

**MINUTES OF THE HETTON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD
ON MONDAY 4th JUNE, 2007 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
THE HETTON CENTRE AT 7.15 p.m.**

Present: Councillor A. R. Wilkinson, Town Mayor in the Chair

Present: Councillors: Mrs. M. A. Adamson, J. Blackburn, Mrs. J. Heron, G.W.K. Hepple, Mrs. R. Meadows, Mrs. E. M. Metcalfe, C. R. Nairns, Mrs. E. A. Rankin, Mrs. E. Richardson, W.S. Robinson, J. Steel, R. D. Tate. (13)

Prior to the meeting Members were given a presentation by Keith Lowes, Head of Planning, Sunderland City Council, outlining major strategies, procedures and conditions when commenting on Planning Applications received to the Town Council for planning consultation process.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs. F. Anderson, Mrs. J. Blackburn, S. Blackburn, W. L. Glover, R. Heron, A. Maddison, Mrs. D. Storey, Mrs. Summerill (8)

2 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21st May, 2007

The Minutes having been circulated to Members it was moved by Coun Mrs. Rankin and seconded by Coun Nairns and RESOLVED that the Minutes be accepted as a true record.

3 Declarations of Interest

Councillor R. D. Tate declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 8 Planning Consultations as a Member of the City of Sunderland Development Planning Committee. Councillor Mrs. E. A. Rankin declared a personal interest in Item 8 Planning Consultations and both left the meeting and took no place in discussions.

4 Report of Durham Rural Community Council, Parish Plan Day, 17th May, 2007.

Councillor Mrs. Rankin gave a verbal and written report on attendance by Council Members at the day and referred to the Summer Issue 2007 of Community News which also reported on the day, outlining the benefits and method of producing a Parish Plan.

The meeting showed examples of Parish Plans as introduced throughout County Durham and gave examples of how community consultation is encouraged and necessary.

A Town such as Willington was highlighted as a good example of district village plans being drawn up and becoming amalgamated into one major one.

D.R.C.C. is Government funded and is available to assist with production of Parish Plans, which on publication can be used to support Funding Applications and various issues proving community involvement.

It was therefore moved by Councillor Mrs. Rankin and Seconded by Councillor Robinson and formally RESOLVED that the Town Council proceed with the process to produce a Parish Plan and examine various stages to ensure this is achieved.

The Town Clerk was asked to approach D.R.C.C. for their support.

5 Approval of Financial Payments

The Schedule of payments dated 5th June, 2007 was presented to Members, it was moved by Councillor Mrs. J. Heron and Seconded by Councillor Mrs. Richardson that the payments be approved.

6 Elemore Colliery Banner Group

Members were advised that the group had, as previously requested, re-submitted their application for financial assistance to attend Durham Miners Gala, 2007.

Councillor Mrs. Heron suggested that the group initially make an application to Sunderland City Council, Community Chest Fund, thereafter if this is successful the Town Council would then be able to 'top up' any financial requirements.

The Town Clerk to advise accordingly

7 Ward Based Issues

Councillor Mrs. Rankin reported that the public seats in Front Street were 'too low' and elderly persons were finding difficulty in using them – she suggested this is possibly a health and safety issue.

Councillor Mrs. Rankin highlighted the need for a litter bin to be located at the Bus Shelter in Brookside.

Councillor Mrs. Richardson reported that many residents have reported concern at the cars parked as 'for sale' on the grass verge adjacent to the traffic roundabout, New Inn, Four Lane Ends, as well as this being unsightly it was also a traffic hazard.

The Clerk was asked to approach the appropriate agencies.

Councillor Nairns highlighted that following recent road surface renewal at North Road B1284, where:

- A Adjacent to Brookside 22/23, flooding was evident after rainfall.
- B In certain areas it seems that new tarmac surface was breaking up.

8 Planning Consultations

The following applications were considered and no observations/objections were made.

Application No. 07/02150/Ful

8 Rectory Road, Hetton-le-Hole
Erection of detached garage

Application No. 07/02406/Ful

31 Brookside, Rainton Bridge
Replacement of existing conservatory

Application No. 07/02335/Ful

16 All Saints Drive, Hetton-le-Hole
Erection of bay window to front of property

Application No. 07/02412/Ful

Glenholm, 2 The Bungalows, Hetton-le-Hole
Erection of detached garage to rear of property

Application No. 07/02139/Ful

Primrose Cottage, North Farm, Elemore Lane, Easington Lane
Erection of single storey extension to side of property

Application No. 07/02243/Ful

South Lodge Farm, North Road, Hetton-le-Hole
Conversion of north barn to 2 dwellings

Signed Councillor A. R. Wilkinson
Town Mayor