

Hetton Town Council



DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of Hetton Town Council held on Monday 26 September 2022 at The Hetton Centre, DH5 9NE

Note: Prior to the formal commencement of the meeting, Cllr R Elvin (Deputy Town Mayor) advised Members of the passing of former Councillor Michael Hopper.

Town Council observed a one-minute silence as a mark of respect.

Present

Councillors J Blackburn, D Brennan, T Dodds, P Dowell, R Elvin (Deputy Town Mayor), L Gibson, P Hall, R Heron, W Little, S Reilly, I Scott, D Thomas and S Waterston.

In attendance

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

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs J Defty (family commitment), D Geddis (unwell), J Green (work commitment), K Pearson (unwell), M Pigdon (work commitment), K Rowham (child care) and C Willis (away).

Town Council resolved to approve the apologies received.

No apology for absence had been received from Cllr M Thornton.
Town Council resolved that her absence be recorded as unapproved.

2) Declarations of Interest

Cllr D Thomas declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 10.

3) Minutes

- a) Town Council resolved to approve the draft minutes of the Meeting of Hetton Town Council held on 18 July 2022.
- b) Town Council resolved to approve the draft minutes and recommendations of the meeting of the Management Policy & Finance Committee held on 23 August 2022.
- c) Town Council resolved to approve the draft minutes and recommendations of the meeting of the Events & Special Activities Committee held on 26 September 2022.

4) Public participation

MoP expressed concerns re parking issues at Hetton Primary School causing nuisance and disturbance to local residents.

Requests that enforcement action is undertaken and/or a resident only parking scheme be introduced.

5) Reports from Members

Cllr D Brennan requests that stone planters in Easington Lane be filled.

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Item 5 cont ...

Cllr D Thomas expressed concern re SCC policy of no longer collecting black bags from beside bins from 31 Jan. This policy could have a negative impact in our area which is already blighted by fly tipping. Requests that residents are able to purchase larger bins at cost price.

Cllr P Hall reports a fence down at 4 Moorsley Road, DH5 0DR is causing an obstruction on footpath.

Cllr W Little expressed concerns that the bus routes between Hetton and Doxford Park (55) and Dalton Park (X1) had been withdrawn.

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

There were no Sunderland City Councillors present.

7) Financial report

Town Council resolved to approve the financial report and expenditure outlined below; and additionally, at the request of the Town Clerk a payment to Hetton Lyons Cricket Club for £120.00 which he had omitted from the report.

Income:

Barclays Business Premium account interest	£8.76
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Staffing expenditure:

Town Clerk net salary (includes additional hrs for July and August)	£1705.10
HMRC (Combined employer/employee liabilities)	£662.65
NEST Pension (Combined employer/employee contributions)	DD £67.85
Total:	£2435.60

Town Clerk expenditure:

Tesco (500 pack A4 paper x 2 @ £4.00 each)	£8.00
Wild at Heart Florist (2 x wreaths for QE II memorial @ £70.00 each)	£140.00
Sub-total:	£ 148.00

Other expenditure:

Hetton Town Trust (staff cover for 18 July HTC meeting)	£45.00
Konica Minolta (print and copy charges 10 05 22 - 09 08 22)	£22.56
Narke Design (construction of website)	£349.00
Narke Design (web hosting, email accounts, support & training)	£150.00
Hetton Town Trust (staff cover for 23 August Cmtee meetings x 2)	£35.00
EE (mobile phone - 4 Sept 22)	DD £13.12
Sub-total:	£614.68

Community Grant Award: (dependent upon decision at Item 10)

Houghton Residents Group CIC	£500.00
36 (Hetton) Squadron RAF Air Cadets	£500.00
Sub-total	£1000.00
Total:	£4198.28

Barclays Current account balance @ 22 Sept 22:	£68,811.07
Anticipated current account balance if all paid:	£64,612.79
Barclays Reserve account balance @ 22 Sept 22:	£28,416.41

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Signed:

Date:

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Town Mayor Fund:

Income:

Nil

Expenditure:

Nil

Co-op Bank balance @ 22 Sept 22:

£3504.58

8) Town Clerk update

TC thanked Members for providing supervision during the public display of the Book of Condolence at The Hetton Centre and in organising the Moment of Reflection event.

TC reported that the new "Shop Local" signs were displayed mid-August. He added that SCC had granted (25 August 22) permission for a flagpole to be sited outside of The Hetton Centre.

TC advised that following the Management, Policy & Finance Cmtte held on 23 August 22, he had sought details of disbursement fees adopted by SCC applicable to FoI Publication Scheme. These were for printing / photocopying @ 35p/ A4 sheet b/w and 75p / A4 sheet colour. He would incorporate these figures in the HTC publication scheme.

TC reported that he had received queries from Mazars (External Auditor) relating to the Annual Governance & Accountability Return 21-22. He had responded and an outcome was expected imminently.

TC updated Members on progress with FoI requests submitted to Northumbria Police (NP) and SCC. The lack of response to a request to NP for an internal review; and dissatisfaction with the internal review outcome by SCC had both been referred to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for investigation. TC added that ICO had responded to the SCC matter on 26 September and this would be circulated.

9) Town Mayor Fund

Town Council resolved to defer this item due to the absence of the Town Mayor.

10) Community Grant Award applications

Cllr D Thomas declared a non-pecuniary interest in the application received from Houghton le Spring Residents CIC and left the meeting for the duration of deliberations.

Following full discussion, a proposal was made by Cllr S Waterston, seconded by Cllr L Gibson to support the application from Houghton le Spring Residents CIC based upon the information received. Members voted 8 in favour, 4 x abstentions.

Town Council resolved to approve the application as outlined below:

Houghton le Spring Residents CIC:

Contribution for craft supplies/games equipment/refreshments - £500.00

Cllr R Heron declared a non-pecuniary interest in the application received from 36 Hetton Squadron RAF Air Cadets and took no part in the deliberations relating to the application.

Town Council resolved to approve the application as outlined below:

36 (Hetton) Squadron RAF Air Cadets:

Contribution towards equipment to support D of E award scheme participation - £500.00

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Signed:

Date:

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11) Community Speed Watch

TC introduced the previously circulated report.

Town Council resolved to note the report and requested that any Member interested in volunteering to participate should contact TC.

12) Former Hetton Lyons Boys Club site

TC advised no update was available as the new Chief Operating Officer at UK Youth was not yet in post.

Town Council resolved to defer this matter to October meeting.

13) Civility and Respect pledge

TC introduced the previously circulated report.

After discussion, Town Council resolved to commit to signing the pledge and requested TC to work towards fulfilling compliance with the supporting statements.

14) Hetton Mini Park

Cllr S Waterston voiced safety concerns about the uneven surface leading to the War Memorial in Hetton Mini Park.

She reported that following an approach to SCC, the surface had been reinstated, pending possible replacement with a hard surface in due course.

Town Council resolved that a formal request be made to SCC for completion of the works, and if this was not forthcoming, for Town Council to consider allocation of funding and possible assumption of responsibility for the War Memorial site.

15) Planning applications

Town Council resolved to take action as outlined below:

22/01673/HY3

Elmore Golf Club Elmore Golf Course Lorne Street Easington Lane Houghton-le-Spring
DH5 0QT

Proposal: Hybrid planning application comprising of:

full planning permission for change of use of former Elmore Golf Course to a Heritage and Eco Park with associated infrastructure- including car parking, play areas, woodland planting, grazing areas and wetland creation.

Outline planning permission for a community farm, camping/education facilities and miniature railway.

Applicant: Sunderland City Council

No objections, but confirmation to be sought that the proposed camping facilities on site are intended for the sole use of children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

22/01965/FUL

16 and 18 Fieldside, East Rainton, DH5 9RP

Proposal: Erection of single storey extensions to the rear of 16 and 18 Fieldside

Applicant: Mr and Mrs Mike and Mavis Teasdale and Linden

No comments or objections.

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22/02027/FUL

Sycamore House Louvain Terrace West, Hetton-le-Hole DH5 9PR

Proposal: Erection of single storey extension to rear.

Applicant: Mr Aidan Brennan

No comments or objections.

22/01875/FUL

Mozart House Front Street Hetton-le-Hole Houghton-le-Spring DH5 9PE

Proposal: Installation of 1.8 metre automatic sliding gates, to create new access to existing car park.

Applicant: Lyons Financial Management

No comments or objections.

22/00013/REF

Appeal Consultation Notification - 59 School Road, East Rainton, DH5 9QW.

Position and HTC response noted.

16) Coalfield VCS Network

TC introduced this item and explained that it would be useful to nominate a Member to attend this forum which was a helpful source of community information.

Town Council resolved that Cllr S Waterston fulfil this role.

17) General Correspondence

Town Council resolved to note items of correspondence and take action as indicated.

Co Durham Association of Local Councils:

Multiple emails re passing of HRH Queen Elizabeth II.

Consider "Taking the Pledge"

SAAA opt out Communication

Pay negotiation update

Notification of AGM - 8 October 2022

Training courses update

Northumbria Police:

Re outcome of 28 July HALO Strategic Board meeting (circulated 20 Sept). TC to liaise with Town Mayor re any next steps.

Sunderland VSA: Warm Homes Fund (circulated 26 July)

Sunderland City Council:

Consultation re Private Hire and Hackney Carriage licensing policy (circulated 26 Sept)

MoP: Freedom of Information request.

18) Date and time of next meeting

Monday 17 October 2022 at The Hetton Centre, Hetton le Hole, DH5 9NE commencing 19.15 hrs.

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Signed:

Date: