

**MINUTES OF THE HOGSTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 5th APRIL 2017**

Present: Councillors E Graham (Chairman) M Banks, P Smith, H Newcombe, A Newcombe, and L Wildman

Also Present: 4 members of the public for the public forum.

APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILLOR

Before commencement of the Meeting, the three prospective candidates were asked to speak on their background and suitability to become a councillor. A secret vote was then taken and Mrs Bernadette Hornby was duly elected.

FORUM

Comments and questions were as follows:-

- A member of the public noted that dog fouling stencils and notices had been put in the village and asked if more could be obtained as dog fouling in the village was a big problem. The clerk would ask.
- Another member of the public had been in touch with ELDC concerning putting in a hard-standing area at the large gate entrance to the church to accommodate the hearse at funerals. We was now bringing it to the Parish Council to ask if they would take this up. It was agreed that this request makes sense and the clerk would contact ELDC to ask for free advice as to planning requirements.
- Potholes was again mentioned.

1. APOLOGIES – None

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Cllr L Wildman declared an interest in item 10 as he was an allotment holder and Cllr Newcombe in item 8b as she was a neighbour.

3. APPROVAL OF NOTES OF MEETING

It was unanimously resolved that the notes of the Meeting of 1st March 2017 be accepted as a true record of the proceedings and were duly signed by the Chairman.

4. CLERK'S REPORT

- There has still not yet been a response from the Diocese regarding the faculty for the churchyard wall.
- No further communication yet from Planning Enforcement about the untidy property on Thames St.
- Still no reply from Andy Ratcliffe re the yellow lines and signs on Langham Lane.
- The commemorative plaque had been put on the notice board in a small ceremony in the presence of Richard Enderby's widow.
- All other items on agenda.

5. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES & OTHER MEETINGS

Cllr Banks reported that

- The village hall committee were still considering installation of shutters.
- A tenant had been found for Charity Farm barn.
- She proposed, it was seconded and unanimously agreed that Cllr Graham would take up the vacant position on the Charity Farm committee. The secretary would confirm by letter to the charity who the representatives were from the Parish Council.

Cllr Graham reported that

- At a meeting of the allotment tenants, they had been very pleased to receive the news that the rent had decreased to £25 from £60. All the plots are taken up.
- He, Cllr Hazel and the clerk had attended the Police Forum to meet with the new Police Commissioner. He was working on strategic management and had a number of ideas to be put forward. There would be another forum next year when the newly appointed Police Chief would be attending.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

- No correspondence of note.

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS

- It was unanimously agreed that the financial statement showing a year end balance of £30,673 be approved. The clerk explained that this was rather larger than required but reserved funds totalled £7380 and invoices not received totalled £470.
- The Annual Governance Statement was unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman.
- It was certified that for the year end 31st March 2017, the accounting statements in the annual return showed fairly the financial position.
- The insurance premium request had decreased since the previously year and it was unanimously agreed to accept renewal with Community Lincs
- Payment was authorised for ££42.95 to K Hayes for expenses, £263.35 to LALC for annual subscription and two training course fees, and £239.98 to Community Lincs Insurance Services.

8. PLANNING APPLICATION

- Planning Application No N/084/00038/17 Chestnut Farm, Langham Road had been granted full planning permission.
- Planning application no. N/031/00470/17 for extensions and alterations to dwelling at Gratiss House, Maiden Lane was considered. It was agreed that the clerk would submit comments to note that the footprint of the house was being doubled, the garden encroaches onto agricultural land and asking whether the property had an agricultural clause attached to it.
- Planning Enforcement had now confirmed that the untidy land at the property on Thames Street had now been resolved and tidied to a sufficient condition.
- The three planning applications for The Bungalow Touring Caravan Park on Mumby Road had now been appealed to the Secretary of State.

9. HIGHWAYS AND VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

- Litter picking / dog fouling. The litter picking day with the schoolchildren and a few others had been a big success. The children had cleared the churchyard with enthusiasm. With regard to dog fouling, more stencils and notices will be put around the village.
- Unfortunately, the playpark is again in a disgraceful state and it was agreed that the clerk would write to the trustees as it is their responsibility and again contact the chairman of the committee who has said she is trying to get a committee back again.
- The green bin which the councillors were emptying was still a problem with other materials being placed in with flowers and garden rubbish. It was agreed that the clerk would make enquiries about contract waste removal and a decision taken on the result.

10. PUBLIC PATHWAYS

The Chairman, Cllr Banks and the clerk had met with Jonathan Stockdale of LCC with regard to the correct route of the path by Charity Farm and had agreed that, although the path ran through the middle of the allotments, the route could have a detour of approx. 50 yards to go round the allotments and down Charity Farm Lane unless this was challenged. A member of the public had, in fact, challenged this. There was discussion with a member of the public who was insistent that the route should be as marked as a matter of principle. It was pointed out that the path did not run through the allotments down the side of the dyke through the gate to the allotments at the bottom but ran through the top of the allotments onto Charity Farm Lane. The member of the public was to have a meeting with Jonathan Stockdale and agreed that Cllr Banks and the Chairman could be present.

11. HOGSTHORPE HERITAGE PROJECT

The clerk reported that she had found the Hogsthorpe sign details and handed them to the carpenter who would suggest some signs together with costings. A quote for filling in the dyke had been received and before commencement of that work, the owner would need to be contacted to ask for authorisation.

12. NEIGHBOURHOOD PROJECT

The clerk explained that she had attended a meeting run by Community Lincs concerning setting up of a Neighbourhood scheme for Chapel and Hogsthorpe combined. Those present from Chapel were very keen that this should go ahead but the clerk had stipulated that she had no time to do this for Hogsthorpe. It was left with those from Chapel who would like to see it go ahead.

13. AGM / ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

It was agreed that the AGM would commence at 6.30 p.m. on Friday 5th May to be followed at 7.00 p.m. by the Annual Parish Meeting with refreshments served by the church as before. The clerk had received an email from Andrew Ratcliffe declining to speak at the Parish Meeting. She had invited the local police to attend instead and they had confirmed that a representative would attend. It was also suggested that Duncan Hollinsworth from ELDC Planning Enforcement be asked to speak. The clerk to contact him.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be the AGM to be held at Hogsthorpe Village Hall on Friday 5th May 2017 at 6.30 p.m. and followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.00 p.m.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The clerk would write to the Village Hall Committee secretary to confirm that Cllr Banks would continue to serve on the committee as a representative of the council.

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm