Hockliffe Parish Council
"Serving the local community"

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on

Monday 15th May 2023

Councillors Present: Cllrs R Scott (Chair), R Alexander & P Edwards

Clerk: C Underhay

Guest: Cllr M Versallion (CBC)

1: To receive apologies for absence:

Cllr Wuczke apologised for her absence.

2: Declarations of Interest:

No Declarations of Interest were received.

3: Approval of Minutes of the meeting held on 17th April 2023:

It was proposed by Cllr Scott & seconded by Cllr Alexander that the Minutes of 17th April were approved as a true record (Cllr Scott & Alexander being the only Councillors present at both meetings).

4: CBC Cllr Mark Versallion Report:

Cllr Versallion reported as follows:
After the local elections, legal local government will be back in place from 25th May 2023 – and Cllr Versallion will be lobbying straight away for a speed camera outside the school. Cllr Edwards noted that Cllr Versallion's Facebook page stated he would be asking Highways and CBC for progress on detrunking immediately following the election and asked for an update. Cllr Versallion responded that due to there being no party in overall control of the council there was nobody to yet speak to. This will hopefully change after the full council meeting due to take place the

following day. Cllr Edwards asked if a local petition regarding traffic volume through Hockliffe would be worth pursuing – Cllr Versallion said that a petition had not yet been tried and might be helpful. Cllr Edwards agreed to take this forward and will produce a draft petition for the next meeting. (NB: research following the meeting points to a Public Petition to the House of Commons being the most appropriate method and this is being progressed).

5: Public Forum:

An issue has arisen regarding parking in Whitehorse Close – however, the resident was not present to discuss it. Another resident advised that parking was also a problem in Manor Avenue. The Chair advised that these issues were beyond the remit of the Parish Council. Cllr Edwards wondered whether we could approach CBC for signs that say "resident parking only." Drug dealing was also discussed. The Chair asked the Clerk to invite the police to our next PC meeting to discuss this issue.

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

Cllr Alexander advised that he had been to look at the footpath in the Church grounds. He advised that he would need a powerful bowser and jet wash to clear the path. The Chair asked Cllr Alexander to provide 3 quotes for this equipment and bring to the next meeting for consideration. Cllr Alexander also advised that, for safety reasons, the remains of the metal fence at the recreation park had been smashed below ground and covered with soil.

The Chair advised, that due to Councillor and Clerk absence, the next meeting, due for 12th June 2023 would be postponed to 19th June 2023.

7: Parish Council Vacancies:

The Chair announced that there were now 3 vacancies for Parish Councillor – and that we are now allowed to Co-opt. The positions have

been advertised on the website – however, Cllr Edwards advised that, whilst the link provided went to the Hockliffe PC website, the script was all about Heath & Reach Parish Council. This had been corrected after communication with the Webmaster.

8: Planning – Applications received:

The Chair advised that there were no planning applications to consider.

9: To adopt a Memorial Policy:

Cllr Edwards proposed that a Memorial Policy was adopted -and provided a draft policy for discussion (together with an application form). Cllr Alexander then proposed this policy was adopted – this was seconded by the Chair and resolved by all Councillors present.

10: Correspondence Received regarding the offer of a Memorial for a late resident:

The Chair advised that a resident had been in touch to ask for a permanent memorial to be placed on Parish Council land in respect of his late wife. It was proposed by the Chair that the Clerk contact the resident to discuss his request in line with our newly approved Memorial Policy.

11: Finance:

The Chair asked the Clerk to speak.

1. To authorise accounts for payment:

It was resolved that the following amounts could be paid:

Chq no	Amount	Payee	
2036	636.06	Goldleaf	Maintenance for May
2037	32.00	CBC	School Hire – April
2038	636.06	Goldleaf	Maintenance for April
2039	55.96	A Alexander	Coronation expenses

2040	51.00	A Alexander	Blooming Hockliffe
2041	32.00	CBC	School Hire – May

Pending the change of signatures with our bank, it was proposed by the Chair that we ask David Coleman to sign the above cheques – this was seconded by Cllr Edwards and resolved by all Councillors present.

A £26 standing order was also paid to the Clerk for working at home allowance (1st April 2023). A credit of £27.36 was also received in respect of bank interest (30th April 2023). The Precept amount of £22,890 was received on 6th April 2023.

2. **Account Balances & Budget. To review the summary of spend against budget:**
   April's reconciliation was presented. At the end of April, we had spent 11.5% of the expected budget – however, there were several one-off payments due (such as insurance and subscriptions). Bank balances as of 30th April 2023 – Current account - £30139.89 - savings account £35070.81.

3. **S106 funds:**
   The Clerk advised he had again been contacted by CBC regarding these funds – as we do not have long to use them. To answer a question from last month's meeting, the Clerk contacted CBC and we should be able to use the funds to re-tarmac the area of damaged tarmac in the park. The Chair asked the Clerk to obtain 3 quotes for discussion at the next meeting.
   Cllr Edwards proposed that he set up a committee to look at funds we have held "in reserve" & S106 – with the aim of reporting back at the July meeting. This was seconded by the Chair and resolved by all Councillors present.
   The proposed village hall was also discussed. Cllr Alexander is to ask for the Minutes to be published for transparency. There was also a general desire of the new Parish Council to work closer with the Village Hall committee – and the Village Hall will feature on next month's agenda.

12: Correspondence Received (for information only):

The Chair advised that we had received correspondence confirming the start date of the Solar farm work. Correspondence was also shared regarding the average speed cameras (presently being installed on the A5).

13: Items for inclusion in the next agenda:

Website review

The meeting closed at 9pm

Colin Underhay – Clerk – 22nd May 2023

Signed as a true copy……. (R Scott - Chair) 19th June 2023

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