

Headland Parish Council
Minutes of the Headland Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday, 19th May 2025

IN ATTENDANCE

Chair: S. Gaiety

Councillors: A. Hay, A. Turner, S. Lee, A. Jackson, M. Jorgeson, S. Moore, A. Muller-Nicholson & A. Smith.

Clerk to the Council: M. Ellett

apm24-2501 **To accept Apologies for Absence**

Apologies received and accepted from Councillor White. Resignations had been received from Councillors Wright and Wenman.

apm24-2501 **Welcome and introductions**

Councillor Gaiety introduced himself and proceeded with his report.

apm24-2503 **A Report from the Chair on the work of Hartlepool Headland Parish Council**

“I have been a Parish Councillor for a year now and this is only my third full meeting as Chair. We have had 2 other Chairs this year and, because of other commitments, they have both had to stand down so it has made it difficult for us to get some of the things we need to be in place to move forward and make a difference.

Parish Councils are the first tier of Government and it is important that we take our duties seriously and take on our roles with enthusiasm and determination. With so many rules and regulations surrounding Parish Councils, it is easy to get wrapped up in them and have little time for the good work we actually want to do; but thankfully, after a lot of hard work, we are on track.

Firstly, I would like to thank our Clerk, Michelle. As the only paid member of the Parish Council she takes on a lot of responsibility and making sure we are following correct guidelines when it comes to finances and governance. It is not an easy task but Michelle has worked so hard to get us on track and she deserves a massive thanks.

Secondly, my thanks go to all of those people, either councillors or members of the public, who go out of their way to make the Headland a better place. Talking is all well and good but those who take action are what makes a real difference; whether it's litter picking or challenging the Council in our best interest, we need more doers to really lift this place and bring the Headland back to its former glory.

We have started a community events fund; £3,000 has been earmarked for people who would like to put on events that are of benefit to the Headland. We have talked about kite festivals, teddy bears picnics, street food festivals, fish markets, and we really want to see things happen.

In addition to the community fund, we are working with established events that are ran on the Headland. There is now a Parish Council representative on the Carnival Committee and

we are working closely with the Wintertide organisers to offer, not only funding, but any other support we can.

We are working on a clean-up campaign with local schools, to educate future generations about keeping the Headland clean and tidy. We are already working with Hartlepool Borough Council to make sure the paddling pool is filled and open on time and will be looking at the possibility of that area being renovated to become more appealing to families.

We will continue to work with local councillors and Hartlepool Borough Council to ensure that the wishes of the people of the Headland are heard.

Finally, we would like to thank the members of the public who come along to meetings. We will work on ensuring our meetings are better publicised going forward, so more people have the opportunity to attend. At the end of each meeting, at the Chair's discretion, is the opportunity for the public to speak and put forward ideas. We welcome active members of the community and the wider public to each meeting."

apm24-2504

Questions

Due to another public meeting taking place in the Borough Hall, there was only 1 member of the public present.

He asked about markets, similar to the Farmers' Market, being brought to the Headland. There was free parking available and it would attract more tourists to the area. Members thought it was a good idea and something the Parish Council could make enquiries about.

Councillor Gaiety thanked the member of the public for attending the meeting.

The Annual Parish Meeting was drawn to a close.

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD

Chair:

Date: