

# HIGHAM ON THE HILL PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes



Date: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020  
 Time: 7.00 pm  
 Present: Cllr Golder (Chair), Cllr Jenkins (Vice-Chair), Cllr Gayton, Cllr Waterton, Cllr Whitehead, Cllr J Collett (HBBC), Cllr I Ould (LCC), A Perkins (Clerk).

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11/20/1 APOLOGIES

Cllr Grimes

11/20/2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None

11/20/3 MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2020 were agreed by the Parish Councillors present and signed as a true record of the meeting.

11/20/4 COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORTS

**Cllr Ould** reported that he remains veery busy, mostly with planning issues in Witherley, Market Bosworth and Stoke Golding.

Cllr Golder asked what is happening re the Governments latest proposed changes to planning law and Cllr Ould replied that at a recent meeting with Dr Luke Evans MP (Cons), the following requests had been put forward:

- a) That all planning applications must be dealt with at a locally accountable level,
- b) That brown field sites must be used up before green field sites are considered
- c) That the planning algorithm is completely revised.

**Cllr J Collett** reported on the precarious state of finances as HBBC are not yet aware of their financial situation. This could have an impact on future grant schemes.

He remains busy with planning applications in Stoke Golding and Dadlington and commented that the two villages are at risk of joining together due to the current number of applications that are being made. He also advised that The Royal Arms in Sutton Cheney have applied to build 16 dwellings on their site. An ACV has been applied for by the Parish Council. Cllr Jenkins confirmed that Rachel Demeda is the person at HBBC dealing with ACV's.

11/20/5 CLERKS REPORT

- i. Mess increasing outside the property known as 1 Mill Gardens. HBBC Housing Department contacted. Spoke with Sue Brown, site to be cleared and bins to be moved when rear garden works completed.
- ii. Bid to Parish Community fund was successful and funds awarded. Sarah Bowler contacted re two stiles to be replaced and various signage to be amended/replaced.

- iii. SHIRE Environment Grant – bid for £4000 submitted – To be judged by LCC Panel on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November.

11/20/6

COUNCILLORS REPORTS

- i. Cllrs Golder and Gayton reported that there is an electric cable running from the garden of 1 Mill Gardens across the footpath to the boot of a grey Audi (H 3 KON) parked on Nuneaton Lane. Clerk to contact housing authority requesting urgent action be taken. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- ii. Cllr Gayton asked Cllr Golder to contact GN Drives to repair the lid on the electric box on the green. **Action: Cllr Golder**
- iii. Cllr Gayton had had no joy regarding warranty issues, despite numerous phone calls and emails. Westcotec were asked to return the VAS un-repaired and it is to be taken to a company in Coalville recommended by LCC. **Action: Cllr Gayton**
- iv. Cllr Gayton reported that the goal posts require some cable ties which he will replace. Cllr Jenkins has noticed that some bolts are missing from the small climbing frame and mini roundabout. Cllr Gayton to investigate. He has asked the resident who provides the dog poop bags to send in a receipt so that we can re-imburse her. **Action: Cllr Gayton/Clerk**

**Cllrs Ould and Collett left the meeting at 7.35pm.**

11/20/7

ITEMS TO BE TAKEN INTO PRIVATE SESSION

Dealing with Vexatious Complaints

11/20/8

PLANNING

None

11/20/9

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND RESOLUTION

- i. Dealing with vexatious complaints: Under advice from LRALC and with guidance from NALC, a DRAFT Complaints Policy has been written. This will be published on the website once the final copy has been agreed. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- ii. Proposal to make a donation to the Citizens Advise Bureau of £50 was agreed. Proposed by Cllr Whitehead, seconded by Cllr Waterton.
- iii. Budget Setting 2020/21: Assuming there will be no increase on the Precept from HBBC as finances are already tight. The following questions were aired:

Cost savings

- ? Should the recreation field ground maintenance be reduced as there is no football played there
- ? Should all of the dog pooh bins be emptied weekly or would fortnightly be sufficient
- ? Should we consider donations to other causes now that the Fresh Outlook is being printed by MIRA



**Possible projects**

- A new or revamped notice board
- Better vehicle activated signs or another VAS
- Parish Council Community Grant Scheme – young persons and or new small business?
- Biodiversity Group interlinked with the school

**A separate Budget Meeting to be held at 7pm on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November via Zoom to finalise and agree the 2020/2021 Budget.**

- Group Membership Fee of the Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust of £50 was agreed. Proposed by Cllr Jenkins, seconded by Cllr Whitehead.
- Christmas Tree 2020: Sponsorship this year will be difficult due to economic climate. Also, The Green is currently unfit as a social space.

11/20/10 **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

- Cllr Jenkins had spoken Mrs Elspass, Head of School, re naming of the open field. A competition was suggested. Cllr Jenkins meeting via Zoom on 25<sup>th</sup> November to discuss further. Prizes to be discussed. **Action: Cllr Jenkins**
- Cllr Waterton asked whether we had received any contact from the Speed Awareness Team. None to date, clerk to chase. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- Cllr Golder again requested that Cartwrights be contacted and asked to tidy the site at The Oddfellows. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- Cllr Jenkins confirmed that the ACV can take up to 8 weeks however we hope to hear something soon and that no new planning application has been received yet for the Oddfellows site.

11/20/11 **FINANCE**

**Outgoings**

	Cheque No	Minutes	inc VAT	VAT 17.50%	non VAT	Date
Michael W Smith - Sept	Trf	09.11.20	£380.00		£380.00	19.10.20
Unity Bank Service Charge	DD	09.11.20	£18.00		£18.00	30.10.20
Michael W Smith - Oct	Trf	09.11.20	£585.00		£585.00	02.11.20
The Fisher Partnership - Open Field	Trf	09.11.20	£300.00	£50.00	£250.00	02.11.20

**BALANCE AT BANK AFTER ALL EXPENSES SHOWN ABOVE IS £23,374.42**

Of which ring-fenced monies are:

\*£1965.96 for maintenance of playing field and path

\*\*£1570.00 approx. for maintenance of Open Field



Total available capital after reserves (£14637.00) is £5201.46


Further expenditure to the end of the year is anticipated to be approx. £3000 (Insurance, grounds maintenance, \*playing field maintenance, dog bin emptying, training, clerk's salary, etc).

I advise Councillors that there remains approximately £2000 of available capital to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

11/20/12      DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7.00pm via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 8.00 pm

Signed:       Dated: 08 | 02 | 2021