Hockliffe Parish Council
"Serving the local community"

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Monday 10th October 2022

Councillors Present: Cllrs R Scott (Chair), P Scott, P Dickens & D Coleman

Clerk: C Underhay

Guest: Cllr M Versallion (CBC Ward Councillor)

55: To receive apologies for absence:

Cllr Antonini was not present at the meeting.

56: Declarations of Interest:

No Declarations of Interest were received.

57: Approval of Minutes of the meeting held on 11th July:

It was resolved by all Councillors present that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th July were correct.

58: CBC Cllr Mark Versallion Report:

Cllr Versallion advised the meeting of the following:
There has been no further progress regarding de-trunking of the A5.
There has been no meaningful update regarding reducing the speed limit outside of the school.
Cllr Versallion noted that funds are available under the Ward Councillor Grant Scheme (£3k).

59: Public Forum:

A resident noted "how nice" the village looked – however the notice boards could do with a revamp. The Clerk will obtain the keys from Cllr Antonini so this can be done.

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A resident asked about the cemetery gate as it was broken – the Chair noted that this was temporarily repaired by the handyman yesterday (9th October).

60: Matters arising from the Minutes not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda:

The Clerk advised that he had conducted the Memorial Test in both cemeteries, and both were passed successfully with no issues. The Clerk also noted that he had spoken to Goldleaf regarding the hedge in cemetery and this is to be trimmed – date to be confirmed.
The Estate Agents boards have now been removed from the bridge over the brook – the Clerk has written to CBC regarding the sign at the end of Church Lane – no response yet – to be chased.

61: Venue for future Meetings:

The Chair noted that future Meetings will be held at St Nicholas Church until at least the end of the year – this is because the school is unavailable.

62: Position of Notice Board at Church End:

After some discussion, it was decided to leave the Notice Board where it is.

63: Cemetery parking:

Cllr Dickens confirmed that he will contact CBC Planning enquiry line regarding this (to establish if the project is even feasible).

64: Planning – Applications received:

The Chair noted that two applications had been received, and both were discussed:
CB/22/03733/LB & CB/22/03734/LB – The Lodge, Church End – It was resolved by all Councillors that we record this as "no objections".

CB/22/03637 – 1 Clifford Close – the loss of available parking was discussed – however, it was felt CBC would take this into account. The Council had no other objections.

65: Alison's Brook & Bull farm access to the A5:

The Chair noted that access to the A5 had not been completed properly by the respective Developers. The residents of Bull Farm are in touch with their Developer – Cllr Versallion advised that he would check with CBC to check that the development had been "signed off." Cllr Versallion will also check what has happened to the access for Alison's Brook – the issue here is that a telephone mast needs to be moved – which is expensive, the cost of which is presumably at the Developers expense.

66: Christmas:

The Chair noted that the Christmas Tree last year was a good tree. The Clerk was asked to obtain quotes for a tree for this Christmas – these will then be discussed and agreed at November's meeting. The tree will be required for the end of November – this will then be ready for the light switch-on (4th December 2022). Mandie Underhay agreed that she will talk to the pub for the availability so we can hold an event – plans will be discussed further at next month's meeting.

67: Vehicle electric points:

The Chair advised that we had received a request from CBC for possible locations of electric points. We do not own any car parks, or open space with vehicle access – so the only possible place is in laybys. The Clerk will complete the request and advise CBC.

68: Speedwatch:

No further Speedwatch sessions have been held – as the Co-ordinator does not respond to emails (as noted in last months Minutes). Cllr Coleman noted that as Average Speed Cameras are being installed on all our main roads before next spring – so is it worth pursuing

Speedwatch? It was resolved by all councillors to take no action for now, and review after the Average Speed Cameras are in place.

69: A5:

Cllr P Scott is going to draft a letter to National Highways from the Parish Council regarding the A5.

70: Park Issues:

The Chair noted that the fixtures for the additional park bench had now arrived – pending installation by the Handyman.

71: Storage Options:

The Clerk advised that he had researched the possibility of hiring a CBC garage – however, this is not possible because we would have to agree to park a car in it. The Chair considered the possibility of purchasing a secure metal shed and putting at the park (perhaps applying for the grant that Cllr Versallion advised us of) – the Clerk was asked to investigate this in time for the next meeting.

72: Neighbourhood Plan:

No update. Cllr Dickens advised that he would contact the Vice-Chair of the committee to see if she is willing to take this forward.

73: Handyman

It was noted that the issue with the cemetery gate was that one of the posts is rotten. It has been temporarily fixed by the Handyman - and we are pending a fuller report from him (this only happened yesterday – 9th October).

74: Blooming Hockliffe:

The Team announced that whilst most of the tubs had been watered over the summer (and looked good), some had not been – shrubs will be

purchased for these tubs next spring as they do not need so much maintenance.

75: Remembrance:

The team that looks after this event, asked if they could purchase poppies for the lampposts. They are £4.99 each. The Chair proposed that between 10/15 should be purchased – this was seconded by Cllr P Scott and resolved by all Councillors present. A request was also made to purchase a "lady tommy" – they cost £175 - this expenditure was again proposed by the Chair, seconded by Cllr P Scott, and resolved by all Councillors present.

76: Finance:

The Chair asked the Clerk to speak.

1. To authorise accounts for payment:

It was resolved that the following amounts could be paid (some payments below are retrospectively authorised – they were all within agreed budget lines):

Date	Chq no	Amount	Payee
11/7	1976	£27	CBC hall Hire (July)
1/8	1977	£266.90	C Underhay (salary)
1/8	1978	£177.60	HMRC
	1979		SPOILED
1/8	1980	£166.13	R Alexander – Public liability insurance
1/8	1981	£85.90	R Alexander – handyman
1/8	1982	£117.60	Playsafety – ROSPA Report
1/8	1983	£617.53	Goldleaf (August)
14/9	1984	£617.53	Goldleaf (September)
14/9	1985	£177.60	HMRC – clerk tax
14/9	1986	£266.90	C Underhay – salary (Sept)
14/9	1987	£647.88	Mr B Simpson – webmaster
1/10	1988	£266.90	C Underhay – salary (Oct)

1/10 1989	£177.60	HMRC – clerk tax
10/10 1990	£617.53	Goldleaf (October)
10/10 1991	£408.00	Mazars (external audit)
10/10 1992	£26.87	Mr B Simpson – webmaster

The missing bank statements have now been received.

The Clerk reported that between April & September, we have received a total of £8.82 in interest.

An amount of £26 per month has also been paid to the Clerk for the working at home allowance (April through to September inclusive).

2. Account Balances & Budget. To review summary of spend against budget:

A full bank reconciliation was provided to the Council. As at 30th September the Current account balance was £29312.87 & the savings account £14925.96.
Spend against budget shows that with 50% of the year gone, the council have only spent 31.76% of budget.
The External audit now completed and statutory notice published.

77: Correspondence Received (for information only):

The chair noted that various items about speeding/speed cameras had been received and responded to.

78: Items for inclusion in the next agenda:

None

The meeting closed at 9pm
Colin Underhay – Clerk – 29th October 2022

Signed as a true copy……..Rob Scott 14th November 2022