

Hetton Town Council



Minutes of the meeting of Hetton Town Council held on Monday 21 February 2022 at The Hetton Centre, DH5 9NE

Note: The meeting was audio and video recorded.

Prior to formal commencement of the meeting, Cllr D Geddis (Town Mayor) reported the death of former Town Councillor Florence Anderson and asked that Council observe a one-minute silence as a mark of respect.

Cllr R Heron asked that this protocol should not be followed, at the request of the former Councillor's family.

Accordingly, no mark of respect was made.

Present

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

In attendance

G Keedy, Town Clerk (TC)
Member of Public (MoP) x 1

1) Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Green (work commitment), Cllr M Pigdon (work commitment) and Cllr D Thomas (holiday commitment). Town Council resolved to approve the apologies received.

No apology for absence had been received from Cllr J Blackburn or Cllr M Thornton. Town Council resolved that their absences be recorded as unapproved.

2) Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3) Minutes

Town Council resolved to approve the minutes of the Meeting of Hetton Town Council held on 24 January 2022.

4) Planning matters

TC introduced the previously circulated report and explained that time expired and invalid applications had been included to ensure a full record of processes were documented.

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

1 of 5

Signed:

Date:

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4) Planning matters cont ...

14/01371/OUT Coal Bank Farm Hetton-le-Hole DH5 0DX

Cllr K Rowham reported that a site visit had taken place on 17 Feb with Members, TC and Principal Planning Officer SCC.

Noted that SCC officer will liaise with legal at SCC re possible revocation of the application; and additionally make a search of the Planning Portal to establish the availability of historic documentation associated with application.

22/00074/FUL 1A Moorhouse Gardens Hetton-le-Hole DH5 0AD

Noted that the application was time expired, but no comments or objections.

21/01426/FUL Holmlea North Road Hetton-le-Hole DH5 9JY

Noted that SCC had advised that the application was invalid.

21/02492/FUL Lyons Tavern Four Lane Ends Hetton-le-Hole DH5 0AA

No formal objection, but request that due regard is given to protecting the historic characteristics of the building; and that careful consideration is given to ensure adequate parking arrangements are in place to meet demand arising from the development.

5) HALO (Hetton Aspirations Linking Opportunities) update

TC reported that no SCC officer was available to attend to provide an update.

He had been advised that emails to HTC on 28 Jan and 17 Feb provided details of the current position; and quarterly newsletters would be sent to all stakeholders.

Members expressed extreme disappointment at the lack of attendance by SCC officers; as they were aware that two officers with direct involvement in the project were on the premises.

Town Council resolved that TC request detailed performance related information from the HALO project.

6) Events programme

Cllr D Geddis gave a verbal summary of an outline programme of events. These included: May Day celebration; Easter Egg Hunt; Queen's Jubilee; Armistice Day and Christmas celebration.

MoP in attendance gave an overview of a suggested approach to the Christmas event earmarked for Friday 18 November 22.

Town Council resolved to note the proposed programme, and the intention of the Events & Special Activities Committee to examine detailed planning and costs.

7) Public participation

There were no issues raised.

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8) Reports from Members

Cllr L Gibson:

Expressed concerns that local events and initiatives were not being routinely notified to SCC.

In response, TC advised that he would review HTC FB page settings in an attempt to routinely receive notifications from other community FB pages.

Cllr K Rowham:

Reported a lack of a police presence in the Lyons Avenue area of Easington Lane.

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

There were no City Councillors present.

10) Town Clerk update

TC reported that Members' issues raised at December and January meetings had been sent to SCC and their response was awaited.

TC advised that he had contacted UK Youth for an update re former Hetton Lyons Boy's Club site and for details of the developers. However, there was nothing to report.

TC circulated designs he had received that day from SCC for replacement "Shop Local" signs to be provided as part of the Government's Welcome Back Fund. These were discussed at length.

Town Council resolved:

That TC advise SCC of its' preference for signage design and suggested wording; and to liaise with Cllr R Elvin re potential additional sites for display; and,

To note the update provided by TC.

11) Financial report

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

Income: Nil

Staffing expenditure:

Town Clerk net salary (includes additional hrs for Jan) £1178.78

HMRC (Combined employer/employee liabilities) £544.45

NEST Pension (Combined employer/employee contributions) DD £79.88

Sub-total: £1803.11

Town Clerk expenditure: Nil

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11) Financial report cont ...

Other expenditure:

Hetton Town Trust (caretaking & security costs 2 and 15 Nov 21; Armistice Day refreshments)	£74.60
Hetton Town Trust (caretaking & security costs 22 Dec 21)	£60.00
Hetton Town Trust (caretaking & security costs 24 Jan 22)	£50.00
EE (mobile phone - 4 Feb 22)	£12.00
HMRC (overdue payment)	£144.12

Sub-total:

£340.72
Total: £2143.83

Barclays Current account balance @ 15 Feb 22:	£60,743.78
Anticipated current account balance if all paid:	£58,599.95
Barclays Reserve account balance @ 15 Feb 22:	£28,404.80

Town Mayor fund:

Income:	Nil
Expenditure:	Nil
Co-op Bank balance @ 15 Feb 22:	£1750.00

12) A690 Cycle route consultation

TC introduced this item and referred to the previously circulated (3 Feb 22) consultation document received from SCC.

Town Council resolved that Members should submit any comments on an individual basis.

13) Geothermal Project Wearmouth Colliery

TC reminded Members that the June 21 meeting agreed Councils' interest in the project. Cllr P Dowell advised Council that the project had now been given the go-ahead and provided outline details.

Town Council resolved that regular updates be requested from SCC and the Coal Authority.

14) Hetton Library

TC reported that as requested by Town Council, further information had been sought from SCC relating to the lease and funding arrangements with Springboard for the provision of Library services in The Hetton Centre. This had been circulated to Members on 7 Feb 22. Town Council resolved that no further action be taken.

15) General correspondence

Town Council resolved to take action as detailed below:

Co Durham Association of Local Councils:

Update 2 Feb 22 **Noted**

Training news **Noted**

Update 11 Feb 22 **TC to attend AGAR Session on 22 Feb @£10.00**

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15) General correspondence cont ...

National Association of Local Councils:
CX Bulletin - 18 Feb 22

Cllr L Gibson nominated to take part in International Women's Day video

MoP: Re Car wash, Station Road **Noted**

Rural Market Towns Group:

Panels re Rural Vulnerable Young and Older people **No nomination at this time**

Sunderland City Council:

HALO Community Event - 24 Feb 22 (circulated 8 Feb) **Noted**

Together for Children:

Coalfield Family Centre launch - 5 April 22 **TC to circulate details**

16) Date and time of next meeting

Monday 21 March 2022 at The Hetton Centre, Hetton le Hole, DH5 9NE commencing 19.15 hrs.