

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
HUTTON HENRY & STATION TOWN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 13 MARCH 2023**

Present: Councillors Mr K Knight (Chair), Mrs M Farry (Vice Chair), Mrs J Grieves, Mrs N Wood, Mrs J Glenville, Mr D Bannon & Mr J Lyons

1. Apologies for absence

1.1 To agree apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr M Lightowler

2. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

4. The Minutes of the Meetings held on 13th February 2023

4.1 To agree the minutes

The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chair.

4.2 Update from the Clerk

LH noted that:

- Additional dog fouling signs had been purchased and will be installed in the villages.
- The email address and website URL had been updated.
Email – HHSTParishCouncil@outlook.com
Website - <https://hhst.parish.durham.gov.uk>
- St Mary's School have now received their £250 donation towards food poverty.

5. Parish Calendar Project

See point 16.

6. Correspondence

Wingate Primary School had contacted MF to thank the council and stated that 23 pupils have benefited from the Food Poverty money donated by the council. St Mary's School had also thanked the council.

Resolved – the council agreed that if reserves allowed and the school had a need, the council would make a further donation before the end of the financial year. MF to contact the schools re the need. Budget £1000.

LH had received a request from a resident to have the height of the bushes reduced at the cemetery as they were too high and unsightly.

Resolved – LH had asked JM to cut the hedges down if his equipment allowed.

DCC had issued council tax bills which state that the council have increased the precept by 0.6% when the council did not increase the precept. The statement also had the old council name.

Resolved – LH to make enquiries.

7. Parish Report

7.1 Parish Update

The playground sign quote was £36.80.

Resolved – the council agreed to the quote.

7.2 Cemetery Report

7.2.1 Cemetery Digitisation

LH noted that work is progressing with the cemetery digitisation. Edge are now involved and setting up the software. LH has almost finished documenting the cemetery to make changes to the draft map supplied by Pear.

Resolved – that the information be noted.

7.2.2 Storage Container

LH had emailed MD regarding painting the container, but not yet had a response.

Resolved - LH suggested contacting MD Shot Blasting who recently painted the cemetery gates. MF suggested putting a request on FB for a local contractor.

7.2.3 Post Box to Heaven

Resolved - The council agreed to install a post box to heaven in the cemetery, setting a £200 budget.

LH advised that Premier Waste are increasing their prices by 8%.

7.3 Allotments

7.3.1 Community Allotment Sign

Interplan sign systems quoted £135 to have a sign made for the community allotment, £385 including fitting. The sign reads “Hutton Henry and Station Town Parish Council, Community Allotment, Fruit Orchard planted Feb 2023 to commemorate Queen Elizabeth II”.

Resolved – the council agreed to the quote but will install the sign themselves.

8. Police Report

8.1 To review the Police Report

See appendix A

8.2 Pact Meetings

5th April Online

17th May St Francis Village Hall

Resolved – that the information be noted.

9. Planning Proposals

9.1 To review planning proposals:

DM/23/00249/OUT Land South of Mill Farm Front Street Hutton Henry outline application for 3no dwellings including appearance, landscaping, layout and scale.

Resolved - The council felt that the application was not for land South of Mill Farm and was to the south of Zelston and was therefore misleading. LH to contact the planning department with concerns.

10. Finance

10.1 Expenditure 13/02/2023 – 12/03/2023

St Mary's School	Food Poverty Donation	£250.00
CDALC	Training	£60.00
104234	Jon Doc (Bingo)	£100.00
Pear Technologies	Cemetery Digitisation	£5,945.02
Barclays Bank	Charges	£6.00
DCC	Archives	£40.00
DCC	Wages	£2,124.32
Screwfix	Cemetery Lights	£144.60
TMJ Legal Services	Bike Track Lease	£1,187.50
Vodafone	Phone Top Up	£10.00
E.On	Electricity	£66.72
Safety Signs for less	Dog Fouling Signs	£45.36
Amazon	Citizens Award	£20.00
Zurich	Insurance	£4,345.29
L Hall	Expenses	£98.27
K Knight	Allotment Trees	£299.86
		£14,742.94

10.2 Income 13/02/2023 – 12/03/2023

Various	Burial Fees	£360.00
Greig Cavey	Cottage Rent	£382.50
UPS	Compensation	£1,014.99
		£1,757.49

Transferred £5,000 from savings to community account.

10.3 Bank Balance and Reconciliation

Community Account - **£6,735.77**

Savings Account - **£154,863.99**

Resolved – that the information be noted.

11. Citizens Award – Nominations and Gifts to be Awarded

LH noted that GH had received his award for the cemetery bird boxes.

KK nominated PR to thank him for installing the new lights on the parish hall.

Resolved – the council agreed to the nomination.

12. Pump Track – update from the Clerk

LH noted that TMJ Solicitors had received the draft lease agreement and had raised some queries with DCC and were awaiting a response.

Resolved – LH to ask what the objections were as the council do not want to prolong the matter longer than necessary.

13. Partnership work with Wingate PC

13.1 Bingo

Dates for Bingo: 28/03/23, 25/04/23 & 30/05/23.

LH noted that there were 50 people at the bingo in February. However, some people did come from out of the area.

Resolved – the council agreed to clarify that the bingo is for residents of Hutton Henry, Station Town, and Wingate only.

Please note, the Parish Hall has limited accessibility

13.2 Citizens Advice

LH noted that the changes will be implemented from 1st April 2023. The service operates on a two-week timetable, week 1 (Tuesday 4th April) is face to face at Wingate Community Centre 9-12pm, Week 2 is remote.

Resolved – that the information be noted.

14. Kings Coronation Celebrations May 2023 – update from the Clerk

Plans are progressing well with HHCA, LH asked the council for feedback on the poster and registration form. LH also asked for volunteers to assist on the day.

Resolved – that the information be noted.

15. Miners Memorial

HHPS had contacted the council with regards to placing a memorial in Hutton Henry for the miners who lost their lives from the Village.

Resolved – the council agreed not to install a memorial in Hutton Henry as the pit was in Station Town. The council did agree to look at installing a plaque on the memorial stating it is dedicated to all those who died and suggested the school could produce some designs.

16. Parish Calendar Update

LH noted that there had been 19 responses to the poll and shared the results with the council. MF had also spoken to residents at the HHCA coffee morning where he had a positive response.

Resolved – although feedback had been positive the council did not feel that the parish calendar was a viable project at this time.

17. Easter Activity Packs – Councillor M Farry

Cllr Farry requested funding to offer Easter activity packs. Deadline to order will be 31st March with delivery easter weekend.

Resolved – the council agreed a budget of £300, LH to produce a poster.

18. Family Fun Day Sunday 16th July

LH updated the council on planning progress to date.

Resolved - The Council agreed to the poster and to start advertising the event.

19. Policies

19.1 To review and agree the following policies.

There were no policies to review.

Appendix A

There have been 2 reports of criminal damage in Station Town area both are damage to properties one which is vacant, and another is a broken gate.

We have conducted a speed watch at Hutton Henry outside the school where there were 0 vehicles recorded exceeding the speed limit. We will continue to carry out speed watch events in the village the next we will look at station town and keep working between the two villages.

There was a quad bike seized in station town that was linked to Anti-Social Behaviour. 3 suspects were locked up for burglary offences and 1 was remanded awaiting court.

Date Range: 01/02/2023 – 28/02/2023

Criminal Damage: x 2 incidents

- Damage to a vacant property
- Broken gate

Criminal Damage to a Vehicle: x 2 incidents

- Tyres Slashed x 2 in station town

Antisocial Behaviour: x 1 incident reported

- People Swearing in the street

Burglary residential - x 1 incident

- Station town person tried to enter a premise