

# Hetton Town Council



## Minutes of meeting of Hetton Town Council held on Monday 19 July 2021 at The Hetton Centre, Hetton le Hole

Prior to formal commencement of the Meeting, Cllr D Geddis (Town Mayor) asked all present to observe a one minute silence as a mark of respect for the late Cllr Doris Turner.

Note: The meeting was not audio or video recorded.

### Present

Councillors R Coulson, J Defty, T Dodds, P Dowell, R Elvin, D Geddis (Town Mayor), L Gibson, P Hall, R Heron (to Item 6), K Pearson, S Reilly, K Rowham, I Scott (to Item 10), S Waterston and C Willis.

### In attendance

G Keedy, Town Clerk (TC)  
Members of the Public (MoP) x 2

### 1) Apologies for absence

TC advised that apologies for absence had been received from Cllr J Green (work commitment) and Cllr M Thornton (self-isolating).

Town Council resolved to approve the apologies received.

No apologies for absence had been received from Cllr J Blackburn, Cllr A Liversidge or Cllr D Liversidge.

Town Council resolved to record their absences as unapproved.

### 2) To record Declarations of Interest

Cllrs K Pearson and K Rowham declared an interest in Item 17 in their capacity as Town Council nominated trustees.

Town Council resolved to note that their interests were non-pecuniary in nature and this would not prevent their participation in Item 17.

### 3) Public participation

MoP:

Reports rat problem in Moorsley.

Lack of co-ordination between Gentoo and SCC grass cutting teams at Cragdale Green (edges cut by Gentoo on Fridays and inset area by SCC on Mondays). Litter not removed pre-cutting and arisings not cleared.

Town Council resolved that TC refer the above matters to SCC for investigation, attention and feedback.

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### **4) Minutes**

Subject to the inclusion of an amendment to record an apology for absence received from Cllr J Green (due to work commitment), Town Council resolved to approve the minutes of the Meeting of Hetton Town Council held on 28 June 2021.

### **5) Anti-litter campaign - Hetton and district**

TC advised that SCC officers were unavailable to attend the meeting.

Town Council resolved that:

TC again request the attendance of SCC officers at a future meeting of Full Council or Management, Policy & Finance Committee,  
and

TC request of SCC that they remove from display the contentious posters from sites throughout Hetton and district.

### **6) Reports from Members**

Cllr S Reilly:

Requests installation of dog waste bins in Clarence Court development at Easington Lane.

Requests that SCC provide details of options for traffic calming measures on A182 between Easington Lane and Houghton le Spring.

Requests an update on redevelopment plans for Edward Street and Fairy Street, Hetton le Hole.

Requests urgent action to eradicate rat infestations at Edward Street and Fairy Street.

Cllr K Rowham:

Requests urgent action to eradicate rat infestations at rear of Frederick Street/Pemberton Bank area; and at bungalows off Church Lane, Hetton Downs.

Requests SCC take strong action against property owners re derelict properties (Bog Row School and Richard Street).

Cllr K Pearson:

Requests that SCC take action to tackle fly tipping throughout Hetton and district.

Cllr R Coulson:

Requests that SCC urgently releases monies to East Rainton Cricket Club for time critical works.

Cllr C Willis:

Requests urgent action to eradicate rat infestations at Byer Street (both sides in the back gardens) especially no. 27; and at allotment site at rear of Byer Street and Dene Street.

Requests the installation of a dog waste bin at Henry Court.

Seeks action to remove 2 x vans (abandoned? - one without an engine) in Byers Street.

Seeks action against motorists parking on pavement.

Cllr L Gibson:

Seeks an update on any plans for the Bog Row School and former Fox and Hounds PH sites.

Cllr S Waterston:

Requests that work is undertaken to attend to overgrown trees in the grounds of the former Hetton Nursery School.

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### 6) Reports from Members cont ...

Expressed concerns about ongoing unsafe working practices during loading / unloading at JT Dove, Hetton Lyons Industrial Estate.

Town Council resolved that TC refer the above matters to SCC for investigation, attention and feedback.

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

There were no City Councillors present.

### 8) Update from Town Clerk

TC reported that feedback was awaited from SCC to matters raised at 28 June 21 meeting.

However, TC was able to report that:

The lodge situated within Hetton Cemetery grounds was being marketed for sale by SCC; the loose manhole cover on A182 opposite Office Place / Burn Lane was to be reset by Northumbrian Water; and that Northumbria Police had advised that there were no new officers working in Hetton.

Town Council resolved to note the Town Clerk's update.

### 9) Financial report

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

<b>Income:</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Staffing expenditure:</b>	
Town Clerk net salary (includes additional hrs for April, May and June)	£1705.69
HMRC (Combined employer/employee liabilities)	£907.86
NEST Pension (Combined employer/employee contributions)	DD £136.64
<b>Sub-total:</b>	<b>£2750.19</b>
<b>Town Clerk expenditure:</b>	
Zoom Video Communications (charge for Standard Pro monthly subscription)	£14.39
The Bridges, Sunderland (gift card for school prize winner)	£25.00
Sunderland City Council (car park fee - 25 06 21)	£1.50
Wilko, South Shields (2 x 500 A4 paper)	£5.00
<b>Sub-total:</b>	<b>£45.89</b>
<b>Other expenditure:</b>	
DC Services (Quarterly website maintenance fee Jun - Aug 21)	£108.00
Co Durham Association of Local Councils (4 x new councillor training sessions @ £10.00 each)	£40.00
EE (invoice 4 July 21)	DD £12.00
Rialtas Business Solutions (Alpha software Support and Maintenance licence 21-22)	£148.00
Wild at Heart (Floral tribute for Eppleton 70 event on 6 July)	£55.00
<b>Sub-total:</b>	<b>£363.00</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£3159.08</b>
Barclays Current account balance @ 14 July 21:	<b>£72988.94</b>
Anticipated current account balance if all paid:	<b>£69829.86</b>
Barclays Reserve account balance @ 14 July 21:	<b>£28403.38</b>

### Town Mayor fund:

<b>Income:</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Expenditure:</b>	<b>Nil</b>
Co-op Bank balance @ 14 July 21:	<b>£1750.00</b>

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Signed:

Date:

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### **10) Installation costs for flagpoles at Easington Lane War Memorial**

TC introduced the previously circulated report relating to this item and explained the difficulties being experienced in identifying an appropriate contractor.

Following discussion, during which Cllr R Elvin gave an appraisal of the Council's overall financial position and urged caution re future spending, Town Council resolved to:

- Acknowledge the difficulties in obtaining three quotations;
- Set a cost ceiling of £1000.00 excl. VAT for the works;
- Delegate the decision on appointing a contractor to the Town Clerk in conjunction with the Town Mayor and Chairman of Management, Policy & Finance Committee;
- and,
- Allocate a sum of up to £750.00 for the purchase and installation of a commemorative marble inset plaque.

### **11) Review of photocopier requirements at end of lease arrangement**

TC introduced the previously circulated report relating to this item and advised that on the afternoon of the meeting, the existing supplier had provided a cost for the purchase of the title of the Biz Hub 360 machine. This represented the most cost effective option at this time and rendered Appendix 1 of the report irrelevant.

Town Council resolved to purchase the title from Konica Minolta at a one-off cost of £278.78.

Town Council then considered three quotations received for an annual maintenance agreement outlined in Appendix 2 and resolved to accept quotation A (then identified by TC as Konica Minolta).

### **12) Christmas Tree Lights at Hetton and East Rainton**

Due to a delay in receiving a quotation from the supplier, Town Council resolved to defer this item to a future meeting.

### **13) August recess**

TC introduced the previously circulated report.

Town Council resolved to approve the scheduled and anticipated payments for August 21.

### **14) Election of Committee Chairman x 2**

#### **Planning & Development Committee and Staff, Employment & Training Committee.**

TC introduced the item and advised that as the Committees met only very occasionally and had not yet done so in 21-22, it would be helpful to elect a Chairman for each at this stage. Nominations were then sought.

Cllr D Geddis proposed Cllr R Elvin as Chairman of Staff, Employment & Training Committee. The nomination was seconded by Cllr J Defty. There were no other nominations. Cllr R Elvin was duly elected.

Cllr D Geddis proposed Cllr K Rowham as Chairman of Planning and Development Committee. The nomination was seconded by Cllr J Defty. There were no other nominations. Cllr K Rowham was duly elected.

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### **15) Elemore Green Space**

TC introduced this item and advised Members that a consultation event had taken place on 1 July. He had subsequently requested SCC officer attendance to deliver a presentation to this meeting but this had not proved possible.

Members offered their views and raised concerns about site security.  
Town Council resolved to make a submission to SCC at the formal planning stage.

### **16) Hetton Park**

Cllr S Waterston introduced this item and sought details of progress with plans for the formation of a "Friends of Hetton Park" group which had been mooted some months previously.

Cllr R Elvin expressed his concerns about the deterioration of the park and withdrawal of facilities over several years.

Town Council resolved that TC contact SCC to seek details of any plans for the regeneration of the park.

### **17) Hetton Town Trust**

TC referred to the previously circulated letter from Chairman of Hetton Town Trust, received in response to concerns raised by the Town Council's trustees.

Members expressed concern at the tone of the letter and what was regarded as an unsatisfactory response.

Town Council resolved that TC refer this matter to the Charity Commissioners via their complaints process.

### **18) Planning matters**

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

21/01378/FUL

Moguntia Food Ingredients, UK Hetton Lyons Industrial Estate Hetton le Hole, DH5 0RG

Proposal: Erection of single storey extension to existing warehouse.

Applicant: Mr Paul Yeates - Moguntia Food Ingredients UK Ltd

No comments or objections.

21/01201/FUL

At 19 Hedgelea Road East Rainton Houghton-Le-Spring DH5 9RR

Proposal: Erection of single storey extension to rear. (Amended Location Plan Received 06/07/2021)

Applicant: Mr And Mrs Marchant

No comments or objections.

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### **19) General correspondence**

Town Council resolved to take action as detailed below:

Co Durham Association of Local Councils:

Code of Conduct petition (circulated 8 July) (**noted**)

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons 2 June 22 (**refer to Events & SA Committee**)

Planning Training 7 Oct 21 (**circulate to Members of Planning & Development Committee**)

Larger Councils Forum 22 July 21 (**noted**)

Coronavirus Information from Local Councils (**noted**)

Sunderland City Council:

Various Traffic Regulation Order 20 - deadline for comments 16 August 21 (**no comments or objections**)

Tidy Britain Group:

Love Parks Week 23 July - 1 August (**circulate**)

Hetton Town Trust:

Response to HTC letter of 15 June (**noted**)

Head Teacher, Usworth Colliery Nursery:

Consultation re proposal to form a Federation - consultation period 12 July - 23 August 21

Hetton Lyons Primary School:

Seeking HTC support against the proposal to form a Federation.

**(TC to seek an extension to timescale and request attendance at future meeting)**

### **20) Date and Time of next meeting**

19.15 hrs on Monday 20 September 2021 at The Hetton Centre.

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Signed:

Date: