/FUL

Ned's Cottage Hetton Le Hill Farm Elemore Lane Easington Lane Houghton-le-Spring DH5 0QR

Proposal: Erection of a detached double garage and change of use of open space to private garden. (Amended plans received on 19.4.21)

Applicant: Mrs Tracy Huitson

Re-iterate previous comments and request for a site visit.

16) General correspondence

Town Council resolved to take action as detailed below:

Co Durham Association of Local Councils:

Pay negotiations and precept increases(**circulate**)

NE First Credit Union(**circulate**)

Information for new councillors(**circulate to new Members**)

Parkinson Partnership training(**TC to review**)

Sunderland City Council:

Culture House (circulated 20 May 21)- **noted**

Meeting re Healthy and Active teens (time expired) - **noted**

Digital workshops(**TC to participate as appropriate**)

Call for projects - Health & Wellbeing(**circulate**)

Consultation re land at Station Road North (circ 24 June 21) - **Notify SCC no objections**

Hargreaves Surface Mining:

Extension of Time (copied to Cllr R Coulson) - **noted**

Hetton Methodist Church:

Invitation to Annual Miner's Service (circulated 28 June 21) - **noted**

Members of public:

Pride month x 2 - **noted**

Request for assistance with birthday celebration - **TC to consider assistance**

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Signed:

Date:

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17) Date and Time of next meeting

The next meeting would be on 19 July 2021 commencing 19.15 hrs at The Hetton Centre.
(subject to Government prevailing guidance).

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Signed:

Date: