

**Minutes for the Monthly Parish Meeting of Croxdale and Hett Parish Council**  
**Wednesday 28 November 2018, 7.00 pm**  
**Hett Village Hall**

**Parish Council Members Present:**

Councillor L Griffiths (Chair), Councillor R Burton, Councillor J Garner, Councillor P Kerrison, Councillor M Ord, Councillor A Watt, Councillor I Watt and Councillor W Watt.

**Also Present:**

County Councillors J Blakey, S Dunn and M McKeon.

**70/18. Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies of absence was received from Councillor K Summerson.

**71/18. Declarations of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest.

**72/18. Policing:**

The next PACT Meeting is to take place on Friday 14 December 2018, 7pm, Croxdale Community Centre.

As discussed at the last meeting, a further letter has been issued to the Croxdale Group re ongoing complaints of transporter vehicles using and obstructing the bus lane to off-load vehicles. The letter gave reference to the original planning documents having an area identified for the transporters to use, but DCC could not enforce a planning condition for it to be used. A copy was also sent to the complainant for information and PCSO Shaun Banks.

County Councillor McKeon reported the PCSO Officer confirmed a letter has been sent to the transporter drivers and a new PCSO Officer will be in post shortly – Stephanie Clerk.

**Resolved: For Members' Information.**

**73/18. Public Participation**

There were no members of the public in attendance.

**74/18. Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 24 October 2018 was amended accordingly in relation to the Christmas Tree Project at Hett, thereafter they were signed by the Chairman.

**75/18. Matters Arising**

**i. Fencing at Hett Lane:**

Clerk followed up Hett Lane enquiries with Croxdale Estate and received a response on 21 November 2018; indicating without support from DCC, it is difficult to make a case for assistance than they initially hoped. County Councillor McKeon agreed to take this forward with DCC again and to also re-visit if appropriate signage could be installed and views on whether the fencing should be repaired from a health and safety perspective.

**Resolved: For Members' information. County Councillor McKeon to raise queries with DCC.**

**ii. Traffic Issues – Sunderland Bridge / Croxdale / Hett:**

County Councillor McKeon confirmed a site visit would be taking place in Hett in 2 weeks' time. The markings in Hett have been renewed, however not all signage has been replaced and will be re-visited by DCC.

**Resolved: For Members' Information. County Councillor McKeon to provide an update at the next meeting.**

**iii. Allotments:**

Clerk informed new tenant of approval for greenhouse but not for the gate access – no further correspondence received.

**Resolved: For Members' Information.**

**iv. Youth Provision:**

Councillor Garner provided an update to Members with regard to the misunderstanding in relation to the request for a youth club to be held at Croxdale Community Centre. The Committee believes that the Centre is not a suitable venue for a youth club but wished the Parish luck in finding an alternative venue. A new venue is currently being considered at the WMC.

**Resolved: For Members' Information.**

**v. Christmas Tree Application at Hett:**

The Christmas Tree for Hett is arriving on Saturday 1 December 2018. Additional lights have been purchased for Croxdale, if required.

**Resolved: For Members' Information.**

**vi. Tommies Installation:**

Councillor Ord reported the Tommies have been well received and residents requested if there are any future events, they wish to be involved. It was noted via County Councillor McKeon a similar style Tommie may be replicated for Croxdale Suffragettes with a public meeting to take place in the new year. County Councillor Dunn thanked Councillors Kerrison and Ord for gathering the historical information / photographs for the interpretation panel.

Councillor Ord received a request from a resident regarding the relocation of the war memorial bench in Croxdale to be placed with the Tommies. Clerk to check costings in the first instance.

Councillor Griffiths reported a dedication ceremony will be taking place on Saturday 1 December 2018, 11am at Hett for Mr Gibson. All welcome to attend.

Councillor Watt requested if the war memorial plaque in Hett could be replaced or repaired to which it was suggested all war names from Hett is to be included. It was noted the signage that is currently at Croxdale Church is to be displayed at Hett Village Hall, with discussions currently ongoing with regard to this.

**Resolved: For Members' Information. Clerk to seek costings for bench relocation and arrange for new war memorial plaque at Hett.**

- vii. Community Speed Watch Poster:**  
Draft poster produced, awaiting confirmation from County Councillor McKeon on which Parishes are contributing before circulation.

**Resolved: For Members' Information.**

- viii. Windsor Court – CDHG:**  
County Councillors Dunn and McKeon raised concerns from Croxdale residents following refurbishment works with County Durham Housing Group.

**Resolved: For Members' Information.**

- ix. Bus Shelters – A167:**  
County Councillor McKeon confirmed the replacement bus shelters are currently being signed-off and will be met from 2019/20 budget.

**Resolved: For Members' Information.**

- x. Fly-Tipping:**  
Fly-tipping signage to be checked and progressed if necessary.

**Resolved: For Members' Information. County Councillor McKeon to action.**

- xi. Croxdale Cemetery Maintenance Complaint:**  
Clerk visited cemetery on 28 October 2018 and confirmed the following: fencing – no issues were found with the fencing. Broken bench at the entrance – this has been reported and in the process of being removed. Number of broken tree benches are in the process of removed. Clerk relayed update to the complainant and no further correspondence has been received. Councillor A and I Watt agreed to look at the broken bench as part of the bench is attached with a steel chain.

In relation to the cemetery gates, Clerk is to seek quotations from 3 companies/contractors.

**Resolved: For Members' Information. Clerk to seek quotations for cemetery gates work. Councillors A and I Watt to look at the broken bench.**

**76/18. Parish Clerk Update / Correspondence:**

- i. Royal Garden Nominations 2019:**  
Clerk gave details of next year's royal garden party invitation to which 4 places (including partners) are available.

**Resolved: For Members' Information and to contact the Clerk if of interest.**

- ii. December's Parish Council Meeting:**  
Clerk reminded Members that December's Parish Council Meeting has been brought forward due to the Christmas holidays and will meet in 3 weeks' time on 19 December 2018. County Councillor Blakey submitted her apologies for the next meeting.

**Resolved: For Members' Information. Clerk to note apologies accordingly.**

**iii. Allotment / Garage Rents:**

Revised charges will be collected during December / January in respect of allotment fees for 2019. Councillor Kerrison raised the timber fencing in the allotment opposite the Daleside is in need of repair. Clerk to raise with the allotment holder in the first instance.

**Resolved: For Members' Information. Clerk to write to the allotment holder accordingly.**

**77/18. Financial Matters:**

**(i) Financial Report for the Period 1 April – 31 October 2018:**

A financial update prepared by the Clerk was circulated to Members which included a detailed schedule of receipts and payments for the financial year to date and bank reconciliation to 31 October 2018. The current net bank balances totalled £11,212.71.

The following cheque payments were approved:

Cheque Number – 400394 – S Dunn - £307.88  
Cheque Number – 400395 – S Dunn - £45.00  
Cheque Number – 400396 – SB Tree Services - £180.00  
Cheque Number – 400397 – RB Legion - £40.00  
Cheque Number – 400398 – SB Tree Services - £180.00  
Cheque Number – 400399 – J Layfield - £20.00

**Resolved: For Members' Information.**

**(ii) Budgetary Control: Forecast of Outturn – 31 March 2019**

The Clerk provided details of the forecast of outturn budget position for the Parish Council highlighting key areas of income, expenditure and budget pressures to the end of 31 March 2019.

**Resolved: For Members' Information.**

**78/18. Chairman's Update:**

Councillor Griffiths reported having been 6 months into the new financial year, that the Parish Council's finances are in a good/steady position. All Members are to give consideration to specific projects / areas of work that they want to consider for 2019/20 when determining the precept at January's Parish Council Meeting.

**Resolved: For Members' Information.**

**79/18. Planning Issues:**

No planning matters was discussed.

**80/18. County Councillor Reports**

County Councillor Blakey gave an update in relation to: attendance at Hett's Christmas coffee morning to which residents commented on how the village is looking. Attended the Remembrance Service at St Bartholomew's Church and gave details of a fundraising event at the Town Hall in Durham on Saturday 1 December 2018 in relation to the Royal British Legion.

County Councillor Dunn gave an update in relation to: Integra 61 planning approval to which works are due to commence. Planning application at Bowburn services is currently ongoing in relation to extending and improving the services.

**Resolved: For Members' Information.**

**81/18. AOB:**

**Croxdale Beck:**

Councillor Ord raised there is always large amounts of rubbish accumulated at Nicky-Nac bridge when the grill is cleared from rubbish and debris. The rubbish is left on the side instead of being removed.

**Resolved: For Members' Information. Clerk to report to DCC accordingly.**

**82/18. Date and Time of Next Meeting:**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 19 December 2018 at 7.00 pm, Croxdale Community Centre.