

HEPWORTH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HEPWORTH PAVILION
THURSDAY 21 MARCH 2024
7.30 PM

PRESENT:

Councillor Garry Bloomfield (GB) (Chair)
Councillor Nick Bennett (NB) (Vice Chair)
Councillor Hollie Bloomfield (HB)
Councillor Marjorie MacPherson (MM)
Councillor Louise Robinson (LR)
Councillor Perry Penn (PP)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Andy Osman (Parish Clerk) (AO)

Four members of the public were present.

24/25 APOLOGIES

None.

24/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

County Cllr Spicer (JS) arrived at 7.35pm

24/27 PUBLIC FORUM

Jaynic Planning Application. The meeting commended the attendance of the Parish Council Chair and two members of the public at the March 2024 West Suffolk Council Development Control Committee and noted concerns raised by a member of the public over representations made by JS at the same meeting.

Flooding. Concerns were raised about flooding between Model House and Hepworth Hall. LR also highlighted flooding further down The Street that had been reported using the Highways Reporting Tool. The Clerk forwarded the Highways Report on The Street flooding to JS **who agreed to follow up with Suffolk Highways and ask them to write to landowners to clear debris** from ditches they were responsible for. **LR agreed to complete a Land Registry search to confirm ownership** of the parcel of land where village sign was located.

SpeedWatch. The impact of the recently completed traffic calming measures was questioned as information from SIDs indicated speeding was still an issue. The Parish Council had previously agreed to review these measures in August 2024; this was to be confirmed at the May Annual Parish Council meeting and relevant SID information would be provided to Suffolk Highways to inform any subsequent review.

24/28 REPORTS FROM AND QUESTIONS TO DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Footpath. JS briefed on the outcome of the 2017 claimed footpath that had been determined by the County Council following appeal and which now required some elements to be implemented. It was noted that the approved footpath had to be installed before an application for diversion could be made.

Weston Lane. The resurfacing of Weston Lane was still waiting for the weather to improve.

Streetlight. JS reported that she had followed up a broken streetlight on The Street opposite Wood Lane that required the power supply repairing to enable a fix. The power supply had been disrupted during ditch clearing.

24/29 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 15 February 2024 had been previously circulated. It was resolved that these were an accurate record of the meeting.

24/30 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Minute 24/15 15 February 2024: Flooded Ditch. LR confirmed that this flooded ditch had been reported on the Highways Reporting tool.

Minute 24/18 15 February 2024: Events Noticeboard. GB confirmed that a letter had been hand delivered to Justin Seldis in relation to the proposed installation of an events noticeboard. However, given the recent sale of the property (The Rectory), GB agreed to approach the new owners to seek permission for the new noticeboard. Pending the outcome of this request, the purchase of the events noticeboard was to be paused and any events notices to be placed temporarily on the Parish Council noticeboard.

Minute 24/18 15 February 2024: Mud on North Comon Road. It was noted that mud was still an issue on the road but that reported potholes had been filled.

Minute 24/18 15 February 2024: Bus Shelter Damage. GB confirmed a replacement window had been procured and was due to be fitted soon.

Minute 24/19 15 February 2024: Highways Reporting Tool. The Clerk confirmed a request to publicise this tool in the Hepworth Herald had been passed to the editor.

24/31 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

None

24/32 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

a. Finance Report. The meeting noted the finance report (current account balance £5,147.48, savings account balance £7,000.00 and the projected outturn at the end of the FY of approx. £3,500 current account and £7,000 savings account). The following payments were authorised:

Garry Bloomfield	£61.40
Clerks Salary & Exps	£946.79

The Clerk was to seek counter authorisation from NB for BACS payments.

b. Hepworth Pavilion. The Clerk briefed that the ownership of the Pavilion was unclear as both the Parish Council and Recreation Committee had been involved in past planning applications. Clarity was needed to inform future lease renewal work and to correctly list the building on the Parish Council asset register. It was **agreed that the Clerk would complete a Land Registry search** to clarify ownership of the building and grounds.

24/33 PLANNING MATTERS

Jaynic Application. GB reported that further information had been requested from Jaynic that might affect when the application came back to West Suffolk Development Control Committee meeting. [Clerks Note: It was confirmed on 22 March that the application would go to the 3 April meeting]. GB introduced 12 key points to be covered at the next Development Control Committee meeting and these were agreed. NB highlighted concerns over the proposed Liaison Group referenced in the conditions and it was agreed to add this to the key points. LR highlighted ongoing traffic issues when Compiègne Way closed due to flooding and in relation to Great Barton air pollution. Any additions to the agreed list of key points would be covered by out of meeting email circulation through the Clerk.

County Cllr Spicer left the meeting at 9.12pm

The meeting discussed concerns over gaps and omissions in the papers presented to the Development Control Committee by West Suffolk Council officers. It was agreed that the **Clerk would seek advice from the Suffolk Association of Local Councils** on the proper and appropriate method of reflecting these concerns. It was agreed that GB would approach the Chairs of the Parish Councils to determine whether there was any support for seeking a meeting with the Chief Executive and Leader of West Suffolk Council to discuss the meetings concerns about the administration of the application.

24/34 CORRESPONDENCE

a. Flooding Concern. Covered in minute 24/27.

b. Footpath. Covered in minute 24/28.

- c. Portrait of HM the King. It was **agreed that the Clerk would request a free portrait** of HM the King.

24/35 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN

Dog Bin. MM reported that complaints had been made about the overflowing dog bin at the recreation ground. It was **agreed that the Clerk would clarify bin emptying arrangements** with West Suffolk Council.

Dog Waste, The Street. The meeting noted continued reports of dog fouling on The Street and reiterated that incidents should continue to be reported to West Suffolk Council so that appropriate action can be considered.

24/36 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 18 April 2024 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm.



Andy Osman
Parish Clerk
25 March 2024