

Headland Parish Council
Minutes from Meeting held on Monday, 31st March 2025

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillors: S. Gaiety (Chair), A. Hay, M. Jorgeson, H. White, A. Muller-Nicholson, S. Lee & A. Turner

Clerk to the Council: M. Ellett

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors' M. Wright and A. Smith.

2. Declaration of Interest

No declaration of interests were received.

3. Appointment of Vice Chair/Vice Chair

Councillor Gaiety (Vice Chair) to take on the role of Chair. Councillor Gaiety nominated Councillor Lee as Vice Chair and this was seconded by Councillor Turner.

4. Minutes

A copy of the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 24th February 2025 had been forwarded with the agenda. The minutes of the meeting were confirmed and approved as a true record.

5. Matters Arising:

5.1 Update on St. Hilda's Church

Councillor Turner had contacted Sarah Scarr at Hartlepool Borough Council, who was discussing with the Legal Department, to confirm whose responsibility it was for the church grounds. Clerk to re-send the Grant Information to Councillor Turner and Councillor Turner to contact Sarah again for an update.

Councillor Turner gave an update on the work that will be undertaken on St. Hilda's Church. She highlighted that the main change will be glass doors being installed on the Meeting Room to create a community space. She added that the Heritage Lottery Open Days had recently finished. Councillor Turner said the church were looking for additional volunteers to help with opening up the church.

6. Finance Report

An updated Finance Report for 2024-25 was forwarded with the agenda and was accepted by members.

7. Clerk's Report:

7.1 Bank Charges

Bank charges have now been applied to the account at £4.25 per month which is £51 per year. This was reasonable compared to what other Parish Councils were charged.

7.2 Update on Noticeboards

Councillor Gaiety had repaired the noticeboard on Middlegate Shops and Minutes/Agenda were now being displayed. Councillor Gaiety will look at repairing the noticeboard at Northgate Shops

8. Policies for Approval

8.1 The Financial and Generic Risk Assessment

The Financial and Generic Risk Assessment had been forwarded to members with the Agenda. Councillor White to devise an inspection sheet for Regent Gardens. A question was raised about clean-up costs arising from environmental damage and whether HBC would cover this. Clerk noted that this was just a new addition to the policy which was specific to all Parish Councils.

The Financial and Generic Risk Assessment to be adopted.

9. Headland Parish Council Logo

Following discussions with the IT consultant, Clerk reported that the Parish Council were using a photo of a plaque which could not be used as a logo. Clerk circulated a modernised version of the logo for digital media purposes. Discussions ensued and a few minor amendments to be made.

10. Project on Adult Literacy – Stories from Grandparents (M. Wright)

Apologies had been received from Councillor Wright. Item to be deferred to next meeting.

11. Dog Fouling (S. Lee)

Councillor Lee said the topic of dog fouling on the promenade had been raised by residents again. Discussions with HBC is that the Enforcement Officers have to catch them in the act to issue a fine. It was also noted that the dog poo bins were full so bigger bins had been asked for. Councillors Lee and Gaiety had been in discussions on a way forward to reduce dog fouling and suggested organising a poster campaign involving the local schools, whereby the pupils designed posters that could be displayed around the Headland. Members thought this was a great idea and suggested that this be extended to littering also.

Councillor Muller-Nicholson noted that the Big Town Tidy litter pick was taking place on the Headland that night and the following Wednesday. The Community Enforcement Officers had also been present on the Headland during the day.

12. Feedback from Council Meetings

Councillor Jorgeson noted that in relation to the conservation area, the working group would hopefully be set up from May.

Councillor Lee said there was nothing to report on the Headland from the Economic Growth and Regeneration Meeting and that discussions were mainly around Church Street.

13. Planning Applications

- Appeal Ref APP/H0724/Y/24/3357116 – 14 Albion Terrace, Hartlepool, TS24 0QL – submitted for information.

14. Correspondence

An enquiry had been received regarding the Spending Plan for 2025-26. This has now been published on the website.

15. Councillors Items for future agenda

- Community Event – Councillor Lee
- Excavation Project at Lighthouse – Councillor Jorgeson said waiting on costings for landscaping and possible funding from different sources.

16. Ward Councillor Update:

Apologies had been received from Councillor Nelson. It was suggested that they could email an update of current issues if they could not attend. Clerk to ask for an update on current issues when emailing the agenda if they were unable to attend the meeting.

17. Public Questions:

3 members of the public was in attendance.

A member of the public asked if the Parish Council still had the Recognition Scheme. This was something in place previously and could possibly be re-instated.

Discussion ensued about welcoming campervans to the Headland. Councillor Jorgeson said HBC had been promoting this and it was suggested looking at ways to welcome them to the Headland which would bring more tourism. PD Ports may be best people to discuss this with.

18. Date of next meeting was confirmed as Monday, 28th April 2025 at 6.45pm in the Croft Room.

The meeting adjourned at 7.50pm.

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD

Chair:

Date: