

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HEVINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 4th OCTOBER 2022 IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present:

Cllr S Ward (Chairman)
Cllr I Nickalls
Cllr T Palmer
Cllr J Norton
Cllr M Williamson
Cllr A Bunn
Cllr A Ramsbottom
Cllr A Long
Mrs K Medler (Clerk)

Parishioners: 4

A minutes silence was observed before the meeting began in honour of the late Her Majesty the Queen.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were noted from Councillors S Benton, S Howes, D Holmes, District Cllr J Neesam and County Cllr D Roper.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATION REQUESTS

There were no declarations of interest or dispensation requests.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on the 6th September 2022 were agreed by all.

4. MATTERS ARISING

- The Chairman reported he has not yet spoken to the village hall handyman.
- It was confirmed that the verge at the junction with New Road and Church Lane has now been trimmed.
- A response was received from Anglian Water which has been shared on the village Facebook pages.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- The Quiz Night raised £397.00 for the bike track.
- A grant of £500.00 has been received from the Alan Boswell Group Charitable Trust which is specifically for the survey costs for the bike track.
- A ploughing match is being planned for the 20th November.
- The Youth Group which had to stop a while ago has sold some of its equipment and the sum raised so far of £505.00 is being donated to the bike track. Cllr M Williamson asked if there has been any interest in the bike track and it was confirmed there has been interest from both adults and children in using it. The sub-committee from the village hall are doing the necessary arranging etc. Around £30,000.00 is required, with the fund currently standing at approximately £6,500.00.

6. MATTERS TO REPORT

a. Finance

- i) The half yearly accounts had already been circulated and were agreed.
It was also agreed, having reviewed the budget, the handyman should be asked to stop his regular activities for now and if anything arises which needs doing, the Council will consider those costs at that time.

- ii) The following accounts were presented for payment and were approved:

Mrs K Medler (Expenses)	£22.71
Westcotec Limited (Street lighting contract)	£128.28
Hevingham Farms Ltd (Refund for overpayment)	£50.00
HMR&C (PAYE x3)	£136.60

The Clerk's standing order will be paid on the 5th October 2022.

The following receipts were noted:

Magazine adverts	£6.00
Allotment rents	£360.00
Precept (2 nd instalment)	£7,500.00

Balance at the bank at the end of September was £27,787.43.

- iii) A grant application had been expected but was not received.

- iv) The street lighting contract is due for renewal on the 1st November 2022. The Clerk has only been able to obtain two quotes, both for a three year contract: £90.00 +vat pa and £131.20 +vat pa. All agreed to appoint TT Jones at £90.00 +vat pa.

b. Grant Policy

The Clerk has reviewed the current Policy and confirmed no changes are required. This was accepted.

c. Allotments

i) Updates and new issues

Plot 2 has become available and B Rolf offered to help advertise this. This was agreed.

ii) Rats

These are becoming a big problem with crops actually being eaten before they can be harvested. There are also health concerns as rats carry diseases. It was agreed that ultimately, it is the tenant's responsibility to take the necessary precautions to deter rats, however the Parish Council agreed they will intervene on this occasion as the situation has escalated. The Clerk will write to all allotment holders reminding them of their responsibilities and seek three quotes to help find the cause and deal with the rats.

d. Planning

i) New applications

20212125 – Mansom Plantation, Shortthorn Road, Stratton Strawless – Permanent change of use

This had been considered previously for 'temporary change of use' but the applicant is now seeking a 'permanent' change of use. The Parish Council had 'no objections' to the 'temporary' change and it was agreed no additional comments were required for a 'permanent' change.

ii) Outcomes of previous applications:

20220640 – 15 Brick Kiln Road. Full approval.

e. Village Hall handyman

To be carried forward to December's meeting.

f. Play Equipment at the Village Hall

To be carried forward to December's meeting.

The Chairman proposed the Council consider setting aside some money each year to cover maintenance and replacement costs and this will be discussed further in December.

g. Norwich Western Link Pre-planning Consultation

The Chairman attended the consultation meeting in Felthorpe on the 22nd September and as a result had previously circulated a draft response for Councillors to approve. This was agreed. An attending member of the public, who has spoken to local businesses in the area, is also going to put in a letter highlighting the aspect of business movement between villages.

h. Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan

All agreed no comments were required.

7. MATTERS TO REPORT

a. Correspondence

The Clerk has received an email from the vicar asking if a member of the Parish Council would like to attend the Remembrance Service on the 13th November and also lay a wreath. All agreed a wreath should be bought and the same donation made as last year (£100.00). This payment will be made to the Clerk, so she can arrange the donation, as the Council do not hold a debit or credit card. The Clerk will order a wreath for £19.99 + £3.99 postage leaving £76.02 as a donation to the RBL. It was also agreed Cllr M Williamson will lay the wreath at the service on the 13th November and Cllr T Palmer will put the 'Tommy' out on the Village Green on the 1st November. The Chairman will make enquiries about a bugler playing on the 11th November on the Green and also at the Church service.

b. Clerks Report

Just to note the Grass Cutting at the Church was not on the agenda as the question which was to be asked was answered outside of the meeting and did not require further discussion.

c. Police Report

The Clerk advised there was 1 crime in the village during July: 1 x Other Theft (on or near Cromer Road). Further information can be accessed via www.police.uk.

d.

i) District Councillors Report (read by the Chairman)

- The main issue is that purchase of the Horizon building has been completed, although the price is being kept a secret. It is planned that the Council will move into the new building early next year. In the meantime, the Council office at South Norfolk will close in the near future with all staff moving to the Broadland building prior to the move to Horizon. This decision is mainly to save on running costs at the other building. We are told that there is a non-disclosure agreement on the purchase price but I don't see how this can remain a secret once the budget papers are published next year.

- We are told there might soon be a breakthrough on planning with a solution to the problem of nutrient neutrality which has held up applications for a number of months.

ii) County Councillor Report (read by the Chairman)

- The NWL consultation is still open until Sunday night. I went along to the exhibition in Felthorpe and raised the issues of potential rat running through the village if changes to Shortthorn Road take place. The Senior Officer at Highways did comment that the Chair of Hevingham PC had just been along and made very similar points.
- I was recently out with Richard Pearson our Highways engineer. I took him to see the bend near the school and he will come back to me re signage and potentially extra painting on the road. I also asked him to get the pavement on The Street assessed to see if this can be programmed for repairs and resurfacing in the future.
- The County Council has received further funding from the government for the household support fund. There are plans to further expand the assistance scheme for residents affected by the cost of living increases, applications can be made via the Council website. In addition (and a very unfortunate sign of the times) the Council is looking to establish 15 "food hubs" in the county.

8. MATTERS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Village Hall Handyman, Play Equipment at the Village Hall and Grant applications (if received).

Next meeting is on the 6th December 2022 at the Village Hall.

The meeting ended at 20:45