

**Minutes of the Meeting of Husthwaite Parish Council held on
Tuesday 15th March 2011**

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Present: C. Fenwick (Chair), R.Houlston (RH), E.Smith (ES), P Davison (PD)

In Attendance: B.Ward (clerk), Cllr P Featherstone HDC, Mrs L Walton

1. Apologies: None

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting: Approved and signed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising:

3.1 Condition of roads: Despite a massive exchange of letters, e-mails and 'phone calls to NYCC Highways and the NYCC Chief Executive the Parish Council has, so far, failed to convince them of their error in creating the one way system and their ineptitude in dealing with the basic problem. After much vigorous discussion it was agreed to enquire whether NYCC would agree not to invoice the owner of the adjacent land if they came forward. If they are not prepared to do this then there is little chance of the owner coming forward. It was also agreed to ask Highways to remove the 'Road Closed' sign from the junction with the A19 and to rethink the diversion as damage is being caused to footpaths in The Nookin due to large vehicles having to mount the pavement. **Action: Clerk to write to NYCC**

3.2 Remedial Work to MUGA: This work has now been completed and Cleveland Services have been paid in full.

3.3 Insurance: a like for like quote for insurance has been received from Zurich Insurance which is over £200 cheaper than the current insurer. Zurich also offered a reduced premium if the Council committed to staying with them for 3 years. It was agreed that the insurance should be renewed with Zurich subject to a) clarification of the 3 year agreement and b) them giving a competitive quote for the children's play area. **Action: Clerk to investigate**

3.4 Winter Maintenance Service: NYCC have responded to the effect that they will review the positioning of grit bins in accordance with their normal criteria. Based on previous reviews, this probably means that the request will be refused.

4. Matters Arising Between Meetings.

The Chair raised the matter of the Equality Act and its possible impact on the Parish Council. After discussion it was agreed that Husthwaite Parish Council has in place measures to recognise the importance of equal opportunity, irrespective of race, religion, gender, disability and ethnicity in the community it serves

5. Planning/Planning Policy:

The following planning applications have been received:

The White House Low Street Husthwaite, Proposed alterations to boundary wall

Baxby Manor Bell Lane Husthwaite, Change of use of agricultural land to camp site (40 pitches for eco pods and safari style tents or caravans) construction of an amenity building, siting of a wind turbine (15M mast) and improvement works to existing vehicular access

The following applications have been approved:

Highthorne Cottage Husthwaite, Proposed single storey extension and alterations

6. Finance:

6.1 Current Account

Cheques/Monies out:

15.02.11	100727	£887.90	Cleveland Land Services (50% of retention)
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£887.90

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Cheques/Monies in

31.01.11	£122.50	Bier House rent
01.02.11	£390.00	From Recreation Area HSBC account
25.02.11	£272.09	From Rec Area Standard Life a/c (MUGA balance)
03.03.11	£1000.00	HDC Sports Grant
	£1512.50	

Statement balance at 14 March 2011 - £ 4714.99

6.2 Cemetery Fund

No transactions

Statement Balance at 14 March 2011 - £5126.32

6.3 Recreation Fund HSBC a/c

Monies Out

31.01.11	100007	£390.00	Husthwaite Parish Council
		£390.00	

Monies In

NIL

Statement Balance at 1 March 2011 - £19.16

Standard Life a/c

	<u>Monies in</u>		<u>Monies out</u>
28.01.11	£0.33	Interest	
25.02.11	£0.30	Interest	
25.02.11		To PC HSBC a/c	£272.09
	£0.63		£272.09

Statement Balance at 14 March 2011 - £88.66

7 To Discuss Circulated Items That May Be Of Interest To The Council

- 7.1 Library Closures: it was noted that the Council has responded to the on-line questionnaire, written to the NYCC Corporate Director of Adult and Community Services and Easingwold in support of maintaining the library service in Easingwold.
- 7.2 Bus Service Changes: a letter has been received from NYCC outlining the bus service changes to come into effect from April 17th 2011. This information will be passed on for inclusion in the Newsletter. **Action: Clerk**
- 7.3 Fields for the Future: a recent article in a Council magazine calls for nominations to participate in a new grassroots legacy programme to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Olympics in 2012. The programme aims to permanently protect 2012 outdoor recreational spaces. Funding would be available and the successful areas would become the Queen Elizabeth Field. It was agreed to find out more and seek nomination. **Action: Clerk**

8 Reports from Council's Representatives on Other Bodies.

- 8.1 Easingwold & Villages Forum - a recent meeting discussed library provision. Although the

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libraries have 12 month breathing space it is hoped that most can be kept open but on shorter hours and by using community volunteers alongside the professionals. Also discussed was the future of Easingwold Area Forum, which delegates felt currently not conducive to attendance; high speed broadband; a paper on 'Hambleton Sustainable Communities' and a paper on The Big Society and what it means.

8.2 Hambleton and District Play Partnership the next meeting is next week

8.3 Recreation Area - The contract for the installation of the adventure play area has been let to Image Playgrounds of Sheriff Hutton and for the tarmac of the track from the gate to the MUGA to M Fairweather. A report is attached to these minutes

9. Reports from County/District Councillors.

Cllr Featherstone advised that he would not be standing for re-election at the forthcoming District Council elections. The Chair, on behalf of the Parish Council and the whole village, thanked him for all the help and assistance he had given to Husthwaite over his many years as a District Councillor She said he had been a regular attendee at the Parish Council meetings and that amongst many other things, without his aid we probably would not have got the Peoples Millions grant for the MUGA. All members of the Parish Council agreed with the Chair's comments and wished Councillor Featherstone, familiarly known as Pop, a long and happy retirement from politics.

10 AOB:

It has been brought to the attention of the Council that the Snowdrops planted on the Village Green are in need of thinning and splitting. Agreed to ask the Gardening Club if they would assist. **Action: Clerk.**

The wheelie bins from the cemetery have disappeared It is not known whether they have been stolen or removed by HDC. Action: **Clerk to contact HDC**

11 Date and Time of Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be 7.00pm, Tuesday 10th May 2011. Venue: Village Hall, Husthwaite

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ANOTHER STEP FORWARD

The phased development of the Recreation Area took another step forward recently when the Committee met to consider tenders submitted by contractors for the Adventure Area and Fitness Trail.

Costings, accompanied by impressive visual layouts of the proposed equipment, prepared by four local companies, made the selection a very challenging task. To assist in this process, each committee member worked through a grading scheme which focussed on the following requirements:

- value for money
- fitness for purpose
- guarantees & after-sales service
- layout - safe & accessible
- overall visual appeal - 'wow factor'
- sustainability & ease of maintenance
- scope for risk & challenge
- coverage of complete age range
- company insurance & recommendations

After careful consideration and discussion, it was agreed unanimously to award the contract to Image Playgrounds which is based in Sheriff Hutton. Although they had the edge on both price and quality, it was a close call as, clearly, each company had given considerable thought to their respective proposals.

Another feature of this phase is to be the upgrading of the Access Track. This will be undertaken by Mark Fairweather who is based at Helperby.

All this work, which is costing around £35,000, (provided largely in a grant through the 'Changing Spaces' scheme) is scheduled for completion by 1st May 2011. An official opening will follow at a later stage.