

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HEVINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2023 IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:**

Cllr S Ward (Chairman)  
Cllr D Holmes  
Cllr I Nickalls  
Cllr S Howes  
Cllr A Bunn  
Cllr A Ramsbottom  
Cllr M Williamson  
Cllr T Palmer  
Cllr J Norton  
Mrs K Medler (Clerk via Skype)

**Parishioners: 6**

**In attendance:** County Cllr D Roper  
District Cllr J Neesam

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were noted from Councillor S Benton and R Rolf.

**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 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023 were agreed by all.

**4. MATTERS ARISING**

- The Chairman advised he has not pursued publicising the NWL at the moment because of the upcoming Elections and will wait for a better window of opportunity.
- The footpaths have now all been walked and the necessary reports made to NCC. No further action is required at present.

**5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- A member of the public asked if the memorial bench for Rick Barnes had to be made from a composite material as he felt that was not a fitting memorial and thought a hardwood bench would be more appropriate. Even if untreated, hardwood will last 25 years. It was agreed, that whilst this is not a Parish Council lead memorial, the Council would be happy to see a hardwood bench in the orchard. The bench is to be gifted to the Council as it is being sited on land owned by them. The Council are happy for the allotment tenants to choose the best place to put the bench as long as it is securely fixed down. The Chairman thanked those involved in organising this memorial.
- Cllr J Norton reported potholes on Westgate and Halls Corner – these will be checked and reported to Highways.

**6. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION**

**a. Finance**

The following accounts were presented for payment and were approved:

P H Collins (Grass cutting)	£448.00
Mrs K Medler (Expenses)	£48.25
T T Jones Electrical Ltd (Street lighting contract)	£27.00
HMR&C (PAYE x3)	£157.40

The Clerk's standing order will be paid on the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

Balance at the bank at the end of March 2023 was £17,932.89.

**b. Allotments**

i) Updates

- It was confirmed that grants are unlikely to be available for hedging and with concerns over maintenance and narrowing of the paths, it was agreed hedging will not be pursued.
- The rubbish has now been cleared.

ii) New issues

- Some of the fencing has now been vandalised and needs further attention. Following discussions, it was agreed Cllr D Holmes will remove all of the bottom rails and dispose of them and Cllrs S Howes and M Williamson will speak to two local contractors and seek quotes to replace the fencing with post and rail. The Clerk had previously circulated some costs for composite fencing, so these can all be compared at the next meeting.
- The rubble on site is not suitable to put on the central roadway. It was agreed the Clerk will order 3 ton of clean brick rubble from the supplier used on the farmers allotments, have it delivered near the gate, and ask tenants to move some each to cover the area in front of their plots, as the road is not suitable for the lorry to drive onto.

### **c. Planning**

#### **i) New applications**

2023/0649 – Kempton Park Farm, Church lane

Following discussions and taking note of residents' concerns, the Council agreed to object to the application on the grounds of noise from the dogs and increased traffic volumes.

2023/0668 – 31a The Turn

The Council agreed to object to the application on the grounds it is outside of the development boundary.

#### **ii) Outcomes of previous applications: None to report.**

### **d. Matting for Play Equipment at the Village Hall**

The Clerk had previously circulated some cost comparisons and it was agreed Action Play & Leisure should be asked to supply the matting. The handyman has confirmed he is happy to fit, so the Clerk will speak to him to ensure sufficient is ordered. There is still money in the CIL fund which will be used to cover this.

### **e. Coronation Gifts for Children**

Two suggestions were put forward for gifts which could be given to the village children that attend the coronation festivities at the village hall: bookmarks and mugs. Following discussions and a vote (6/3), it was agreed bookmarks should be ordered.

### **f. Disciplinary & Grievance Policy / Dignity at Work Policy**

The Clerk had previously circulated these documents, which are required to be in place by the Council's Insurers. These were all agreed.

## **7. MATTERS TO REPORT**

### **a. Correspondence**

None.

### **b. Clerks Report**

SAM sign results

The Street (Near 32) (11<sup>th</sup> Feb 23 – 14<sup>th</sup> March 23) – 30mph limit

24,704 vehicles drove past. 20,998 within the 85<sup>th</sup> Percentile Limit of 27.8mph. 3,706 over the 85<sup>th</sup> Percentile Limit. Average speed of those over the 85<sup>th</sup> Percentile Limit was 32.7mph. Overall average speed 21.9mph. Max speed recorded was 45mph at 00:10 on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

### **c. Village Hall Report**

- The survey for the pump track has been completed and a quote is now awaited which will include a pack to help the group apply for grants. There is likely to be a village consultation regarding this further down the line.
- The Chairman advised three of the village hall committee will be resigning on the 14<sup>th</sup> April 2023 (Julie Elia, Caroline Medler and Patsy Brummage) and so the Chairman has called an extraordinary meeting of the remaining committee, which will take place on the 11<sup>th</sup> April 2023, to agree what happens next. In the absence of a working management committee, the Parish Council has to take over responsibility for the hall. For now, the hall will carry on as normal under temporary new management.

### **d. Police Report**

The Clerk advised there were 6 crimes in the village during February 2023: 3x Criminal damage & Arson (on or near Low Lane), 2x Violent & Sexual Offence (1x on or near Open Space and 1x on or near Churchill Close) and 1x Other (on or near Low Lane). Further information can be accessed via [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk).

### **e.**

#### **i) District Councillor Report**

- The move to the Horizon building should be complete by the second week of May. Thorpe Lodge is now on the market for sale.
- The only highlight from Full Council is that they have adopted a new policy to charge double Council Tax on second homes and are now awaiting the legislation to be able to charge this. Council Tax is already charged at double on empty properties.

#### **ii) County Councillors Report**

- The nutrient neutrality log jam should end this month.
- There has been a lot of media attention on twenty minute neighbourhoods' but there are no plans to bring this into Norfolk at present.
- Election details will be published tomorrow.

## **8. MATTERS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Fencing on the HP allotments.

Next meeting is on the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at the Village Hall and will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting.