

Haltwhistle Town Council Meeting
9th January 2023
APPROVED MINUTES

| | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|---|--|------------------------|
| Int ere sts | Present 18.30 | Cllr A Sharp Cllr M Ridley | Cllr M Hodgson Cllr J Elliott Cllr C Banks | Clerk – Susan Saunders |
| | 1/23 | Apologies for absence , Cllr G Ridley, Cllr I Stott, Cllr M Forrest, Cllr C Moore, Cllr J Hunter, Cllr I Hutchinson Cllr Sharp mentioned the passing of Richard Skeet who had been a councillor in the past and ran his shop for 34 years. He was a much known and liked member of the community. | | |
| | 2/23 | Public Questions – there were no questions. | | |
| | 3/23 | Declarations of Interest The Chair reminded members of the Council of their duty to declare an interest at each agenda item, and he informed everyone that that the initials of Councillors declaring an interest will be listed in a column on the Minutes. | | |
| | 4/23 | Minutes of the meeting for approval held on: Monday 5 th December 2022 - The minutes were approved PROPOSED Cllr M Hodgson SECONDED Cllr J Elliott AGREED | | |
| | 5/23 | Matters arising from previous Minutes not dealt with elsewhere in the current agenda 05/23.01 Greenholme Rd Meeting A meeting took place with Karbon Homes, the police, a representative from Guy Opperman and some council members. There has been quite a lot of anti-social behaviour reported here and Karbon Homes will try to resolve the issues. The clerk was asked to obtain a report for the next meeting. | | |
| | 6/23 | Grounds Meeting 06/23.01 Public Footpaths, Lighting and Amenities – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was reported that an occupier of a house on West Tynedale Terrace was leaving the garage door open when out and it was causing an obstruction for larger vehicles. Members thought the owner may not be aware of this and asked the clerk to write and ask if it could be closed. • The blue bridge is still very slippery so, the clerk was asked to write to NCC and suggest that a non-slip surface could be placed at either side. • The trees from NCC are due to arrive soon for Bellister Road and Comb Hill. The clerk has volunteers from the STRPS group for the bridge and is in contact with Young & Sweet for the children to help with the planting. 06/23.02 Public Seating and Bus Shelters There are still some timetables without full information at the bus stops. The clerk will write back to NCC and ask if they could all have a proper timetable. 06/23.03 Orchard Gardens – The advert was placed on Facebook and in the notice board for phase 1, the levelling of the area, with only one quote received. It was agreed to approve Steven Ferguson as the contractor at a cost of £6950. PROPOSED Cllr J Elliott SECONDED Cllr M Ridley AGREED 06/23.04 To approve tree reduction in Orchard Gardens by Gavin Reichart who will complete the appropriate planning permission. There are 3 trees which need the appropriate permission. The clerk was asked if Gavin could provide a quote for the removal of the Eucalyptus tree on the outside of the area which has become completely overgrown. PROPOSED Cllr M Ridley SECONDED Cllr A Sharp AGREED Members discussed the increase in litter since Derek has not been able to litter pick. The council were very grateful to Derek who has volunteered to do this for many years. It was agreed to consider organising some days of litter picking with volunteers and offer a hot drink and cake afterwards. | | |

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| | | <p>Northumberland County Council (NCC) Cllr Sharp reported that Durham has agreed to join the other councils and that there would be an election for a new mayor.</p> <p>Members asked if the clerk could mention to NCC that they would like the school bus to drop children off on the hospital side instead of the opposite side of the road. As most children have to cross the road there was concern that it was not safe.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | 7/23 | <p>Police in Haltwhistle Cllr Sharp read out the report.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 8/23 | <p>Warm Hub Initiative Proposal to support and donate to the Warm Space on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Methodist Hall. It was agreed to donate £250. The clerk will inform Ellen Walton. PROPOSED Cllr J Elliott SECONDED Cllr A Sharp AGREED</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 9/23 | <p>One Way System Some members would like to consider this again and it would need support from NCC and a full consultation. However, one of the issues last time round was that, one of the bus companies would not change the route and would therefore miss out the main street if it should become one way. The clerk was asked to check which company had said this and bring back to the next meeting for a council vote on whether to proceed or not.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 10/23 | <p>Haltwhistle in Bloom Members were supportive of the idea and thought it could be discussed in more detail at the next meeting when there should be more councillors attending.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 11/23 | <p>The King's Coronation It was agreed to contact the same groups that were involved with The Jubilee last year to plan something over the weekend of the coronation. The clerk will ask other local councils if they would like to do mugs or coins together again, as was done for The Jubilee.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 12/23 | <p>Planning Applications. – No plans</p> <p>Other Planning Matters 22/03696 Woodstock – Retrospective application - REFUSED</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 13/23 | <p>Grant Requests – No requests</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 14/23 | <p>Reports on Financial Matters</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; font-size: small;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Financial Matters:</th> <th style="text-align: center;">£</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>14/23.01</td> <td>Bank and cash balances as at 3rd January 2023</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td> Current Account</td> <td style="text-align: right;">58,232.49</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td> TOTAL</td> <td style="text-align: right;">58,232.49</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>14/23.02</td> <td>Receipts Since last Meeting</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td> JBC PAYE & Pension Nov & Dec</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1,536.21</td> <td>Included above</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td> CoTrade Donation to Lights</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1,839.50</td> <td>Not included above</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td> JBC Payroll share</td> <td style="text-align: right;">101.25</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td> Pay \method</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1,940.75</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>14/23.03</td> <td>Accounts for payment 9th January 2023</td> <td style="text-align: center;">£</td> <td>Included in Balance Above</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td> JRB Enterprises</td> <td style="text-align: right;">322.20</td> <td>Dog Bags</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td> P Axcell</td> <td style="text-align: right;">162.00</td> <td>3rd Quarter Payroll incl JBC</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td> TOTAL</td> <td style="text-align: right;">484.20</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td> TOTAL</td> <td style="text-align: right;">16,440.99</td> <td>Not Included Above</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td> Postma Electrical</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2,826.00</td> <td>Posts at Comb Hill</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td> T Soves</td> <td style="text-align: right;">80.00</td> <td>4th Tranche</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td> HS&LC</td> <td style="text-align: right;">9,971.50</td> <td>Printer Ink and paper, £100 for Derek - voucher & bedding</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td> SMS Exp</td> <td style="text-align: right;">187.69</td> <td>Incl Payrise</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td> Monthly Amounts</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3,195.80</td> <td>Tree report and planning permission for Orchard Gardens</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td> G Reichart</td> <td style="text-align: right;">180.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td> TOTAL</td> <td style="text-align: right;">16,925.19</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The payments of £16925.19 were approved.</p> | Financial Matters: | | £ | | 14/23.01 | Bank and cash balances as at 3rd January 2023 | | | | Current Account | 58,232.49 | | | TOTAL | 58,232.49 | | 14/23.02 | Receipts Since last Meeting | | | | JBC PAYE & Pension Nov & Dec | 1,536.21 | Included above | | CoTrade Donation to Lights | 1,839.50 | Not included above | | JBC Payroll share | 101.25 | | | Pay \method | 1,940.75 | | 14/23.03 | Accounts for payment 9th January 2023 | £ | Included in Balance Above | | JRB Enterprises | 322.20 | Dog Bags | | P Axcell | 162.00 | 3rd Quarter Payroll incl JBC | | TOTAL | 484.20 | | | TOTAL | 16,440.99 | Not Included Above | | Postma Electrical | 2,826.00 | Posts at Comb Hill | | T Soves | 80.00 | 4th Tranche | | HS&LC | 9,971.50 | Printer Ink and paper, £100 for Derek - voucher & bedding | | SMS Exp | 187.69 | Incl Payrise | | Monthly Amounts | 3,195.80 | Tree report and planning permission for Orchard Gardens | | G Reichart | 180.00 | | | TOTAL | 16,925.19 | |
| Financial Matters: | | £ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | Current Account | 58,232.49 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | TOTAL | 58,232.49 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14/23.02 | Receipts Since last Meeting | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | JBC PAYE & Pension Nov & Dec | 1,536.21 | Included above | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | CoTrade Donation to Lights | 1,839.50 | Not included above | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | JBC Payroll share | 101.25 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Pay \method | 1,940.75 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14/23.03 | Accounts for payment 9th January 2023 | £ | Included in Balance Above | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | JRB Enterprises | 322.20 | Dog Bags | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | P Axcell | 162.00 | 3rd Quarter Payroll incl JBC | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | TOTAL | 484.20 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | TOTAL | 16,440.99 | Not Included Above | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Postma Electrical | 2,826.00 | Posts at Comb Hill | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | T Soves | 80.00 | 4th Tranche | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | SMS Exp | 187.69 | Incl Payrise | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Monthly Amounts | 3,195.80 | Tree report and planning permission for Orchard Gardens | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | G Reichart | 180.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | TOTAL | 16,925.19 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| AS | | <p>PROPOSED Cllr M Ridley SECONDED Cllr J Elliott AGREED 14/23.04 Bank Reconciliation/Income & Expenditure as at 3rd January 2023– noted.</p> |
| | | <p>Other Financial Matters 14/23.05 Old Estate Office – To approve the lease contract for the office. <i>7.55pm Cllr A Sharp left the room</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>To agree to purchase a meeting desk.</i> • <i>To agree to purchase a sink, cupboard and hot water unit.</i> <p>Members discussed the office arrangements and the fact that The Community Hubs did not appear to be using the library rooms as much as was predicted. It was felt that, before signing a contract for the above office, and spending money on it, they would like negotiations re-opened with NCC for a room in the library. Members would prefer Room 1 on the ground floor if possible and at a more reasonable price than was originally. The council had to move out of their old office last year in preparation for The Community Hub and were offered rooms at £3500 (small room) and £6000 (large Room) pa. Members agreed to pursue a room at the library before agreeing the lease.</p> <p>PROPOSED Cllr J Elliott SECONDED Cllr M Ridley AGREED</p> <p>14/23.06 SLCC training events – <i>to approve attendance by clerk.</i> There are a number of Zoom training events in the coming months for allotments and cemeteries which would be beneficial for the staff. As the clerk is the only member of SLCC the events can be booked at members price for other staff, if attending at the same time. Members agreed the clerk should undertake the training at a cost of £250 for all sessions. The burial committee members will discuss the other staff training at the next committee meeting.</p> <p>PROPOSED Cllr M Ridley SECONDED Cllr A Sharp AGREED</p> |
| | 15/23 | <p>Haltwhistle & District Joint Burial Committee A brief discussion was undertaken. The next meeting is 18th January 2023</p> |
| | 16/23 | <p>Correspondence received since last Council Meeting The correspondence was noted. The Council has been asked to become a member of The Rural Market Town Group with an offer of free membership for the first 6 months. Members agreed to the trial and would reassess after six months.</p> <p>PROPOSED Cllr A Sharp SECONDED Cllr M Ridley AGREED</p> |
| | | <p>Staffing <i>Report and resolutions arising</i> Resolution to Exclude Press and Public To consider a resolution to exclude the public and accredited representatives of newspapers from the following item relevant to a subject which affects the Council's area.</p> <p>Resolution "That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted it is advisable in the public interest that the public be temporarily excluded and, they are instructed to withdraw."</p> <p>This resolution is moved under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public and accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by virtue of the paragraph specified against the item.</p> <p>PROPOSED Cllr M Ridley SECONDED Cllr C Banks AGREED A discussion was undertaken with no resolutions.</p> |
| | | <p>Dates and times of next meetings Town Council Meeting Monday 6th February 2023, 6.30pm in the library, first floor. Grounds Meeting – Monday 30th January 2023 10.00am in the office. The meeting closed at 20.55.</p> |