**Hauxley Parish Council**

**Meeting Tuesday 4th March 2025**

The monthly Parish Council meeting was held this evening at 6.30pm at Hauxley Village Hall.

**Present**: - Cllrs Rutley (DR), Callendar (RC), Golding (SG), Busby (JB), Appleby (WA)

**In Attendance**: - 2 members of the public and Julie Hall (Clerk) (JH)

|  | **Monthly Parish Council Draft Meeting Minutes** | Action |
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| A.  B.  C.  D. | **Public Questions:**  Nigel Errington enquired about the ownership of the land that had recently been gravelled, in the quadrant area at Low Hauxley, and whether the properties surrounding the area had been asked to contribute. DR advised this was an agenda item and would be discussed later in the meeting.  Nigel Errington enquired about the parking restriction signage in Low Hauxley and whether this should be removed. JB advised that the signage had been installed by NCC to reduce traffic congestion in the area.  Nigel Errington informed the meeting he was concerned about the levels of anti-social behaviour in the area. He requested a gate to be installed at the end of the footpath by Kirkwell Cottages. DR confirmed the PC was aware of these issues and were considering actions to alleviate the problems.  Nigel Errington raised his concern regarding the level of exposed beach waste by the dunes. He also commented on the state of the steps leading down onto the beach. |  |
|  | **Agenda** |  |
| 1. | **Apologies: -** Cllr Wyatt (EW) |  |
| 2. | **Minutes**: 20th January 2025 were agreed as a true record. DR to sign and date the minutes | DR/JH |
| 3.  a)  b)  c) | **Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**  **On-line Banking -** JH has contacted the bank to progress the change of contact details.  **Local businesses: -** SG has visited Hauxley Farm and Hauxley Wildlife Centre to explore options for community and sustainability projects. Both businesses were very keen to develop links with the PC.  SG is to arrange for Councillors to meet with the manager of the Wildlife Trust (Thursday or Friday) to further develop the partnership.  SG agreed to contact other businesses within the Parish.  **Road surface repairs: -** RC confirmed the Low Hauxley quadrant repairs had been completed to a satisfactory standard. Feedback has been positive regarding the work. JH will contact the contractors for their invoice. | JH  SG  All  JH |
| 5. | **Planning applications**   * No applications have been received. * Future planning applications will be considered by a sub-group of the PC. Cllrs WA, SG, & JB will form the Planning Committee and have delegated authority to consider all planning applications within the Parish. They will prepare a comment on behalf of the PC, which the Clerk will submit to NCC.   The comment will be reported and minuted at the next PC meeting.   * JH to contact NCC to identify a contact to discuss planning queries relating to Hauxley Parish and request training for the application of the adopted Neighbourhood Plan. * SG had emailed Joseph Turner for an update on planning queries: - 24/01091/ENDEVT & 24/01296/BRCOND. No communication had been received. JH to contact Cllr Terry Clark to request a response from NCC on behalf of the PC. | WA/SG/JB  JH  JH |
| 6. | **Parish Wide Maintenance plan**  SG and RC are meeting Bob Hodgson, Parks & Recreation service, on the 14th March 2025, regarding the general maintenance of the Parish.  SG outlined a community project for the autumn, involving the planting of bulbs in both High and Low Hauxley.  A discussion took place regarding the condition of the dunes and the steps to the beach. JH to email NCC to determine the most appropriate person/organisation to contact regarding how the coastal area could be improved. | SG/RC  ALL  JH |
| 7. | **Anti -Social Behaviour**  Everyone expressed a concern regarding the current levels of anti-social behaviour. It was agreed that this should be a standing agenda item.  JH to contact the Community Police Officer to attend a PC meeting, to discuss the management of the behaviour.  JH to explore the option of residents being trained in the use of speed guns.  JH to contact NCC’s Highway department to explore ways of suppressing speeding within the Parish.  JH to email NCC’s Footpath Officer requesting a site meeting to discuss the installation of a gate.  JH to contact Amble Parish to determine if there are options for joint activity in tackling anti-social behaviour. | JH |
| 8 | **Correspondence Received**  **a) Parish Council May Elections: -** JH informed the PC that in May 2025 there would be an election for the whole Parish Council. All Parish Councillors needed to apply to be a Parish Councillor post 1 May 2025. If all 6 seats (or less) were filled, then Parish Councillors would automatically get co-opted and there would be no election. If more than 6 residents apply to become a Parish Councillor, then there would be a by-election. JH handed out the nomination papers and outlined the procedure for applying. Completed nomination papers must be delivered by hand, by the candidate, Parish Clerk, or any other person. Papers can be returned from 21st March to Wednesday 2nd April. The nearest office is Morpeth County Hall, Elections Office.  **b) Hauxley Church closure: -** Tom Lloyd, emailed to request help in securing the future of Hauxley Parish Church, which is due to close later this year. Cllrs considered the financial implication of taking on the lease of the building. All agreed not to pursue a lease agreement, due to the high cost. JH to inform Tom of the PC’s decision.  **c) Second Homes and Holiday Lets**- There are 23 properties in Hauxley Parish registered as second homes, however NCC are unable to provide their addresses.  **d) Thriving Together Newsletter** – Noted  **e) Keep Britain Tidy** – 21st March-6th April 2025- Noted  **f) Kings Garden Party 2025**- Noted  **g) Health Watch Survey** - Noted  **h) Nigel Errington** (NE)-requested information regarding the works completed around the quadrant area at Low Hauxley.  SG confirmed the land is Parish Council registered land. This means the ongoing maintenance is the responsibility of the PC, who have organised a 5-year rolling programme of maintenance work for this area. Funding has been reserved each year in the budget, to ensure sufficient money is available to pay for the works. (No annual maintenance or payments made for the up keep of this area, since 2019) NCC provided a quotation which was competitive, providing a quality service to support the Parish. The work has now been completed.  The PC will write to all premises surrounding the quadrant, to request a donation towards the work.  JH will respond to NE.  **i)Mary Pringle** (MP) requested the PC to consider placing a mirror at the end of Kirkwell. RC will respond, explaining only the County Council can install a mirror. Highways was not a responsibility of the PC.  **h) Defibrillator Maintenance**: -The defibrillator’s paediatric pads need to be replaced in April 2025. JH will contact The Circuit, who manage the PC’s contract to determine the cost of renewal.  Also, the defibrillator will need to be moved if the church closes, as it’s currently attached to the front of the church. | All  JH  JH  RC  JH |
|  | **Parish Financial Matters**   1. **Annual Room Hire Fee–** Hauxley Village Hall **-** £300- Agreed 2. **Gardening project** - £1,000 – Agreed. 3. **Clerks’ salary- 17 hours** - Agreed |  |
| 10 | **Any Other Business for Discussion:**  **RC** asked about the process for reviewing the cost of room hire for Parish council meetings. DR will compare the cost of hiring similar rooms and will write to the Village Hall Committee regarding future arrangements.  **SG** highlighted the importance of communications with residents and the value of the Facebook page. People have commented positively on the activity of the PC.  **DR** proposed the 2 bus shelters should be used to promote local information. The bus shelter in High Hauxley could host a book library and the one in Low Haxuley information about the area.  It was agreed this should be an agenda item for the next PC meeting. | DR  All |
| 11 | **Next Meeting: 6.30pm - Tuesday 6th May 2025 – Hauxley Village Hall** |  |
|  | The meeting concluded at 8.20pm |  |