

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on
Thursday 14th May 2015 in Husthwaite Village Hall.**

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Present: C. Fenwick, P. Escreet, P. Fox, A. Gambles, B. Smith, E. Smith, J. Coulthard, C. Patmore, C. Colton.

1. Annual Report from the Chair:

The annual report summarising the previous year's activities was presented by the Chair. A copy of the report is appended to these minutes.

2. Annual Finance Report:

	<u>Current A/C</u>	<u>Recreation Area A/C</u>
Balance B/F	£10686.63	£389.58
Plus Precept	£7500.00	
Plus Receipts	<u>£681.15</u>	<u>£0.24</u>
Sub Total	£18867.78	£389.82
Less Payments	<u>£6335.51</u>	
Balance C/F	<u>£12532.27</u>	<u>£389.82</u>

3. To receive comments and answer questions from parishioners:

In answer to the question regarding the amount of monies left in the Parish Council account at the year end, it was explained that £8374.88 was Cemetery Extension Fund money and approximately £2000 was for works agreed in Financial year 2014/15 but not yet completed. In addition extra savings had been made due to being without a Clerk for most of the year.

4. To Complete all Declarations of Acceptance of Office and Registration of Interests:

All 'Declarations of Acceptance of Office' and 'Registration of Financial and Personal Interests' were completed by Parish Councillors.

5. To Elect a Chair:

E. Smith proposed, seconded by B. Smith, that Carol Fenwick be elected as Chair for a further year. There being no other nominations, C. Fenwick was duly elected as Chair of Husthwaite Parish Council.

6. To elect a Vice-chair:

P. Fox proposed, seconded by A. Gambles, that Elaine Smith be elected as Vice-chair to the Council. There being no other nominations, E. Smith was duly elected as Vice-chair.

7. To appoint representatives of the Council on other organisations:

Beckwith Bequest Trustee: C. Fenwick

Village Hall Trustee: C. Fenwick

8. To appoint responsibilities within the Council:

Communications: B. Smith

Public Footpaths: B. Smith

Easingwold & Villages Forum: P. Fox / Village Hall

Recreation Area: C. Fenwick

Highways: P. Escreet

Risk Assessment: C. Fenwick

Neighbourhood Watch / Police Liaison: C. Fenwick

Street Lighting: C. Fenwick

Parish Liaison: All - 1st meeting E. Smith / C. Fenwick

YLCA: E. Smith

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9. To agree a process of co-opting to fill the ordinary vacancy on the Parish Council:

It was agreed to place an advert in the Parish Council Noticeboard, the Village Shop, the Husthwaite Newsletter and on the Husthwaite website requesting expressions of interest to fill the ordinary vacancy on the Parish Council. The closing date for applications will be Sunday 14th June which will give sufficient time to select the successful candidate before the deadline of 25th June 2015.

**HUSTHWAITE PARISH COUNCIL
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR MAY 2014 - APRIL 2015**

At the annual parish meeting last May we were only one Parish Councillor short, so the areas of responsibility within the council were assigned as follows: -

Paul Escreet	- Highways
Barney Smith	- Public Footpaths and Communications
Elaine Smith	- Easingwold & Villages Forum, YLCA and Vice-chair
Carol Fenwick	- Beckwith Trust, Neighbourhood Watch & Police Liaison, Parish Liaison, Recreation Area, Risk Assessor, Street Lighting, Village Hall Representative and Chair

This was also the last meeting for Barrie Ward, who was presented with a 'Squirrel' bread board in appreciation for his 10 years service as Clerk to Husthwaite Parish Council.

During the bi-monthly meeting that followed, it was noted that nine villagers had been trained as Community First Responders and a group of volunteers had applied a moss treatment to the MUGA surface and the Cemetery paths. The council agreed to purchase a new waste bin for the Village Green (to replace the old wooden one) and some volleyball equipment for the Recreation Area for which we had received a grant from the Skipton Building Society. In addition we agreed to enter into a three year insurance agreement and accepted the quote from Easingwold Painting & Decorating for painting the village seats. Damage to Elphin Bridge parapet, the Bus Service review, street name signage and the Bier House rent were also discussed and the annual accounts were unanimously approved.

On 12th July we were invited to the Grand Opening of Husthwaite's New Village Hall by John Williamson MBE - the event was extremely well attended and everyone enjoyed a champagne toast in the sunshine. At the meeting that followed later in the month it was reported that the Village Hall Committee had confirmed their willingness to rent the Bier House and the new Village Green waste bin had been installed. The settlement hierarchy questionnaire was completed and it was agreed to offer the Parish Council defibrillator to the Yorkshire Ambulance Service. In addition Highways planning responses, strengthening of the Village Conservation Area, the Orchard Inn development, LED Street lighting, the Public Open Space action Plan and reviewing the actions from the Parish Plan were discussed.

At the September meeting we were informed that HDC Design & Maintenance had agreed to repair / replace the damaged street name signs, NYCC Highways & Transportation had put Low Street footway forward for a funding assessment, HDC had confirmed they were not considering LED streetlight replacements, NYCC intended to stop funding grass cutting in the public highway except for junction visibility plays and, following publication of the Openness of Local Government Regulations, Parish Council meeting could now be recorded. The Yorkshire Ambulance Service had suggested that the Parish Council purchase a lockable cabinet in which to place the spare defibrillator and, following back word from the last painting contractor, a quote had been received from John Howland for painting the village

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seats. Councillors discussed ways of gauging support for the Article 4 Direction as well as reviewing the Parish Plan Actions and the village consultation on the development of land to the south of Prospect Cottages which the majority of the village had received during August. As no official planning application had been received it was agreed that the Parish Council should contact the Director of Environmental and Planning Services to express the concerns of the village.

In November I was again honoured to lay a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council at the Remembrance service at St Nicholas Church and at the Parish Council meeting later that month we were informed that the volleyball sockets had been installed on the flat grass area, dog fouling leaflets had been distributed within the village and the Kays Bank water leak had eventually been repaired. In addition support had been received from our MP for our application to the Rural Hotspot programme, Orchards of Husthwaite had offered to fund half the cost of a new defibrillator cabinet and, much to our relief, Jan Coulthard had submitted an application for the post of Clerk. Other items discussed were the poor response to the Article 4 Direction questionnaire, speeding traffic in High Street, the new School Parking Warden and High Leys road resurfacing. This is also the meeting at which we set the precept for the following year and it was unanimously agreed to maintain our precept at £7500, therefore provision was made for election costs and extension of the Cemetery as well as the regular expenditure for grass cutting, insurance, Clerks wages, Recreation Area maintenance, the Village Hall and the Village Newsletter.

At the January meeting we were joined by our newly appointed Clerk, Jan Coulthard, and her suggestion to set up a new Parish Council e-mail address was agreed unanimously. It was noted that Chris Slater had completed the works to the cemetery trees, the Rural Hotspot programme had now closed and the consultation on tightening planning controls within the conservation area had received a very poor response - therefore no further action would be taken. The Councillors agreed to purchase a new dog waste bin for Bell Lane and requested that vehicular activated speed monitoring equipment be located in High Street and Low Street to monitor the speed and number of vehicles passing through the village. The Settlement Hierarchy and Housing Development Policy consultation, the Ings Lane to Baxby Mill public footpath and recent burglaries within the village were discussed and a donation to the local Citizens Advice Bureau was approved.

Before the March meeting, Jan and I attended a Parish Council Election Briefing at the Galtres Centre in Easingwold where we were given instructions on the relevant processes for the upcoming elections and, as a result, at the meeting later that month the Council agreed to distribute a flyer within the village encouraging parishioners to stand for election. The meeting was also informed that the new dog waste bin had been installed on Bell Lane, the parking warden had visited Husthwaite School, works had been completed to improve the Ings Lane to Baxby Mill public footpath and Husthwaite had been allocated a free defibrillator and cabinet from the Hambleton, Richmondshire & Whitby Clinical Commissioning Community Defibrillator Initiative. It was therefore agreed to offer the surplus defibrillator to Easingwold surgery as there was no requirement for it within the village. Paul advised the council that he had transferred the Parish Plan Actions onto a spread sheet and would be circulating it to all members to update as necessary and the Council accepted the quote from Chris Slater to attend to the overgrown boundary in the Recreation Area.

During the last year we have been asked to comment on 14 planning applications, ranging from work to trees to the outline application for development of 20 dwelling houses. The Parish Council objected to

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two of these applications and Hambleton District Council has approved eleven - the remaining three are still under consideration.

Hopefully we have kept parishioners apprised of the activities in which we have been involved with regular articles in the Husthwaite Newsletter and on the Husthwaite website. Over the past year Councillors have attended meetings of the Beckwith Trust, Community First Responders, Easingwold & Villages Forum, Husthwaite Village Hall, Husthwaite Neighbourhood Watch and Yorkshire Local Councils Associations. This, in addition to our regular bi-monthly meetings, has kept us all quite busy and I think that we have all represented our parishioners to the best of our ability.

I would like to end my report by thanking Caroline Patmore, our District / County Councillor, who attends as many of our meetings as she can. I am sure we all pass on our congratulations on her appointment as District Councillor for the Raskelf & White Horse Ward. In addition I would like to express my gratitude to my fellow councillors for their hard work and support over the last year and also for applying to be Parish Councillors for a further term - I am sure they will continue to represent the local community to the best of their ability as they have done in the past. Thank you.

