



Hetton Town Council



Minutes of the Meeting of Hetton Town Council held on Monday 15 April 2024 at The Hetton Centre, Hetton-le-Hole, County Durham, DH5 9NE

Present

Cllrs K Angus, J Bonsall, D Brennan, P Dowell, R Elvin, D Geddis (Town Mayor), L Gibson, S Holt, W Little, R Meadows, H Morton, K Pearson, M Pigdon, K Rowham, D Thomas, S Waterston, and S Woods-Brass.

In attendance

G Keedy, Town Clerk (TC)
Members of Public (MoP) x 4

1) Apologies for absence

TC reported that apologies for absence had been received from Cllr P Hall (medical) and Cllr C Willis (away).

Town Council **resolved** to approve the apologies received.

No apology for absence had been received from Cllr J Defty or Cllr J Green. 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 draft minutes of the meeting of Hetton Town Council held on 18 March 2024.

4) Public participation

MoP:

Expresses concerns again about the condition of former Crown PH in Hetton.

Reports pavement defects outside Hetton Post Office and Tesco entrance.

Town Council **resolved** that TC refer to SCC.

5) Reports from Members

Cllr J Bonsall:

Reports ongoing issues with flooding at an address in Hertford Crescent, Hetton and requests a joint site meeting with SCC and Gentoo.

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Signed:

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Cllr S Waterston:

Path over bridge at Hetton Bogs is impassable.

Reports that there is no footpath at Bramble Rise on exit from residential properties.

Issue to be referred to Persimmon / SCC for explanation and resolution.

Requests the re-introduction of PACT meetings by Northumbria Police.

Cllr W Little:

Reports that Mill Pond is impassable.

Cllr K Rowham:

Reports that footpath between Monkshead Drive, past Hazard Grange on North Road towards Spring Meadows is severely overgrown, restricting access.

Cllr L Gibson:

Queries progress with plans for former Hetton Nursery School site.

Cllr D Geddis: Reports that former Hetton Nursery school site (building and grounds) is in a deplorable condition and requests it be tidied.

Cllr R Elvin:

Reported that repairs to Easington Lane clock remain outstanding.

Town Council **resolved** that TC refer the points raised to the relevant bodies for attention.

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

There were no City Councillors in attendance.

7) Financial report

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

Income:

HMRC (VAT refund claim 2022-2023)	£1548.66
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Staffing expenditure:

Town Clerk net salary (includes add. hrs for Mar 24; mileage claim)	£1529.97
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HMRC (Combined employer/employee liabilities)	£396.20
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NEST Pension (Combined employer/employee contributions)	DD £102.27
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Sub-total: £2028.44

To 31 March 24

Co Durham Ass. of Local Councils (Cllr training)	£10.00
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BT (monthly broadband charge)	DD £38.72
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Hetton Town Trust (part deposit for room bookings)	Cash withdrawal DC £50.00
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Easington Lane Community Access Point (Room hire - 12 03 24)	£30.00
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Aldi Stores (fruit and drinks for Easter Egg trail on 29 03 24)	DC £30.17
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Signed:

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Other expenditure:

From 1 April 2024

Rialtas Business Solutions (Software Annual Support and Maintenance Licence)	£230.40
Hetton Town Trust (Room hire for 18 March meeting)	£62.50
EE (mobile phone - 4 April 24)	DD £11.32
T&A Dixon Accountancy Services (provision of payroll services Oct 23 - Apr 24)	£70.00
Co Durham Ass. of Local Councils (Subscription charge 2024-2025)	£2323.01

Sub-total: £2856.12

Total: £4884.56

Barclays Current account balance @ 11 April 24:	£88,277.95
Anticipated current account balance if all paid:	£83,393.39

Barclays Reserve account:	
Balance @ 11 April 24:	£28,810.27

Town Mayor Fund

Income:

Donations x 3	£50.00
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Expenditure:

Account balance @ 11 April 24	£1740.00
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8) Town Clerk update

TC reported that the official portrait of King Charles III had now been received, and permission was being sought from Hetton Town Trust for its' display in the Council Chamber.

Following a vote by show of hands, Town Council **resolved** that the portrait of Queen Elizabeth II remain on display.

TC advised that Member's invitations were now extended to include a guest. He reminded Members that raffle prize donations would be welcomed.

TC advised Members that a new Register of Interest form would need to be completed if any circumstances had changed.

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

9) War Memorial - Hetton Mini Park

TC reported that SCC had declined the Town Council's request for the transfer of responsibility for the War Memorial site.

Following discussion, Town Council **resolved** that TC write to CX, SCC to request through the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the reasons for the decision, together with details of the maintenance programme and associated budget allocation.

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10) Historic documentation

TC advised Members that he was continuing to sift through a significant volume of historic files. Whilst some items were clearly for disposal, he sought Members views about what to do with information relating to key projects and initiatives which may remain of interest.

Following discussion, Town Council **resolved** that;

At the discretion of Town Clerk, some documentation may be passed to the Hetton Local & Natural History Group and that he liaise with Cllr Waterston in the first instance;

and,

TC explore with Tyne & Wear Archives any potential interest they may have in acquiring items.

11) Planning matters

TC reported that the applications detailed below had been received from Sunderland City Council.

24/00601/FUL

Hollowdene Bleach Green Hetton-le-Hole DH5 9HH

Proposal: Installation of two dormers to front elevation.

Applicant: Mr Hughes

Town Council **resolved** no comments or objections.

24/00522/FUL

2 Eppleton Terrace East, Hetton-le-Hole, DH5 9DT

Proposal: Change of use from open space to private garden.

Applicant: Mr Michael Hourigan

Town Council **resolved** no comments or objections.

12) General correspondence

Town Council **resolved** to receive the correspondence outlined below and take action as indicated

Co. Durham Association of Local Councils:

Update - 5 April 24

Annual Parish Council meeting 2024 **Noted**

Upcoming training courses **Noted**

Sunderland City Council:

Funding opportunity - Holiday Activities (circulated 21 03 24) **Noted**

Park that Bike:

Cycle parking for Town Councils (circulated 25 03 24) **Noted**

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North East Regional Organised Crime Unit:
Monthly newsletter (circulated 15 04 24) **Noted**

Moorsley & District CIO:
Invitation to Moorsley Hut official opening (circulated 28 03 24) **Noted**

Barclays Bank:
Business information check

Silvertime Legal:
Offer of free community talk (circulated 15 04 24) **Noted**

Hetton Lyons Cricket Club:
Email with thanks for Community Grant Award **Noted**

National Association of Civic Officers:
April 24 newsletter - circulated to TM and DTM **Noted**

13) Date and time of next meeting (Annual)

Monday 20 May 2024 commencing 19.15 hrs.

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Signed:

Date: