

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HEVINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 4th JULY 2023 IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present:

Cllr S Ward (Chairman)
Cllr D Holmes
Cllr I Nickalls
Cllr A Bunn
Cllr A Ramsbottom
Cllr M Williamson
Cllr V Johnson
Cllr C Alpe
Cllr E Mills
Cllr T Palmer
Mrs K Medler (Clerk via Skype)

Parishioners: 5

In attendance: District Cllr S Ward

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were noted from County Councillor D Roper.

2. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE OUTSTANDING

Cllr T Palmer was present at the meeting and will be signing his declaration after the meeting.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATION REQUESTS

There was one declaration of interest: Cllr D Holmes in relation to the Village Allotments.

Two dispensation requests were submitted: Cllr D Holmes for the village allotments and Cllr E Mills for the farmers allotments. It was agreed these would be granted for the period of serving on the Council, but not exceeding four years, to allow them to participate and vote in general discussions concerning the allotments but excluding any rent discussions.

4. CO-OPTION TO VACANT SEAT

One candidate came forward and was agreed by all. Cllr Sharon Ward was welcomed onto the Council.

5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on the 6th June 2023 were agreed by all.

6. MATTERS ARISING

- The Chairman confirmed the telephone box paint has arrived. Cllr A Ramsbottom has agreed to paint the box on Pound Road but a volunteer is required for the box on The Heath.
- Ant traps and powder have been put down at the Village Hall and the situation seems to be resolved.
- The local artist the Chairman had approached regarding the village sign has declined to help as he is too busy so the Chairman will look elsewhere for a quote.
- The matting has now been installed in the village hall play area.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Nothing was raised.

The order for the next item was altered with the Chairmans permission

8. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION

a. Flooding on Westgate

A local resident explained the current situation and advised Anglian Water will be carrying out some work on the 10th July 2023 to try to remedy the problem however the Parish Council and Saffron also need to help. When it rains a lot, water comes down the allotment path and straight into his garden. The field that Saffron have not built on has been altered since they have owned it and so the water is no longer contained in the field but comes onto the road and into his garden – they need to reinstate a bank. Cty Cllr Dan Roper has been contacted to help with negotiations with Saffron.

The Chairman confirmed the Parish Council are aware of the situation and have already had the drain at the bottom of the path cleared. To alleviate the amount of water coming down the path a grate and gully will be installed at the top of the path with a pipe going from that into the ditch at the back of Saffrons land.

b. Finance

i) Accounts for payment

The following account had already been paid and was approved:

Paints4Trade (Telephone box paint)

£91.98

The following accounts were presented for payment and were approved:

P H Collins (Grass cutting)	£448.00
Mrs K Medler (Expenses)	£101.24
NPT&S (New Councillor training)	£44.00
Playsafety Ltd (Annual inspection of village hall play equipment)	£123.60
F Martinez (Handyman jobs)	£1,315.00

It was agreed the Clerk should inform the Handyman to stop the 'everyday' work he does in the village for the Council for the foreseeable future as there are not sufficient funds available to cover this. However, work specifically requested, such as drainage of the allotment path, can be carried out.

The Clerk's standing order will be paid on the 5th July 2023.

There were no receipts.

Balance at the bank at the end of May 2023 was £23,844.95.

It was agreed the Clerk should arrange a transfer of £5000.00 from the Cambridge B/S account to the Barclays current account.

c. Allotments

i) Updates

- Cllr M Williamson said he has now received a quotation for the fencing for £1500.00. Cllr Williamson would remove any rubbish. The Clerk advised as the quote is over £1000.00 financial regulations dictate that 3 quotes should be obtained. Cllr A Bunn will contact someone he knows and it was suggested the Clerk contact Zak Branch too.

- The Clerk advised the allotment hose gun reported as stolen at the last meeting, was not in fact stolen but was removed as it was broken. This has since been replaced by another tenant.

ii) New issues

None.

d. Planning

i) New applications

None.

ii) Outcomes of previous applications:

2023/0847 – Model Farm, Brick Kiln Road – Certificate of Lawfulness – Approved.

2023/1059 – Barn Cottage, 55 Brick Kiln Road – Outbuilding for agricultural purposes – Approved with conditions.

e. Footpaths in the Village

Ann Barrett addressed the meeting as head of the steering committee for the village footpaths, which are now checked twice a year: Summer and Winter. There is currently an issue with FP2 and part of FP2 which joins FP3. The style on FP2 is very overgrown as is the field edge. The Chairman has previously spoken to the landowner and thought works were going to be completed to remedy this but will chase this up.

The style which joins FP2 and FP3 used to have a jetty so you could get over the water and up to the style but this has now gone and the style is too high. The landowner needs to address this.

The committee are looking at getting FP1 properly re-opened as it is very overgrown and part of it has been lost into a nearby properties garden.

Ann asked if a modern version of the definitive footpath map could be placed in the village noticeboards and the suggestion was then also made about putting a map on the fingerposts for the paths too. All agreed that was a good idea so Ann will look into.

f. Village Hall play area

The Clerk had previously circulated the play area inspection report and following discussions it was agreed:

- the Chairman and Cllr D Holmes will between them power wash the big plastic multiplay.
- David Seppings should be asked to look at any issues and if there is anything he cannot do, to let the Chairman know.
- the slide needs to be replaced so fencing will be erected with signs not to use it until this can be removed and the Clerk will also inform residents via the village Facebook page. Quotes will be obtained to replace it and if it is possible to agree the replacement outside of the meeting, via email, it was agreed this should be done.
- the newly installed roundabout should be referred back to the supplier for correction.
- Cllr A Ramsbottom will find out where the table tennis table came from so the missing parts can be ordered.

g. Data Protection Policy

The Clerk had previously circulated a revised policy with minor amendments and this was agreed.

h. Standing Orders

The Clerk had previously circulated a revised document to include recent updates and this was agreed.

9. MATTERS TO REPORT

a. Correspondence

None.

b. Clerks Report

The external audit was sent off on the 13th June 2023.

The Councils Privacy Statement has been reviewed and no changes are required.

c. Village Hall Report

The AGM was really successful and they have lots of new committee members along with a new treasurer, so the management of the hall is looking good moving forward. Gifts were given to Julie, Patsy and Caroline as thank you's.

d. Police Report

There is no information available yet for May and June.

e. District and County Councillor Reports

District

- The community grant Councillors can give out has been raised from £500.00 to £1,000.00 per year.
- There is also a community infrastructure grant available of £15,000.00 but this is not per Councillor.
- The Council is now run by an alliance of the Liberal Democrats, Labour and Green Parties and they will set out their priorities in October 2023.
- The next full council meeting is on the 27th July 2023.

County (read by the Chairman)

- There has been quite a lot of coverage re the recent decision by NCC to effectively "pause" project work for three months on the Western Link and not submit the planning application. The pause is to allow time for the government to approve the outline business case for the road which will be the best indication that funding will then be forthcoming. It is understood that there is a backlog of cases nationally awaiting approval but the Council has said that as soon as a decision is received it will review the "pause" and decide what to do next. It is hoped that this will take less than 3 months. In the meantime the planning application (which is ready to submit) will be on hold.
- We anticipate that a decision will be made re the future of Mayton Wood in early August at the cabinet meeting.

10. MATTERS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is on the 5th September 2023 at the Village Hall.

The meeting ended at 20:45