



Hetton Town Council



Minutes of the Meeting of Hetton Town Council held on Monday 23 September 2024 at The Hetton Centre, Hetton-le-Hole, County Durham, DH5 9NE

Note 1: Prior to the formal commencement of the meeting, Cllr P Dowell (Deputy Town Mayor) advised Members of the passing of former Cllr Ann Campbell.

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

Note 2: The meeting was audio recorded throughout by a Member.

Present

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

In attendance

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

1) Apologies for absence

TC reported that apologies for absence had been received from Cllr R Elvin (business commitment), Cllr S Holt (prior commitment) and Cllr S Waterston (away).
Town Council **resolved** to approve the apologies received.

No apologies for absence had been received from Cllr J Defty or Cllr J Green.
Town Council **resolved** to record their absences as unapproved.

2) Declarations of Interest

Cllr K Pearson declared a non-pecuniary interest relating to Agenda Item 9.

3) Minutes

a) Following a vote, Town Council **resolved** to approve the draft minutes of the meeting of Hetton Town Council held on 15 July 2024, subject to additions to Item 13.

Town Clerk's note:

One of the additions was approved contrary to the advice provided by the Town Clerk.

HTC Full - 23 09 2024

Item 3 cont ...

- b) Town Council **resolved** to approve the draft minutes and recommendations of the meeting of the Events & Special Activities Committee held on 1 August 2024.

4) Public participation

No comments were received from Members of the public in attendance.

5) Reports from Members

Cllr K Angus:

Seeks details of ownership of Stephenson House.

Cllr J Bonsall:

Reports overgrown hedges encroaching on paths at Park Estate.

Cllr L Gibson:

Requests the introduction of traffic calming measures on Moorsley Road.

Cllr D Thomas:

Queries progress with the production of ID cards for Members.

Requests further consideration be given by Management, Policy & Finance Cmtee to the audio and video recording of Town Council meetings.

Cllr D Brennan:

Requests repairs to damaged play equipment at Fir Tree Park, Easington Lane.

Cllr K Rowham:

Requests the introduction of traffic calming measures at Lyons Avenue, Easington Lane.

Requests that Management, Policy & Finance Cmtee review Standing Orders, in particular 1e.

Town Council **resolved** that TC take necessary action to follow up the points raised.

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

There were no City Councillors in attendance.

7) Civic Regalia

Town Council **resolved** to approve a budget allocation of up to £1000.00 for repairs to the Mayoral regalia.

HTC Full - 23 09 2024

8) Financial report

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

August:

Staffing expenditure:

Town Clerk net salary (includes add. hrs for July)	£1742.65
HMRC (Combined employer/employee liabilities)	£660.38
NEST Pension (Combined employer/employee contributions)	DD £122.06

Sub-total: £2525.09

Other expenditure:

Tesco (stationery items)	DC £18.65
Adobe Ireland (monthly charge for Adobe Pro)	DC £19.97
BT (monthly broadband charge)	DD £41.98
EE (mobile phone - 4 Aug 24)	DD £11.32

Sub-total: £91.92

Total: £2617.01

September:

Income:

Barclays Business Premium Account interest	£108.15
--	---------

Staffing expenditure:

Town Clerk net salary (includes add. hrs for August)	£1573.48
HMRC (Combined employer/employee liabilities)	£585.51
NEST Pension (Combined employer/employee contributions)	DD £106.50

Sub-total: £2265.49

Other expenditure:

Konica Minolta (copy and print charges 10/05 - 09/08)	£70.07
Campaign for Protection of Rural England (annual subscription)	DD £36.00
Flagpole Express Ltd (new Union and St George Flags for Easington Lane)	DC £79.08
Co. Durham Ass. of Local Councils (Chairmanship training for 4 x Members)	£120.00
Narke Design (annual fee for web and email account hosting)	£225.00
Adobe Ireland (monthly charge for Adobe Pro)	DC £19.97
BT (monthly broadband charge)	DD £41.98
EE (mobile phone - 4 Sept 24)	DD £11.32
Miconex Ltd (2 x Sunderland Gift cards @ £100. each plus postage)	DC £202.75

Sub-total: £806.17

Community Grant Award (subject to decision at Item 9):

36 (Hetton) Squadron RAF Cadets	£500.00
---------------------------------	---------

Sub-total: £500.00

Total: £3571.66

Barclays Current account balance @ 19 Sept 24:	£99,664.34
Anticipated current account balance if all paid:	£96,092.68

Barclays Premium account:	
Balance @ 19 Sept 24:	£29,026.16

Town Mayor Fund

Income:	Nil
Expenditure:	Nil
Co-op Account balance @ 19 Sept 24	£1775.00

Signed:

Date:

HTC Full - 23 09 2024

9) Community Grant Award

Cllr K Pearson left the meeting for the duration of this item.

TC confirmed that the application was bona fide.

Town Council **resolved** to approve the application received from 36 Sqdn RAF Cadets for £500.00.

10) Town Clerk update

TC advised Members re: Gov.uk email issues; King Charles III portrait; HALO newsletter; and grounds maintenance at The Hetton Centre.

Town Council **resolved** to note the update provided by TC.

11) Former Hetton Nursery School

TC referred to the previously circulated reply received from Dept. of Education.

Town Council **resolved** that TC write to Bridget Philipson MP and CX, SCC to raise concerns.

12) Highways safety issue - Hetton Downs

Town Council **resolved** that TC write to CX, SCC highlighting concerns and requesting action.

13) War Memorial - Hetton Mini Park

TC provided an update following a site meeting held on 29 August.

Town Council **resolved** to note the position.

14) ASB incident - Easington Lane - May 24

Town Council **resolved** to note the information provided by Northumbria Police.

15) Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2023-2024

Town Council **resolved** to note the content of the satisfactory completion letter received from Forvis Mazars LLP.

16) Former Hetton Lyons Boy's Club site

TC reported that no update had been received from UK Youth.

Town Council **resolved** to note the position.

17) Co-op Bank

Town Council **resolved** that Cllr D Brennan be appointed as an authorised signatory in place of Cllr S Waterston.

18) Coalfield Area Committee - 4 September 24

Town Council **resolved** to note the feedback provided by Cllr W Little.

HTC Full - 23 09 2024

19) Withdrawal of Winter Fuel Allowance

Town Council **resolved** that:

A budget of £200.00 be allocated for the production of a leaflet to signpost residents to sources of assistance;

A Working Group be established to expedite and,

Hetton Town Trust be requested to consider provision of a Warm Space within The Hetton Centre.

20) Champions of the Community Awards

Town Council **resolved** that:

Nominations be submitted to TC by 31 October;

and,

Award categories would be over 18 and under 18 with prizes of Sunderland Gift Cards to the value of £100.00 and £50.00 respectively.

21) Planning matters

24/01675/LP3

Hetton Community Pool & Wellness Centre Welfare Road Hetton-le-Hole, DH5 9LZ

Proposal: Proposed installation of solar PV array to building with capacity of approximately 189.64 kW

Applicant: Sunderland City Council

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

22) Showmen's Guild Annual Lunch invitation

Subject to receipt of clarification from Showmen's Guild re no of invitations available,

Town Council **resolved** that attendees would be Town Mayor plus guest, Deputy Town Mayor and Cllr W Little.

23) General correspondence

Town Council **resolved** to take action as indicated below.

County Durham Association of Local Councils:

Updates - 30 July, 6 and 23 August, 6 and 20 September **Noted**

Guidance on Ceremonial responses to a death. **Noted**

Autumn training courses **Noted**

Local Government Boundary Commission for England:

Electoral review, Sunderland - Final recommendations **Noted**

Groundwork: Energy advice support **To be referenced in signposting.**

Sunderland City Council:

20mph speed limit zone - Bedale St., Mardale St., and Nidderdale Avenue.

Confirm support

24) Date and time of next meeting

Monday 21 October 2024 commencing 19.15 hrs.

5 of 5

Signed:

Date: