

**MINUTES OF THE HUDSWELL & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON:  
Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

**Present:** Cllr P Chapman (PC)  
Cllr J Dixon (JD)  
Cllr B Phillips (BP)  
Cllr R Phillips (RP)  
Mrs C Swainston (Parish Clerk) (CS)  
Cllr H Swettenham (HS)

**Police:** Heather Campbell PC355  
Sharon Diamond PCSO577

		<b>ACTION</b>
	Cllr Dixon welcomed the two police officers that were visiting.	
<b>1.</b>	<b>Declaration of Interests and Lobbying</b>	
	There were no declarations of interest or lobbying.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Public Open Session</b>	
	There were no members of the public present.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Apologies</b>	
	Apologies were received from Cllr Peacock (NYC) and Cllr Barker.	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023</b>	
	The minutes of the meeting held on 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2023 were accepted.	
<b>5.1</b>	<b>Matters Which Remain Outstanding from 17<sup>th</sup> February 2022</b>	
5.1.1	<b>Members Comments (Item 12)</b>	
	Cllr Dixon reported that Stainton needed a new noticeboard, he agreed to speak to Bill Barker about a replacement. <i>Update 15/09/22: Cllr Dixon reported that he would make a smaller noticeboard for Stainton. Downholme also requires a new noticeboard which the Parish Clerk will source, Cllr Peacock offered a grant to cover the costs. Update 17/11/22: The Parish Clerk confirmed that funding had been received and she was waiting for confirmation of Downholme's preferred noticeboard. Cllr Barker waiting for written quote, work can be started in February 2023. Update 16/02/23: Cllr Barker confirmed that an order had been placed for a new Downholme noticeboard. Cllr Dixon has repaired Stainton's board and it will be reinstated asap. Update 18/05/23: As before. Update 21/09/23: Downholme's new noticeboard had been erected, Stainton's noticeboard has now fallen apart and a new one was requested. Cllr Barker agreed to source/obtain a quote. Update 16/11/23: Waiting for a response. Update 15/02/24: Ongoing.</i>	<b>AB</b>
<b>5.2</b>	<b>Matters Which Remain Outstanding from 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023</b>	
5.2.1	<b>Accounts (Item 6)</b>	
	The grant that had been received for the NYCC Locality Budget for a new noticeboard at Downholme would more than cover the costs. It was agreed that any money remaining would be used towards security lighting for Hudswell Village Hall in the first instance, Cllr Chapman agreed to source. This was with Cllr Peacock's full permission. <i>Update 18/05/23: Light ordered, awaiting fitting. Update 21/09/23: Been fitted, awaiting</i>	<b>ENDS</b>

	<i>invoice. Update 16/11/23: Awaiting invoice, plus faulty light to fix. Update 15/02/24: Invoice received, matter now closed.</i>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>5.3</b>	<b>Matters Which Remain Outstanding from 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023</b>	
5.3.1	<p><b>Members Comments (Item 11)</b></p> <p>Cllr Dixon asked if we could consider purchasing a defibrillator for Stainton. It was felt inappropriate for a small hamlet, but it was suggested that Wathgill should be the first stop in an emergency. Cllr Dixon agreed to make enquiries with the camp. <i>Update 21/09/23: Ongoing. Update 16/11/23: Cllr Dixon had tried without success, more enquires to take place. Update 15/02/24: No wish to continue, a doctor now lives in the village.</i></p>	<b>ENDS</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Accounts</b>	
	The Parish Clerk presented the accounts.	
<b>7.</b>	<b>Parish Insurance: Renewal</b>	
	Renewal notice received from Zurich. Cost remains the same at £167.44. Councillors agreed to renew.	<b>CS</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Planning Applications - Consultation</b>	
	Applications had been received and duly commented upon since November 2023 for five locations in Hudswell Ward – (1) Land behind Holme Farm Cottage, (2) Holbrook Cottage, (3) Brokes Farm, (4) Underbanks and (5) Barn at Thorpe Farm; and one location in Downholme Ward – (1) Home Farm.	
<b>9.</b>	<b>STANDING ITEM: Hudswell Playing Field Risk Assessment</b>	
	The Parish Clerk reported that Cllr Beverly Phillips had carried out an inspection of the playing field on 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2024.	
<b>10.</b>	<b>Downholme Grass Cutting</b>	
	<p>The Parish has been asked if we will take responsibility for cutting grass verges in Downholme. Last year it was decided that the effort involved in ensuring that this happened was not worth the payment that NYC were willing to provide. The Parish have been asked again, the annual sum offered is £28.69.</p> <p>There was some concern that the current volunteer would feel pressurised if there was money involved. Also, if the parish decided to go ahead then they would be duty bound to find a replacement when the need arose.</p> <p>Cllr Chapman said that it was important that Downholme continued to look pristine. Cllr Dixon proposed that the parish claim the money and reimburse Bill Barker. Cllr Dixon agreed to speak to Bill Barker.</p>	<b>JD</b>
<b>11.</b>	<b>Parish Website</b>	
	<p>The Parish Clerk reported that NYC would no longer be supporting the hosting of documents from the end of March 2025. This had implications as the annual financial documents are required by law to appear online.</p> <p>Parish Clerk agreed to look into setting up a page with IONOS.</p>	<b>CS</b>

12. County Councillor Comments	ACTION
<p>Non present.</p> <p>The police officers said hello and wanted to introduce themselves. They are stationed at Leyburn and can attend any meetings if we need any support. It was suggested that they visit the coffee morning in Hudswell Village Hall. Speeding remains our most concerning issue.</p>	
13. Members Comments	
<p><b>Do we want a portrait of the King?</b> Councillors said “yes”.</p>	<p><b>CS</b></p>
<p><b>Best Kept Village?</b> Councillors said “yes”, Cllr Richard Phillips agreed to be the contact.</p>	<p><b>CS</b></p>
<p>Cllr Chapman raised the issue of the church and its development, he asked that a letter is sent to the church PCC to ask how an entrance will be created to the extended area for the increasing graveyard. The church is still very much involved with the responsibility of the church yard and we want to know how the two areas will be interlinked.</p>	<p><b>CS</b></p>
<p>Cllr Dixon asked for an update on current highways maintenance issues: (1) Walburn Hall Bridge, (2) road below Downholme Church and (3) washed out road verges between Walburn and Downholme. The Parish Clerk agreed to make enquires.</p>	<p><b>CS</b></p>
14. Dates of Next Meetings	
<p>16<sup>th</sup> May 2024 (plus AGM) and 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 8.00 pm.</p>	