

A meeting of the Hepworth Parish Council took place on Thursday 3rd January 2019 at the village hall where the following items were discussed.

Attendees	Mr D Stannard (Chairman)	Mrs N Yorke
	Mr A Yorke (Vice Chairman)	Mrs M Waterson
	Ms L Robinson	Mrs M MacPherson
	Mrs Sue Yeomans (Parish Clerk)	Cllr C Bull
	Cllr J Spicer	

Members of the Public: There were no members of the public present

1.	Apologies	Action
	Mrs R Vernon, Mr G Bloomfield	
2.	Declarations of Interest There were none	
3.	Minutes of previous meetings The minutes of the Meeting 1 st November 2018 were agreed and signed.	
4.	Matters arising from previous meetings Allotments – The owners of the land opposite the church, and next to the church, to be contacted to see if they would be willing to put forward an area for allotments. Clerk to place advertisement in Hepworth Herald asking for landowners to come forward and offer up land. Village Sign replacement – A strong objection to replacement of the sign has been received from a parishioner. The existing sign was designed and made by villagers in approximately 1977 and he felt it should be retained. It was decided the existing sign is too badly worn to be restored and reused. It will be restored as well as possible and hung in the village hall. Two people have expressed an interest in making a replacement, discussions are ongoing.	LR Clerk DS
5.	Receive reports and hear from members of the public present Report from Cllr Spicer Flooding at Reeves Hall – no flooding currently. As soon as flooding is across the road and the ditch can't cope it is to be reported to Cllr Spicer, who is still vigorously pursuing the issue. Fairview - Cllr Spicer will ask the County Council to write to the owner of Fairview and thank them for cutting back the hedge at the corner of North Common and The Street. School Transport – there is nothing new to report. Report from Cllr Bull The Duke of Marlborough planning appeal has been dismissed. The Tree Preservation Order at Thatchers Meadow has been approved. The application at Spring Bank Farm is ongoing. From 1 st April 2019 West Suffolk Council will merge and become a District Council, with a Chairman but no Mayor. Bury St Edmunds Town Council may consider applying to have a Mayor. (The current Mayor is assigned to West Suffolk Council and not Bury St Edmunds Town Council as commonly believed). Members of the Public – none present	DS JS
6.	Finance The following accounts for payment were agreed: - Chq 923 – Mr J Beales, Hepworth Social Club Over 60's Lunch (\$137 Local Government Act 1972) - £250.00 Chq 924 – Clerks Salary Oct-Nov 18 - £415.60 Chq 925 – Mr A Yorke, expenses Battles Over - £127.80 Chq 926 - Clerk, for Battles Over Expenses distributed to volunteers - £111.72 Chq 927 – HMRC Qtr 3 - £28.00 Chq 928 – Clerks Expenses Nov-Dec 18 - £74.00 Chq 929 – Neel Shearer, Website Hosting Jan 19 – Jan 20 - £30.00 The Budget was reviewed and approved The Precept Application of £7001.00 was approved. Clerk to submit.	Clerk

	The Clerks Annual Salary was reviewed and increase agreed to SCP13, £11.45 per hour	Clerk 02/19
7.	<p>Trees in Remembrance Planting Scheme Proposal</p> <p>The Hepworth Tree Warden, has proposed the planting of 13 trees to commemorate the 13 fallen soldiers from Hepworth in WWI. The Parish Council unanimously supported the scheme and ask the Tree Warden will locate a suitable site. It was agreed to provide 150-180cm range trees from £26.40 to £39.99 each, which totals at £343.20 to £519.87 inc VAT, plus the cost of protection. Clerk will apply to the available S106 fund for a grant once project details are finalised.</p> <p>The Parish Council asked the Clerk to write and thank the Tree Warden for his work on this project.</p>	Clerk Clerk
8.	<p>Clerks/RFO Report</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Bank Balances @ 19 Dec 2018 Community (current) account £5,198.84 Business Saver account £1,832.21 Cllr Spicer has allocated £50 from her Locality Budget towards the purchase of bulbs for planting around the village. The necessary application has been submitted and approved, monies will be released as soon as purchase is made. – Clerk to diarise purchase of bulbs in July 19 A telephone call was received from the coordinator of the Community Bus Scheme. He expressed his disappointment at the £100.00 donation award, ringfenced in the Budget, towards the scheme. He had been expecting a much higher donation. The Battle's Over expenses have been settled. A total of £239.52 was spent. £150 was donated by Cllr Bull from her Locality Budget, the remaining £89.52 was paid from the Parish Council funds. Over 80 parishioners attended the event, which was a resounding success. Notification has been received from the Pension Regulator that minimum pension contributions will increase on 6 April 2019. As we have no eligible staff in an automatic enrolment scheme no action is required. Clerks Expenses have been increased by £5.00 per month to £30.00 with effect from 1st November, as agreed at the meeting 6th September 2018. Speed Watch Sessions – 10 Nov 18 = 5 vehicles; 6 Dec 18 = 2 vehicles 	Clerk
9.	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>There were no planning applications.</p>	
10.	<p>Footpaths</p> <p>Market Weston Road – Cllr Yorke to liaise with County Council Representative to organise a group of volunteers and date to clear the path, including Health and Safety etc.</p>	AY
11.	<p>Highways</p> <p>There were no issues other than those discussed and noted elsewhere in this report.</p>	
17.	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>Request from Walsham Parish Councillor for information and cost of upgrade of streetlights in Hepworth to LED. Councillors could not remember date, but Hepworth streetlights were upgraded by either Suffolk CC or Borough Council (no recall of which) and we were not required to fund it. Clerk to send response.</p>	Clerk
19.	<p>Questions to the Chair</p> <p>There were no questions</p>	
20.	<p>Any other business</p> <p>Cllr McPherson asked that 2 Parish Council representatives be appointed to Hepworth Charities, there is currently only 1. To be addressed at the AGM on 2nd May 19.</p>	Clerk
	The meeting closed at 9.10pm	

The next meeting is 7th March 2019
Annual Parish Meeting 4th April 2019
Annual General Meeting 2nd May 2019