

THE PARISH OF HEPWORTH

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**Thursday 16 May 2024 at 7.00 pm  
at Hepworth Pavilion.**

**AGENDA**

1. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 18 May 2023
2. Annual report from the Chairman of the Parish Council
3. Parish Council accounts
4. Reports:
  - a) Parochial Church Council
  - b) County Councillor
  - c) District Councillor
  - d) Hepworth Recreation Ground (Hepworth Pavilion)
  - e) Hepworth Charities
  - f) Hepworth2Enjoy
  - g) Hepworth Angels
  - h) Hepworth Herald
  - i) Community Speed Watch and Team Hepworth
  - j) Hepworth Coffee Mornings
  - k) Art Club
  - l) Crafternoon Group
5. Open Forum

The Parish Meeting is an opportunity for everyone to hear what has been happening during the year. It is also an opportunity for residents to express their views on any matter pertaining to the village.

Please make every effort to attend—your support is important.

Garry Bloomfield  
Chairman of Hepworth Parish Council  
30 April 2024

**HEPWORTH PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**  
**HEPWORTH PAVILION**  
**THURSDAY 18 MAY 2023**  
**7.00 PM**  
**DRAFT**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor Garry Bloomfield (GB) (Chair)  
Councillor Marjorie MacPherson (MM)  
Councillor Perry Penn (PP)  
Councillor Nicholas Bennett (NB)  
Councillor Louise Robinson (LR)

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Andy Osman (Parish Clerk) (AO)  
County Councillor Joanna Spicer (JS)  
District Councillor Carol Bull (CB)

Seven members of public were present.

**1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

It was agreed the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 19 April 2022 should be signed as a record of that meeting.

**2. REPORT FROM PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR**

GB read his report that had been pre-circulated, copy attached.

**3. PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS**

A copy of the audited Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2023 had been pre-circulated, copy attached. AO summarised the significant areas.

**4. VILLAGE REPORTS**

a. Parochial Church Council

Jane presented the PCC report, copy attached.

b. Hepworth Pavilion and Recreation Ground

MM highlighted ongoing challenges with people to serve on the committee, indicated that more social events were taking place in the hall and that a football team was returning to use the pitch. The lease for the recreation ground expires in 2024 and further work will be needed closer to this time to understand what happens next.

c. Hepworth Charities

PP spoke about the work of the charity, including interest in some land.

d. Hepworth2enjoy

Claire and Jane spoke about the work of this informal group and the support given to various village events.

e. Hepworth Angels

MM spoke about this small choir that sing for pleasure.

- f. Community Speedwatch  
Richard spoke about this successful group that started with 9 members but was now down to five and struggling to find new people to join. He highlighted that speeding was still an issue in the village.
- g. Coffee Mornings  
GB read out the Coffee Mornings Group report by Anne and Tamer, copy attached.
- h. Art Club  
Wendy spoke about the work of the club which has been going 12 years and has 22 members with a waiting list. Highlighted plans for the club to visit the National Gallery via coach and to hold an exhibition in the Pavilion on 9 and 10 September.
- i. Crafternoon Group  
Jane presented the Crafternoon Group report, copy attached.
- j. Team Hepworth  
LR reported the group was up to 6 members and now working on clearing North Common undergrowth and verges. The group was seeking an area to drop clippings for subsequent burning.
- k. County Councillor  
JS provided an overview of financial challenges facing the County Council; Post-COVID, BREXIT, Ukraine War and Cost of Living. Apologised on behalf of the County Council for the delays in the speed calming scheme on The Street. This work was ready to start but awaiting gateways to be delivered.
- l. District Councillor  
CB presented her report, copy attached.

## 5. PUBLIC FORUM

- a. Noticeboard  
Claire asked if a noticeboard for events could be provided next to the Parish Council noticeboard. GB agreed to add to Parish Council agenda in June.
- b. Layby  
Jane asked if the layby by the post box near the A1088/The Street junction could be resurfaced. JS agreed to look into this.
- c. ANPR Cameras  
JS outlined figures from the recent ANPR camera deployment, previously circulated, and it was agreed to ask for the camera to return.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.



Andy Osman  
Parish Clerk  
22 May 2023

## **CHAIRMANS REPORT – HEPWORTH ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MAY 2024**

The last 12 months has seen more stability on the Parish Council, we have the same councillors and clerk as we did this time last year, this has been important especially with all the planning applications that we have seen over the period.

We still have two vacancies for Councillors, so if anyone knows someone who would enjoy the challenge of helping the village by being part of the Council then please ask them to contact the Parish Clerk.

I would like to thank all the councillors for their help this year and to Nick for chairing the meetings that I have not managed to attend. I would like to thank Carol and Joanna for their help and support over the last 12 months, also to Perry for his work as Tree Warden and to the Speed Watch Team for continuing to encourage drivers to keep to the speed limits and to make the village safer. Thanks also to Neel for continuing to produce the Hepworth Herald, and for all the people that distribute it within the village, also to Neel for ensuring both the Speed indicators Devices are working in the village, and that the data is downloaded and reported to us, I believe this also helps to encourage drivers to respect the 30mph limit through the village.

I would like to thank Andy for his help and guidance in his first 12 months of being our Parish Clerk, it certainly has been a busy year with more meetings, and correspondence than most years.

It seems that the majority of our time over the last 12 months has been spent discussing either the Jaynic, or the Equation application, certainly since August at every meeting these applications have been discussed, we have even had extra Parish Council meetings, and an open meeting for residents to discuss the Equation application. Outside the Parish Council meetings councillors have also had discussions about the best way to support the residents' objections to these applications. I must thank Nick and a resident of Hepworth who has helped me put together our reasons for our objection to the Jaynic application, which after the 2nd Development Control Meeting at West Suffolk's Council's offices, the application was refused. This may now go to appeal, or we may see another new planning application from Jaynic. I suspect we may also see the Equation application go to the Development Committee, so it looks like another busy 12 months ahead.

I would like to thank all the residents who have put their comments on the planning portal for both applications, to the residents who spoke at both of the Jaynic Application Development Committee meetings, and for those residents that were in the gallery at both of those meetings who were there supporting the Parish Council.

Another major concern discussed at meetings by residents is the issues with flooding in the village. We know that there were lots of communities affected last Winter but hopefully Hepworth will soon be visited by the Suffolk County Council Floods Team to look at the issues and help to stop properties being affected in the future.

**Over the last 12 months we have been involved with the following:**

- Quiet Lanes Suffolk Project – with all signs now installed on Church Lane and Clay Lane.
- The Traffic Calming – installed last summer.
- Updating the Village Welcome Pack
- The resurfacing of Bury Weston Lane – still ongoing.

**The next 12 months we will be involved with the following:**

- Any new Jaynic development on the Industrial Estate
- Application of the Equation development
- To ensure the resurfacing of Bury Weston Lane is completed.
- To see if the installed traffic calming measures have had any effect on the speeding issues. In the summer West Suffolk Highways will install the equipment to collect the data, so that we can compare it prior to when the measures were installed.
- To have a new agreement with the Hepworth Recreation Management Committee when the current lease ends later this year.
- To install a second notice board at Wood Lane so village events etc, can be advertised.

**Garry Bloomfield**  
**Chair Hepworth Parish Council**

# **HEPWORTH Parish Council**

## **Annual statement for period ending 31 March 2024**

Year 2022/23		Year 2023/24	
<b>Income</b>			
7,561	Precept	7,855	
1,278	Grants	3,351	
-	Bank interest	29	
-	Misc	-	
172	VAT	-	
443	Sundry		
<b>9,454</b>	<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>11,235</b>	
<b>Expenditure</b>			
2,885	Clerks fees	3,456	
440	Expenses	508	
123	Professional fees	90	
408	Insurance	441	
339	Subscriptions	333	
425	Donations / Sect 137	725	
-	Election costs	82	
226	Village Hall Hire	370	
1,480	Projects	18	
28	Training	30	
251	Village Maintainace	4,051	
688	Events	198	
-	Village website	40	<u>Savings</u>
224	VAT	24	Income 7000
-	Sundry	7,000	Expenditur 0
<b>7,517</b>	<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>17,366</b>	Balance <b>7000</b>
<b><u>Bank reconciliation 01.04.23 to 31.03.24</u></b>			
<b>Balances at 1 April 2023</b>	£	£	
Bank current account	10,270		
Less unrepresented cheques	0		
Bank savings account	0	10,270	
Plus income		18,235	
		28,505	
Less expenditure		-17,366	
<b>BALANCES AT 31 MARCH 2024</b>		<b>11,139</b>	
Balance as per bank statement on 31 March 2024			
	Ac No	£	£
Current Account	Barclays 30469823	4,139	
Savings Account	Barclays 53501957	7,000	
		<b>11,139</b>	