

HEPWORTH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HEPWORTH VILLAGE HALL
THURSDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2021
7.30 PM

PRESENT:

Councillor Garry Bloomfield (Chairman) (GB)
Councillor Louise Robinson (LR)
Councillor Marjorie MacPherson (MM)
Councillor Robin Shackleton (RS)
Councillor Perry Penn (PP)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Christopher Garman (Parish Clerk) (CG)
District Councillor Carol Bull (CB)

Two members of public was present.

11/001 PUBLIC FORUM

There was discussion around the revised plans for the Shepherd's Grove site. There were concerns about ground and air pollution, the value of the new jobs, the ethics of the company, the onsite facilities being offered to visitors and the volume and flow of traffic.

11/002 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR

- a) CB spoke about the WSC strategy for homeless people.
- b) County Councillor Joanna Spicer had previously given a verbal report to CG and GB. JS had reported that there was soon to be an onsite meeting with SCC about the flooding in The Street, that there had been delays with finding a solution to the surface problems at Weston Way because of lack of response from BHS and that she was still chasing a response from the Quiet Lanes Suffolk team. In respect of the traffic calming project, JS reported that this seems to have stalled and she was actively chasing the officer with responsibility.

11/003 APOLOGIES

Councillor Justin Seldis (JS) and the reason was accepted. County Councillor Joanna Spicer had also offered her apologies.

11/004 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

MM declared an interest in agenda items 10(b) and 11(d). LR declared an interest in agenda items 8(a) and 10(b).

11/005 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

None.

11/006 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the meetings held on 21 October 2021 had been previously circulated.

It was resolved that these were an accurate record of the meetings.

11/007 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

11/008 VILLAGE EQUIPMENT, TREES AND HIGHWAYS

- a) An email from a resident with concerns about parking on pavements and near to the corner in Church Lane had been previously circulated. It was acknowledged that this was not acceptable but not within the remit of the parish council but was a police matter. However, it was suggested that a letter from the parish council to residents raising the problems parking is causing and encouraging them to park legally might mean the police do not need to get involved.

It was resolved to write a letter to residents in Church Lane asking them to park legally and with consideration for other road users.

- b) MM reported on the situation with Quiet Lanes Suffolk. The traffic counts mean that only Clay Lane was eligible for being designated a Quiet Lane.

It was resolved to now focus on Clay Lane and move this onto the consultation stage.

- c) CB reported that she had agreed a grant of £300 from her locality budget for the materials to repair the culvert fencing.
- d) CG reported that he had referred the concerns with the willow tree on Willow Green to Anglian Water and was now waiting for contact from an estate's manager.
- e) The situation with the future maintenance of the newly planted memorial hornbeam trees in the recreation ground was discussed.

It was resolved that the parish council will take responsibility for the future maintenance of these trees.

11/009 QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

- a) The arrangements for the celebration event on Thursday 2 June 2022 were reviewed. It was confirmed that Mick the Baker would organise a four-piece band, that the burger van had been booked and that PP would make the brazier. Also, PP will arrange for a tree for each house if requested.
- b) The arrangements for the bouncy castle were reviewed. It was noted that there were concerns with the proposed contract and CG will speak with Castle Capers Ltd on how these concerns can be alleviated.

It was resolved that the price quoted of £430 including VAT was acceptable and that a deposit of up to 33% could be paid.

11/010 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

- a) The bank reconciliation and bank statement at 30 September 2021 had been previously circulated.

It was resolved to confirm that the bank reconciliation agreed with the bank statement.

- b) The following payments were considered for approval.
- £291.73 to Came and Co – insurance premium
 - £25.00 to Royal British Legion – donation
 - £29.97 to Louise Robinson – maintenance supplies
 - £117.00 to Hepworth Recreation Ground – hall hire

It was resolved to approve all these payments.

- c) A revised draft budget for 2022/2023 with previous year comparisons had been previously circulated. The precept that was needed to facilitate the revised budget was discussed. It was noted that perhaps the required increase needed to be reduced. CB will circulate a comparison table of precepts charged by various parish councils in West Suffolk. It was thought that the parish council's Band D council tax was possibly one of the lowest. This will be discussed further at the January 2022 meeting when a decision will be needed.
- d) The need for a new website and the costs were considered.

It was resolved to continue with the current website but to make it compliant with GDPR and required accessibility practices with appropriate policies in place.

11/011 PLANNING MATTERS

- a) There were no existing applications and planning enforcement cases to review.
- b) The revised plans for the Shepherds Grove development had been discussed at 11/001 above.
- c) The appeal in respect of planning application DC/21/0219/FUL relating to Duke of Marlborough, Bury Road, Hepworth was considered.
It was resolved not to make any additional comments.
- d) Planning application DC/21/1984/OUT relating to land to the rear of 7 The Street, Hepworth was considered.
It was resolved to advise WSC that there was no objection but concerns about historical flooding in the area.
- e) Planning application DC/21/2149/HH relating to Laburnum Cottage, The Street, Hepworth was considered. RS read out an email from a resident which was considered.
It was resolved to advise WSC that there was no objection.

11/012 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence had been previously circulated and considered. No further action was needed.

11/013 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN

- a) LR requested a site visit to Jubilee Corner to review the work needed. It was agreed to meet on Saturday 4 December 2021 at 10.00 am.
- b) There was discussion about Blacksmiths Cottage. CG was asked to liaise with CB to see if WSC could take any action.
- c) RS advised that Mr Swallow had confirmed the village sign work will be undertaken in March 2022.
- d) There was discussion about an unofficial dog bin that now needs moving to the roadside so it can be emptied by WSC. RS would consult with residents on re-siting the bin.
- e) There was discussion about an accident in Beck Street and damage to property.

11/014 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting is on Thursday 20 January 2022 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.55 pm.

Christopher Garman
Parish Clerk
23 November 2021