



MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF HEDNESFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Tuesday 29th April 2025 at 6:30 PM

Meeting held at Pye Green Community Centre, Bradbury Lane, Hednesford, WS12 4EP

Present:

Cllr Alan Pearson (Chair)
Cllr Ronald Turville (Deputy Chair)
Cllr Ann Turville
Cllr Arthur Roden
Cllr Shirley Pearson
Cllr Garry Samuels
Cllr Paul Jones
Cllr Sheila Cartwright

In attendance from Hednesford Town Council:

Cheryl Kinsella – Finance Officer

Members of the Public:

There were 9 members of the public present along with PCSO Emma Beady

1. Apologies:

Cllr Debbie Cartright
Cllr Carl White

2. Declaration of Interest

No declarations of interest

3. Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18th March 2025 were reviewed and approved.

Proposed: Cllr A Pearson
Second: Cllr R Turville
Agreed: 5
Against: 0
Abstain: 2 (not present)

The Minutes of Community Support Grants Council Meeting held on 7th April 2025 were reviewed and approved.

Proposed: Cllr A Pearson
 Second: Cllr R Turville
 Agreed: 5
 Against: 0
 Abstain: 3 (not present)

4. Public Participation

- Liz from Hednesford Library announced that she would be stepping down from her role as volunteer co-ordinator in 2 weeks' time. She will still be volunteering and cherry picking some of the duties and attending meetings as able.
- MOP talked about the Hednesford Station Project and asked if HTC were supporting in anyway. Would the council be able to provide any updates on the project.
- Representative from Staffordshire Regimental Association Hednesford Branch thanked the Council for posters for VE Day 80 being displayed and the for items received. They asked the Council how members of the public raise their concerns if they believed they have been abused by a member of the Council either in person, or on the telephone.
- MOP spoke about VE & VJ day and advised that their community on the Pye Green Road were putting 8-9 flags out. They also asked about honouring the Bevin boys as part of Town celebrations.
- MOP raised concern about changes to representatives for County Council elections as they are now outside the Hednesford area to vote despite being closer to the Town centre than other areas who are able to vote. for Hednesford related elections. Council was asked to monitor what is happening with the re-organisation and add it to future agendas for residents.
- MOP gave her thanks to Cllr Garry Samuels for his assistance with the Tesco underground car park safety issue which is on-going.
- PCSO Emma Beady updated Council and members of the public on current concerns that they are addressing. She also advised of a new Chief Inspector being appointed – Alan Lifford. Along with 2 new officers to work alongside current officers for Hednesford, PCSO Casey Ward and PSCO Darren Newhall. Chair of Council invited members of the Council and the public to ask questions about concerns they may have for their local area.

5. Finance

a. End of Year Bank Reconciliation was signed by Cllr A Pearson

b. RFO updated on the year end reserves position as per below; -

Specific Reserves Made up of	2024 25
CIL	£ 49,283.27
Election	£ 12,000.00
PGCC Maintenance *	£ -
Redundancy	£ 10,000.00
Grant Funding	£ 10,404.33
Total	£ 81,687.60
All Reserves	£145,026.00
General Reserves	£ 63,338.40

Proposed: Cllr R Turville
Second: Cllr A Turville
Agreed: 8
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

Action: Year End Reserves approved

c. Updated on draft year-end report of income and expenditure, payments of £500+, \$137 items, CIL payments. Council was advised these are prior to the internal audit on 8th May 2025.

d. & e. Retrospective approval for the movement of funds of £30,000 from Unity Instant Saver to Current account and for the transfer of same funds back to Unity instant saver following on from the Nationwide transfer of funds agreed in December 2024 which could not be actioned until April 2025

Proposed: Cllr A Turville
Second: Cllr R Turville
Agreed: 8
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

Action: Funds to be moved as above

6. Verbal Update from Committees/Officers

a. Finance, Operations and Personnel

Cllr R Turville discussed a zero-tolerance policy for HTC. A discussion continued with regards to a complaints procedure for the public to be available. Cllr Jones asked for legal and GDPR considerations on drafting the policy.

Action Chief Officer to draft a policy for consideration and approval

b. Regeneration and Community

Cllr A Turville advised there were no issues to feedback from Committee

c. Pye Green Community Centre

1. Cllr G Samuels advised it was the 50th birthday of the centre on 17th July 2025 and he was putting a working group together to look at celebrations for the anniversary.
2. Fish and Chip supper Saturday 3rd May 2025
3. There is a community meeting planned for 17th May for the residents of Pye Green Estate at PGCC
4. Looking to host another Community Speed Watch

- I. Retrospective approval for £575 blind repairs and alterations for safety reasons

II.

Proposed: Cllr G Samuels

Second: Cllr P Jones

Agreed: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Action: Council approved the blind repairs in the function room

- a. Cllr G Samuels discussed the potential of Hednesford has Got Talent event along with an afternoon Tea Dance. Council discussed to take the ideas on-board and for cost of events to be bought back to Council to look at funding.

Proposed: Cllr G Samuels

Second: Cllr P Jones

Agreed: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Action: Council agreed to look at funding options when costings are available

- d. Planning

Cllr A Peason gave an update on planning applications reviewed and informed Council that no objections were made apart from development plans for Pye Green Road. This was commented on by Council but has been passed by Cannock Council

7. Chief Officer update

RFO gave a verbal update on behalf of the Chief Officer

- a. CCTV reports - First report will be provided in May as reports will always be in arrears
- b. PGCC Officer – successfully recruited and will start on 3rd June 2025.
- c. County Council elections will be taking place on Thursday 1st May 2025 in meeting room 1 at PGCC
- d. Internal auditor will be in on 8th May
- e. Annual Town Assembly from 6.30pm for 7pm start. Free soft or hot drink from the bar for attendees.

- f. Relative on Cllr Moody enquired about the bench which is located at the side of the Community Centre. Council agreed that the bench was still used by visitors to the centre and to note and record that if in the future the bench was to be disposed of Council would contact the family before making any other arrangements.

Action to record Council's wishes as per the above

- g. Zero-tolerance policy was discussed under item 6 and action requested recorded under item 6(a)

8. Motion to approve Freedom of Hednesford Town Policy

Proposed: Cllr R Turville

Second: Cllr G Samuels

Agreed: 8

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Action: Officers to make available Freedom of Hednesford Town Policy and application forms for use

9. Motion from Cllr G Samuels to include a reoccurring agenda item regarding proposed devolution of District Councils and the potential impact upon Hednesford Town Council

Cllr Garry Samuels proposed a permanent agenda item where any updates to devolution could be given, if there were no updates, the minutes would record no update. Chair Alan Pearson proposed that Tony Johnson be invited to speak at the meeting under this Agenda item.

Proposed: Cllr G Samuels

Second: Cllr S Cartwright

Agreed: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Action: To add Agenda item regarding devolution of District Councils for each Council meeting going forward

10. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 20th May 2025 at 630pm

The meeting closed at 7:37 pm

Signed:

Dated: