

Hauxley Parish Council
Meeting Monday 30th June 2025

The Bi-Monthly Parish Council meeting was held this evening at 6.30pm at Hauxley Village Hall.

Present: - Cllrs Rutley (DR), Callendar (RC), Golding (SG), Appleby (WA), Wyatt (EW)

In Attendance: - County Councillor Arty Hume, 1 member of the public and Julie Hall (Clerk) (JH)

(Draft until signed by the Chair)

	Bi-monthly Council Meeting Minutes	Action
	Public Question:	
A)	<p>Louise Kemp (LK) informed the meeting that she is looking to lease Hauxley Chapel. Initially the lease will be for 12 months, from the 1st September 2025, with the option for a yearly rolling contract. The intention is for the building to be used as a Non-Denominational Church, creating an open space for the community, in partnership with the Village Hall, Local Groups and the Parish Council. The offer could include retreat days, Sunday meditation/quiet days, Community Clubs, such as gardening.</p> <p>LK confirmed if she secures the lease, she would be happy for the community assets & defibrillator to be retained in the building. RC will inform Tom Lloyd of this agreement.</p> <p>RC reported concerns raised at the Chapel meeting on the 25th June, which included issues of car parking, noise levels and litter in the village. LK felt all these concerns could be overcome and that attendees would be encouraged to cycle or use the Beacon Hill car park.</p> <p>SG stated the PC have been looking at the possibility of installing a bike rack near the Low Hauxley bus shelter.</p> <p>EW informed the meeting that the VH Committee are exploring options for car parking.</p>	<p>RC</p> <p>SG</p>
B)	<p>The Chair welcomed County Councillor Arty Hume (AH) to the meeting. AH outlined his working experience and that he lives locally in Hauxley. JH raised the PC's concerns regarding Anti-Social Behaviour in the area and their willingness to work in partnership with Amble Town Council.</p> <p>Cllrs asked for his support in raising several planning issues with Northumberland County Council, as the PC are not receiving any updates from their enquiries. AH said any planning issues would be best sent to Rob Murfin, Head of Planning and Rob's PA, Sue Allison.</p> <p>SG confirmed the relationship with the Grounds Maintenance Team and Highways Department was positive.</p> <p>AH agreed to attend Hauxley Parish Council meetings every 6 months to provide an update.</p>	

	Agenda	
1.	Apologies: - Cllr Jim Busby	
2.	Declaration of Interest: - Non received	
3.	Minutes: - 6 th May 2025 were agreed as a true record. DR signed the minutes	DR/JH
4.	Matters Arising from Previous Minutes	
a)	Future use of Hauxley Church building: - See information in Section A	
b)	Dates for future Parish Council meetings 2025/26: - The following meeting dates were agreed – 1 st September 2025, 24 th November, 19 th January & 23 rd March 2026 to be held in Hauxley Village Hall at 6.30pm.	
c)	Stakeholder Engagement: - A Parish Newsletter will be produced 3 times per year- autumn, spring and summer. It will be 2 sides of A4, printed in black and white, plus a digital version. An advert will be circulated within the Parish for a person to write the newsletter. It was agreed the person would be paid for a day's work per edition. DR & SG will progress the advert and recruitment process.	DR/SG
5.	Planning Applications: - -25/01387/FUL New Buildings and Horse Arena, Rose Cottage, Hauxley Road, Amble, NE65 0JL – no objections provided the changes within the redline area are not used for overnight boarding of dogs. The PC also commented on: - concerns regarding the additional amount of traffic along narrow roads, noise from barking dogs for nearby residents, health hazards from animal faeces, ensuring appropriate licences for animal welfare and an expectation of landscape screening and biodiversity mitigation. The PC also stated they would welcome some community engagement activities to explain the business and address resident concerns. JH to contact Rob Murfin, NCC Head of Planning, to request training for the Parish Councillors in the delivery of the adopted Neighbourhood Plan.	JH
6.	Parish Wide Maintenance Plan: -	
a)	There is an agreement for NCC to undertake additional grass cutting in Low Hauxley.: - -2025 Season – 5 cuts, 1 per month starting in May, however the service started late this year, so likely to be only 4 visits maximum. RC will check to see how many cuts are completed this year. -2026 Season -6 cuts per month starting in April. The work completed to date has been of a good standard. A request was made to NCC to reduce the spraying of verges to enable the sowing of wildflowers. The verges have been sprayed this year; however, the PC are considering stopping this service due to the impact on the environment.	RC
b)	A 'Fix my Street' report was submitted regarding the section of footpath from 1 High Hauxley to 4 High Hauxley. The work has not yet been fully completed.	SG

c)	The replacement bin ordered from Glasdon has now been received and installed by NCC. It's not been installed in the position requested. SG to amend the siting of the bin.	SG
d)	The application to Penguin, for a miniature library was declined. EW is pursuing, through the Facebook 'Buy Nothing Group', a suitable cupboard for a miniature library to be installed in the High Hauxley bus shelter. The library would contain a variety of resources, including books, games, plants, etc.	EW
e)	The installation of boards, containing information about local wildlife, in Low Hauxley's bus shelter is still being pursued with the Wildlife Trust.	EW/SG
f)	The steps leading from Beacon Hill car park have received some remedial work by NCC, but due to the cost and a lack of budget, a complete upgrade has yet been agreed.	
7.	Matters of Anti-Social Behaviour: -	
a)	The bird boxes installed in High Hauxley have been a success and have not been damaged.	All
b)	The Community Police are having a 'Meet & Greet' session in Amble on the 1 st July, to discuss residents concern.	
c)	The Neighbourhood Policing meeting was cancelled, and no new date has been scheduled. JH to contact Amble Town Council for progress. WA has confirmed she will represent the PC at any future meetings.	JH/WA
d)	AH was asked if he could raise with Amble Town Council & NCC, concern regarding Quad bikes and Ebikes speeding into Hauxley from Amble. The PC are willing to support any action which could reduce speeding and anti-social behaviour in the area.	AH
e)	A solution is still being sought for the lack of gate at the end of the footpath by Kirkwell Cottages. WA will speak to the residents to see if a suitable gate system could be installed.	WA
	AH will speak to NCC's Footpath Officer to find out if a Radar Barrier could be installed, giving disabled people access to the footpath.	AH
8.	Car parking on grass verges: - WA raised her concerns regarding cars parking on the verge next to the bus shelter at Low Hauxley and wondered if reflective bollards could be re-installed. She felt the parking of cars in this area was creating a safety issue. After discussion, it was agreed Cllrs would have a site meeting to determine a way forward and report back at the next meeting.	All
9.	Financial Overview: - The PC reviewed the Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2024/25 (Certificate of Exemption), They: - - considered and agreed the actions arising from the external auditor - approved the Annual Governance Statement, which was signed by the Chair - approved the draft annual accounts for 2024/25 - approved the Accounting Statement and Explanation of Variance - approved the dates for Public Rights - reviewed and updated the Asset Register	

10.	Correspondence: -	
a)	-Joint Town & Parish Council meetings - Town Clerk Amble – Agreed to the suggestion of Joint Town and Parish council meetings. JH to reply to Amble Town Clerk	JH
b)	- Ambler 153- Submission Call - Noted	
c)	- Hauxley Chapel meeting - 25th June 5.30pm - Ralph Cresswell. RC attended	
d)	- NALC- Parish Council Website. It was agreed the PC would move to Hugofox as their website provider. It was also agreed all Cllrs would move to gov.uk email addresses following the receipt of guidance from NALC.	
e)	-Thriving Together Newsletter May & June Edition – Noted	
f)	-Request for a donation from Citizen Advice Bureau. The PC only have a small precept and were unable to agree to a donation, however they will circulate the request through the Parish Social Media pages.	
11.	Parish Financial Matters: -Clerk's salary (April & May 2025) - £189.36 & £168.08 Agreed -HMRC PAYE (April & May 2025) - £44.40 & £38.00 Agreed - Payroll Solutions (April & May 2025) - £25.20 & £25.20 Agreed - Glasdon UK (replacement bin) - £253.63 Received and agreed payment - Scotchcoulthard Book- Keeping Services - £100 Agreed	
12	Any other Business: -	
a)	Request from Irene Liddle for a contribution to the replacement of fencing damaged by a truck. The PC agreed they could not contribute as the fence did not belong to the PC.	RC
b)	AH asked for comments regarding the access onto the A1068. It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting, to enable AH to provide information about this issue and the improvements to Hauxley Lane.	AH
13.	The next meeting- Monday 1st September– 6.30pm - Hauxley Village Hall The meeting concluded at 8.20pm.	