The **February Monthly Meeting** of the **Hawthorn Parish Council** was held in the **Community Centre** at **7pm** on **19th February 2018**

**MINUTES**

**Present**

Cllr. Alan Askew (Chairman)

Cllr. George Vest (Vice Chairman)

Darren Ellis, Diane Hughes, Sheila Irving, Maxine Smith

DCC Cllr. Angela Surtees, Cllr. David Boyes, Michael Dowson (ex HPC Vice Chairman)

**Officer**: Steve Ragg (CDALC) Acting Parish Clerk

50 members of the Public ( Attending for the discussion re Hawthorn Quarry)

# Apologies

Cllr. Norman Hughes

Lesley Swinbank (Parish Clerk)

# Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Maxine Smith declared an interest in Agenda item No 8.3

# Hawthorn Quarry Application :

## The Chairman welcomed Chris Atkinson, Claire Shields ( DCC Planning Officers) and David Atkinson (Tarmac).

David Atkinson from Tarmac gave the parish council and members of the public an overview of the application they have submitted to DCC regarding the review of working/planning conditions for the quarry in order to bring them up to modern standards. This includes the production of Environmental Impact assessment and other documents which had been forwarded to DCC for assessment and approval.

David explained that, the quarry had remained unworked for a number of years and that there were no current plans to bring the quarry back into operation. However he did not give residents a firm assurance that the quarry would never be worked again.

At present there is no demand and Tarmac have no contract with other companies to supply limestone from Hawthorn quarry. He mentioned that planning approval was granted to work the quarry until 2042 and that extraction could commence any time up until the expiration of this planning approval. He also suggested that there was an enormous amount of limestone still available from the mine and that the mine was constricted in size but not by the depth to extract further limestone.

The County Council Planning Officers Chris Shields and Claire Teasdale gave members an overview of the Planning requirements to examine and assess the application that had been submitted. They would be liaising with DCC experts in highways, ecology, countryside, noise etc to assess the content of Tarmac’s submission with the aim of approving the application amicably.

A 21 day deadline was issued for this application however DCC planners indicated that they would accept representations up until this application is reported to committee. They could not put a deadline on when it would go to committee but guaranteed that everyone who submitted an objection or observations on this planning application would be notified of the day it is going to committee. Objectors etc would have their comments listened to by the planning committee.

# Public Participation

The Chairman suggested that Public Participation be brought forward in order that the public could give their views and comments.

This was agreed.

He then closed the meeting whilst the public were invited to give their views and comments on issues on this agenda.

Summary of public participation.

1. Members of the public asked questions of both parties to seek information on amongst other things, whether the mine was about to be reworked, what would be the effect of any blasting in the area, the number of vehicles coming in and out of the site on a daily basis, the size of the lorries to be used,  whether the public highway was suitable for these lorries, whether an alternative route (avoiding the village) out of the quarry was possible, etc.
2. Tarmac representatives provided answers to the questions but remained of the opinion that the questions raised based on their submission would need to be examined by the local authority for their decision on these topics.
3. DCC planning officers advised that they would be seeking the advice of independent consultants on the issues contained in the application and if any issues were identified by their consultants they would then liaise with Tarmac to see what could be done to overcome any concerns raised. DCC officers indicated that they would take into account any representations made by individuals or groups concerning this application. They also indicated that every household in Hawthorn had received a letters concerning this application and were able to submit their views. They had received a number of views to date following the issue of the letter.
4. DCC Officers were quizzed over what conditions they could issue against the application to mitigate the effects of any future mining in the area and give some protection to the residents of Hawthorn.
5. Residents pointed out there had been substantial changes and improvements to the village since the quarry was last mined and that protection should be afforded to the village. DCC officer listened to this viewpoint but could give no guarantees that this could be achieved.

The Chairman thanked M Chris Atkinson, Claire Shields ( DCC Planning Officers) and David Atkinson (Tarmac) for attending the meeting.

# Minutes:

## RESOLVED

## To approve the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held Monday January 15th 2018

# Matters of Information

## Hawthorn Dene Walk

# The Clerk had e mailed and telephoned Chris Jones (Co Durham Wildlife Trust) and had still not received confirmation about the proposed Hawthorn Dene Walk on March 3rd.

# Members had agreed that the event continue to be advertised via the Newsletter and Round Up.

# RESOLVED

# Members agreed that the date of the next Dene Walk should be changed and that it would be better to wait until later in the year (possibly May) to organise the next walk. This would ensure that the weather conditions could be better and the wildflowers may be in full bloom during the next walk. Lesley Swinbank was to contact Chris Jones to organise. The date on the noticeboard would be changed to reflect the revised date.

## Garden Village

Garden Village leaflet to be distributed to residents and encouraged to attend exhibition in the Glebe Centre Murton.

**RESOLVED**

**Leaflet to be copied and e mailed to the Clerk to be distributed on Tuesday 20 February.**

## HPC Websites

Also mentioned that when googled two websites appear for Hawthorn Parish council.

**RESOLVED**

**To look into this.**

# Reports

## Police

No report.

**RESOLVED**

**The Clerk to request a written report**

## Co. Cllr.

DCC Cllr. Angela had left the meeting before this item was discussed but had indicated there were no items to report upon.

## Community Centre

The Chairman Cllr Askew updated members on the subscription fee for the Community Centre and the number of members they had. He advised that the greenhouse would be delivered in late February and assembled on site.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the report**

## Draft Annual Report

The draft Annual Report had been circulated.

**RESOLVED**

**To approve the report ( with corrections.)**

## East Durham Councils

No report was given

## Any other reports

None

# Correspondence / emails

## Local Council Charter

Details had been circulated.

Members made no comment on the suggested amendments to the DCC/parish councils Local Councils Charter.

**RSOLVED**

**To receive the information.**

## Data protection Regs

Information had been circulated.

Members had concerns over their compliance with the GDPR and asked whether any further information was available. The acting clerk explained what was being done on a national and local basis to provide GDPR processes for parish and town councils.

**RESOLVED**

To wait and see what develops in the next few months but had concerns over the potential costs associated with GDPR compliance.

## Rockery : Bottom West Lane

Cllr Smith explained that Hawthorn Landscaping had reported excessive amounts of dog fouling in the Rockery at Bottom West Lane. Appeared to be not a natural collection of faeces.

**RESOLVED**

**This would need to be monitored to see if this happens on a regular basis. If so the council could consider putting a sign in the area to discourage this action.  Council could also consider putting an article in the next newsletter if this becomes a problem.**

# Financial:

## RESOLVED

**To approve the monies to be paid by the Clerk since the last meeting / Bank reconciliation (GPOC)**

**It was reported that there were still some outstanding payments for the hire of the community centre hall and for the Wi-Fi contribution.**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 100915 | 15/01/2018 | East Durham garden | Plants and snowmen | £24.00 |  |
| 100916 | 15/02/2018 | The Greenhouse people | Community greenhouse | £813.96 |  |
| 100917 | 15/01/2018 | CDALC | GDPR Training | £81.00 |  |
| 100918 | 15/01/2018 | SLCC | Subscription | £130.00 |  |
| 100919 | 15/02/2018 | L K Swinbank | Choc / glasses Xmas | £21.59 |  |
| 100920 | 15/02/2018 | Parkers | Bulbs | £169.14 | £7.14 |
| 100921 | 15/02/2018 | Lesley Swinbank | Postage 2017 / 2018 | £29.52 |  |
| 100922 | 15/02/2018 | Lesley Swinbank | tv exp 2017 / 2018 | £518.40 |  |
| 100923 | 15/02/2018 | Lesley Swinbank | Sal Oct - March | £670.01 |  |
| 100924 | 15/02/2018 | Inland rev | Dedns Oct - March | £446.80 |  |
| 100925 | 15/02/2018 | BT | Wi Fi Comm centre | £65.98 |  |
| 100926 | 15/02/2018 | Community centre | Rent of hall | £220.00 |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Opening Balances** |  | **£10,227.32** |
| **Business** | £8,328.79 |  |
| **Current** | £1,898.53 |  |
|  |  | **£10,227.32** |
| **Receipts To date** |  | **£19,176.48** |
| **Payments to date** |  | £11,761.76 |
|  |  |  |
| **Closing balances** |  | **£17,642.04** |
| Business | £11,964.17 |  |
| Current | £8,874.27 |  |
| Total | £20,838.44 |  |
| Less u/p to date | £3,196.40 | **£17,642.04** |

9.

# Training: Information and reports

Members were informed of and noted details of forthcoming training sessions on External Audit, Allotments and Bullying and Harassment.

# Current Planning Applications: Re DCC Lists

## Hawthorn Quarry Hawthorn Seaham County Durham

[**Environment Act 1995: Periodic Review of Mining Sites. Application for the determination of new planning conditions for working and restoration relating to Planning Permission Nos CA25968, CA42376, CA45928, CA47394 and 5/81/274CM**](https://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=ZZZZWNGDJV335)

**RESOLVED**

**Members to e mail the Clerk with their views and comments.**

**The Clerk to compile a response to include comments as received.**

## [Environment Act 1995: Periodic Review of Mining Sites. Application for the determination of new planning conditions for working and restoration relating to Planning Permission No. IDO/5/1](https://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=P0YICKGD0ER00)

**RESOLVED**

**Members to e mail the Clerk with their views and comments.**

**The Clerk to compile a response to include comments as received.**

## Pemberton Arms

**Demolition of existing public house and erection of 6 no. new detached dwelling houses with associated car parking, Pemberton Arms Stockton Road Cold Hesledon Seaham SR7 8RN Ref No. DM/17/03277/MIN**

This has been withdrawn.

## [Erection of Split Level Dwelling & Garage](https://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=OW5TJLGD0BE00)

Land At Old Electric Sub Station East Of Denehurst Hawthorn SR7 8SH

A copy of the planning application was provided. Members were informed that the application had been withdrawn on the 16 February and that another application (Erection of split level Dwelling and garage)  had been refused by the county planners.

# Events / Information

## Newsletter

This has now been printed. It includes notice of the Annual Parish Meeting and will be distributed by members.

# Community Plant Scheme

**RESOLVED**

**The parish clerk was to be asked to contact parishioners through e mail contact details to see where they wanted seats and planters to be located. If no suitable suggestions were made then the parish council was to give this further consideration.**

# Date of the next meeting:

## Annual Parish Meeting : Monday March 19th 2018 at 7pm

## March Monthly Meeting follows the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.45pm

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.15 p.m.