

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF**  
**THE MONK HESLEDEN PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON MONDAY 21<sup>st</sup> March 2011**

Councillors Present: W B Underwood (Chair), D Carr (Vice-chair), B Bates, W Cartwright, G M Crute, G Holmes, S McDonald, W McDonald, K Stanley, J Turnbull, P Ward, and D Wort.

mh10-1223 **TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors' S Peacock and D Crowley.

mh10-1224 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Councillors Crute, S McDonald and W McDonald declared personal and prejudicial interests in item 9, requests for financial assistance.

mh10-1225 **TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21<sup>st</sup> February 2011**

Copies of the minutes of the above meeting were circulated to each member before the meeting.

**RESOLVED** the minutes of the above meeting be approved, confirmed and signed as an accurate record.

mh10-1226 **POLICE REPORT**

PCSO Goodwin attended the meeting and read out the crime statistics report for the area. It was noted that overall there had been an increase in the reported incidents and members discussed the problems in specific areas.

**RESOLVED** the information be noted and received and **FURTHER RESOLVED** PCSO Goodwin be thanked for attending the meeting and his report.

**PSCO Goodwin left the meeting.**

mh10-1227 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Clerk gave a verbal update on the following issues:

Lease Agreement – Durham Police

Durham Constabulary will pay a charge of £1000 per annum to lease the office they currently occupy in the Resource Centre, this is effective from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2011.

Sub-Station – Welfare Park

The new lease has been completed and increased land rent of £60 per annum has been agreed.

The Seagull, Crimdon (mh10-1213)

The Clerk is pursuing this matter, the latest update indicates that the owner is currently attempting to develop the site.

Councillor Training (mh10-1213)

A councillors training session, facilitated by officers from Durham County, has been arranged for 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2011.

**RESOLVED** the information be noted and received.

mh10-1228

**COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

The Clerk gave a verbal update on the issues currently being dealt with by County Councillors. These included:

- Double yellow lines in Middle Street.
- Grazing land auctions.

**RESOLVED** the information be noted and received.

mh10-1229

**PARKS AND FACILITIES**

Apologies were offered on behalf of the Parks and Facilities Manager who was unable to attend; a full report on activities is to be given at the next meeting.

**RESOLVED** the information be noted and received.

mh10-1230

**COUNCILLORS REPORTS OF THEIR ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS/EVENTS ON BEHALF OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

Councillors Holmes and Underwood attended the East Durham Association of Parish & Town Councils on behalf of the Parish Council.

Councillor Underwood attended the PACT meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2011.

**RESOLVED** the information be noted and received.

mh10-1231

**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

A copy of the schedule of payments for the period 22<sup>nd</sup> February to 21<sup>st</sup> March 2011 was issued to members with the agenda.

**RESOLVED** the payments for the above period be approved.

Contract renewals - The Clerk advised members that Durham County Council have increased charges for services for 2011/12 details of which are detailed below:  
follows:

Waste removal:

Blackhall Resource Centre	£170 pa
Welfare Park	£525 pa
Blackhall Cemetery	£5252 pa
Grounds maintenance	£2428.25 pa
Servicing 14 dog bins	£2548

**RESOLVED** the information be received and approved.

Dog Bags – Members discussed the options for providing free dog bags following the decision by Durham County Council to end the supply.

**RESOLVED** the Parish will join other Parish & Town Councils to bulk buy a supply of dog bags and **FURTHER RESOLVED** the matter will be reviewed in six months time.

mh10-1232

### **REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

The Clerk had forwarded details of the following requests with the agenda, members considered each request in detail.

**RESOLVED** that a donation of £50 be awarded to the Great North Air Ambulance.

LGA 1972 Expenditure Power S137  
Great North Air Ambulance £50

**RESOLVED** that a donation of £100 be awarded to Butterwick Children's' Hospice.

LGA 1972 Expenditure Power S137  
Butterwick Hospice £100

**Councillors S & W McDonald declared a personal & prejudicial interest in the following item; they did not take part in the ensuing discussion or vote.**

Blackhall Youth Band

**RESOLVED** the request on this occasion be declined.

**Councillor Crute declared a personal & prejudicial interest in the following item as she is the Council's representative on the Community Centre management committee. Councillor Crute answered member's questions but did not take part in the ensuing discussion or vote.**

Blackhall Community Centre

**RESOLVED** the request be declined, **FURTHER RESOLVED** the Clerk be given delegated authority to meet with Community Centre Management Committee to discuss their future plans and needs, and present a report to Council at a future meeting.

mh10-1233

### **REVISED EQUAL OPORTUNITIES POLICY**

A copy of the revised policy was issued to members with the agenda.

**RESOLVED** the revised policy be approved and adopted.

mh10-1234

**PLANNING MATTERS**

No applications or approvals received during the period 22<sup>nd</sup> February to 21<sup>st</sup> March 2011.

**RESOLVED** the information be noted and received.

mh10-1235

**CORRESPONDENCE – March 2011**

Invitation to a free seminar on climate change and carbon reduction in the community by Durham County Council on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2011.

Playground Inspection reports for January and February 2011 received from Durham County Council.

Notification of temporary road closure at Deadmans, Blackhall Rocks from 11<sup>th</sup> March 2011 for approximately 21 days.

Sports & Leisure Facilities Review Consultation - potential closure of six leisure centres.

Request for financial assistance received from Hartlepool Coastal Surveillance Stations – application form sent.

Request from RAFA to erect a memorial stone at the Welfare Park.

Letter from Hesleden resident requesting the Parish Council gives consideration to providing a full size football pitch and changing rooms at Station Road Hesleden.

**Circulars and Bulletins**

None received

**RESOLVED** the information be noted and received and **FURTHER RESOLVED** the Clerk seeks further information with regard to request for a memorial stone at the Welfare Park, and responds in writing to the request for facilities at Hesleden which should confirm the Parish Council does not own the land in question and does not have the financial resources to fund the project.

mh10-1236

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED** the next meeting will be held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2011 at 7.00 pm at the Resource Centre, Blackhall.

**CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD**

**CHAIRMAN**.....

**DATE**.....