

# Hetton Town Council



## Minutes of meeting held on

### Monday 21 January 2019 at The Hetton Centre

**Note:** The meeting was audio and video recorded throughout.

Prior to formal commencement of the meeting, Cllr K Pearson (Town Mayor) commented that Wednesday 23 January 2019 would be the centenary of the birth of Bob Paisley (former manager, Liverpool Football Club).

Cllr Pearson added that the Town Council and the local community continued to have pride in their association with the foot-balling legend as a "son" of Hetton.

#### **Present**

Cllrs K Alcock, J Blackburn, R Coulson, J Cunningham, J Defty, R Elvin, D Geddis (Deputy Town Mayor), J Heron, R Heron, K Pearson (Town Mayor) and S Waterston.

#### **In attendance**

Graeme Keedy, Town Clerk (TC)  
Members of the Public (MoP) x 6

#### **1) Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from or on behalf of Cllr M Adamson (family commitment), Cllr V Costello (ill health) Cllr J Green (professional commitment), Cllr K Hepple (ill health), Cllr P Holt (hospitalised), Cllr C McGlinchey (holiday commitment), Cllr D Turner (unwell), Cllr D Wallace (ill health) and Cllr C Willis (family commitment).

Town Council resolved to approve the apologies received.

No apology for absence had been received from Cllr J Cumming and this was recorded as unapproved.

#### **2) Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

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### 3) Public participation

The following issues were raised:

**Member of Public (MoP):** Hetton Lyons Country Park (HLCP) - former pit road - requests reflective plate be affixed to gate to aid visibility.

Requests introduction of a speed limit.

Car park at HLCP pavilion - requests introduction of in /out traffic flow route.

Requests details of progress with proposal for a Hetton by-pass.

Explanation requested re expenditure of £50k on Spice Girls concert in 2018 when spending priorities should be focussed on local issues.

Concerns about traffic flow on A182 in Hetton - 4 sets of lights within 150 yards.

Requests a review of sequence and/or timings to improve flow.

**MoP:** Clarification sought on SCC historic approach and current position relating to By-Pass.

Seeks details of costs (by location) for Christmas Trees and illuminations in SCC areas other than Hetton.

Further query re progress of remedial works to dry stone wall at Station Road (prev advised by SCC that repairs scheduled for Jan 19).

**MoP:** Concerns re fly tipping in Caroline Street. Unhappy at inequity - resident has to pay for items to be removed, but fly-tipping removed free. General dissatisfaction with lack of action taken against private landlords - Caroline Street (fly tipping), and perpetrators of anti-social behaviour.

Town Clerk undertook to report these matters to SCC.

### 4) Minutes

Subject to a request from Cllr J Heron to amend the reason for the apology of Cllr M Adamson to read "family commitment", which was accepted, Town Council resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 17 December 2018.

### 5) Reports from Members

#### Members:

Cllr J Defty - highlighted ongoing problem with fly-tipping at field adjacent to Hetton Comprehensive School.

Cllr S Waterston - requests introduction of double yellow lines at Shaftesbury Park (Lee Terrace and Age Concern hut).

Cllr R Coulson - Requests details of SCC policy relating to commercial fly-tipping.

Suggests an amnesty for disposal of fridges to avoid dumping. Ongoing issues (especially in East Rainton) with dumping of bathrooms and kitchens.

Cllr R Elvin - To improve car parking availability, requests consideration be given to the removal of double yellow lines from "Loading only" area outside public WC's opp. Tesco (Hetton Front Street) and the introduction of a maximum wait time instead.

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### 6) Update from Town Clerk

TC reported that feedback had been received from SCC relating to the condition of the dry stone wall at Station Road, mud on highway at North Road, and ongoing issues with the closure of Richard Street. All were being actively progressed by relevant officers at SCC.

TC advised that he had been in touch with Zurich Insurance to request a change to future renewal dates for administrative purposes. This request could be accommodated but would incur a pro-rata charge later in the financial year.

TC informed Town Council that he had researched "Death in Service" benefits but initial research had indicated that costs were prohibitive. Further enquiries would be undertaken.

Required changes to banking arrangements with Barclay's continued to be a source of frustration. TC would explore routes to escalate his concerns and consider invoking the complaints process.

TC reported that the franking machine was now operational following rectification by the supplier of a longstanding fault.

### 7) Financial report

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

#### Income: Nil

#### Expenditure:

##### Town Clerk re-imbusement

Wilko (18 Dec 18 -2 x 50 envelopes @£1.00 pack)	£2.00
Royal Mail (Postage cost incl. 4 x signed for)	£9.06
Travel expenses (Stagecoach - 2 Jan 19 - S Sh to Ncl)	£4.20
Tesco (9 Jan 19 - pack 3 x 16GB USB)	£18.00
Asda (11 Jan 19 - 2 x 500 A4 paper @ £3.00 each)	£6.00

**Sub Total:£39.26**

##### Other expenditure

Town Clerk net salary (Jan 19)	£927.14
HMRC (combined employer/employee liabilities)	£428.69
NEST Pension (combined employer/employee contributions Nov-Jan)	DD £124.69
Zurich Municipal (Annual insurance cover - approved at Dec 18 meeting)	£633.68
Co Durham Association of Local Councils:	
Finance / Budget training (13 Nov 18)	£27.00
Appraisal training (11 Dec 18)	£27.00
Konica Minolta (photocopy charges Aug - Nov 18)	£4.24
Konica Minolta (quarterly photocopier rental charge)	£132.77
EE (invoice 4 Jan 19)	DD £38.00
Balfour Beatty (Xmas Illuminations - Hetton le Hole)	£1180.03
Balfour Beatty (Xmas Illuminations - Moorsley)	£1180.03
Balfour Beatty (Xmas Illuminations - East Rainton)	£1180.03

**Total: £5883.30**

**Combined Total: £5922.56**

Barclays Current account balance:

**£13255.75**

Anticipated current account balance if all paid:

**£7333.19**

Barclays Reserve account balance:

**£ 28323.22**

**Expenditure - Town Mayor allowance: Nil**

Co-op Bank balance:

**£1402.84**

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Signed:

Date:

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### **8) Precept 2019-2020**

TC introduced the previously circulated report and appendices. He advised Town Council that the projected end of year 18-19 financial position was based upon information known at the time of compilation and may be subject to change.

He added that the 19-20 budget forecast and allocation was based upon a standstill position.

Town Council resolved to accept the report and appendices and agree a 0% increase in precept for 19-20 based upon Band D charge of £14.46. It was further resolved that the Town Clerk notify Sunderland City Council (the billing authority) accordingly.

### **9) Community Grant award request**

TC introduced the item and application received from Hetton Lyons Junior Cricket Club. He confirmed that the application contained an original signature from the applicant and that the requisite supporting documentation had been provided.

Town Council resolved that an award of £500.00 be made to Hetton Lyons Junior Cricket Club.

### **10) Planning applications**

Town Council considered the planning applications detailed below:

18/00891/FUL - BM Stafford & Son, Hetton Lyons Industrial Estate Hetton le Hole, DH5 0RH.

19/00012/FUL - Elemore Colliery Buildings, Lorne Street, Easington Lane, DH5 0QT.

19/00013/LBC - AA Shutters, Elemore Colliery Buildings, Lorne Street, Easington Lane.

Town Council resolved that it had no objections, comments or observations.

### **11) Town Mayor issues**

Cllr Pearson reported that she had attended carol services at Easington Lane Independent Methodist and Hetton Union Street Methodist churches.

Town Council resolved to note the Town Mayor's report.

### **12) Declaration of Interest forms**

Town Clerk reported that some Members had yet to complete and return their DoI forms - despite a reminder being sent out in September 2018. He emphasised that completion was a legal requirement and added that SCC continued to press Town Council for the return of the forms en-masse for publication.

Town Council resolved that the Town Clerk pursue with the individual Members concerned.

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### **13) Elections - May 2019**

Town Clerk circulated publicity materials produced by the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) to promote the elections and encourage wider community engagement.

Town Council resolved that, subject to confirmation from Electoral Services, Sunderland City Council that they had no views to the contrary, that the materials be adopted for use by Hetton Town Council.

### **14) General correspondence**

Town Council resolved to receive correspondence and take action as detailed below:

Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) - Winter newsletter 18/19 **(Noted)**

Royal British Legion - Donation receipt and thank you letter **(Noted)**

MoP - FoI request re former Town Clerk salary **(Noted)**

MoP - B1285 safety concerns **(Noted)**

Co Durham Association of Local Councils:

Reminder to call Parish Meeting **(TC and Town Mayor to discuss)**.

National Association of Local Councils: "Open" letter to all councillors **(Noted)**

### **15) Date and time of next meeting**

Town Council resolved that the date and time of the next meeting would be: Monday 18 February 2019 commencing at 19.15 hrs in The Hetton Centre.

The meeting closed at 20.20 hrs

GK 11 Feb 19

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Signed:

Date: