

HEPWORTH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HEPWORTH PAVILION
THURSDAY 17 OCTOBER 24
7.30pm

PRESENT:

Councillor Garry Bloomfield (GB) (Chair)
Councillor Nicholas Bennett (NB) (Vice Chair)
Councillor Marjorie MacPherson (MM)
Councillor Louise Robinson (LR)
Councillor Hollie Williams (HW)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Andy Osman (Parish Clerk) (AO)

Two members of the public were also in attendance

24/102 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

MM declared an interest in agenda item 8b, DC/24/1324/HH planning application.

24/103 APOLOGIES

Cllr Perry Penn sent apologies which were accepted.

24/104 PUBLIC FORUM

- a. Clarkes of Walsham Sign. The sign at the junction of Clay Lane/A143 erected on 5 October was queried. It was agreed that the **Clerk would clarify with West Suffolk Council whether express consent** had been given for the sign.
- b. Bidwells Sign. MM highlighted that the Bidwells sign had been in place for a while, it was **agreed that the Clerk would clarify the consent given for this sign** with West Suffolk Council.
- c. Glamping Pod. An email update from District Cllr Carol Bull confirmed that this application would be reconsulted due to new information being provided.

24/105 REPORTS FROM AND QUESTIONS TO BOTH DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

County Cllr Joanna Spicer and District Cllr Carol Bull email updates had been previously circulated.

- a. Save Our Buses. LR updated the meeting with recent discussions from the Save Our Buses Working Party. It was noted that Hepworth were currently included in a bid being put together for bus services in 2025 once the current interim service funded by Suffolk County Council ends. Communities using this interim solution, including Hepworth, were encouraged to use service to support the future bid. There will be

gap from January to April 25 when the interim service ends and any new service starts. The meeting agreed that if a bus cannot be provided in the longer term a shuttle service to a bus stop, ie Stanton, should be provided. The current situation of young people using unlit and non-existing footpaths to bus stops was noted as being unacceptable.

24/106 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 24 had been previously circulated and **it was resolved that these were an accurate record of the meetings.**

24/107 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Chair confirmed all actions from the last meeting had been completed or would be covered in later agenda items.

24/108 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

- a. Finance Report. The meeting noted the finance report (current account balance £6,742.64, savings account balance £7,000.00 and the projected outturn at the end of the FY of approx. £4,000 current account and £7,000 savings account). The following payment was authorised:

SALC Payroll	£22.80
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NB agreed to provide 2nd bank authorisation.

A final payment of £760 plus VAT to Ashtons Legal for work on the lease renewal was also agreed

- b. Parish Council Meeting Dates 2025/26. The proposed meeting dates for 2025/26 were agreed.
- c. Lease Renewal. MM reported that the final signatories were being obtained on behalf of Hepworth Recreation Ground Management Committee to allow the renewed lease to come into force on 1 November 2024.

24/109 PLANNING MATTERS

- a. DC/24/0475/FUL. The meeting agreed to support this application.
- b. DC/24/1324/HH. The meeting agreed to support this application.
- c. Feedback on face-to-face meeting with West Suffolk Council. GB and NB provided an update on the recent meeting with West Suffolk Council over the management DC/22/2190/HYB planning application. It was **agreed that the Clerk would:**
- (1) Generate a FOI request to West Suffolk Council seeking a copy of the legal advice used following the withdrawal of COPART from this planning application.

(2) Seek an explanation from West Suffolk Council of the reasons for the delay in determining DC/23/1154/OUT and the planned date when it would be determined. The continued delay in determining this application was causing unnecessary concern and anxiety within the village

24/110 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

- a. Roads Repairs. The meeting noted recent repairs conducted on The Street could increase standing water on the road. This would be reported on the Suffolk Highways Reporting tool by the member of the public raising the concern.
- b. Drainage Issue. LR highlighted a potential drainage issue on The Street and **agreed to report on the Suffolk Highways Reporting tool**.
- c. Clay Lane Potholes. **HW agreed to report potholes on Clay Lane**.

24/111 CORRESPONDENCE

None

24/112 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN

None

24/113 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 21 November 24 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.37 pm.



Andy Osman
Parish Clerk
24 October 24