Hockliffe Parish Council
"Serving the local community"

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Monday 8th January 2024

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

Clerk: C Underhay

111: To receive apologies for absence:

Cllr Edwards sent apologies.

112: Declarations of Interest:

No Declarations of Interest were received.

113: Approval of Minutes of the meeting held on 11th December 2023:

It was proposed by Cllr Scott & seconded by Cllr Alexander that the Minutes of the Meeting's held on 11th December 2023 were approved as a correct record. This was then resolved by all Councillors present.

114: CBC Cllr Mark Versallion Report:

Cllr Versallion sent his apologies as he was unable to attend.

115: Public Forum:

A resident asked about drainage in the village in light of the recent heavy rain. We have had localised flooding on the roads, and internal drainage of properties had been failing. Cllr Alexander advised that individual residents need to complain to Anglian Water – as they are more likely to act if they have a number of complaints. The Chair said he would write to our MP and ask him to contact Anglian Water as well – and also asked the Clerk to ensure Anglian Water's contact details are on our website. Cllr Alexander proposed that he could write a letter to Anglian Water on behalf of the Council. This was seconded by the Chair, and resolved by

all Councillors present. It was noted by a resident that contractors had been in Hockliffe "today" cleaning the Brook to assist with the flow of water (& in turn, drainage).

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

The Chair noted that we have now received a formal application for a memorial in the park. This is for a 15-20ft Blossom tree with a tree guard around it and a bench on a concrete base looking out over the park. The request is to place this in the southeast corner (by the play park). The Councillors discussed this – the issue with the placement request is that residents have raised issues in the past with trees in that area, as blossom etc drops into gardens, causing issues. It was considered that we may agree – but the placement would need to be in the southwest corner. We would also need to know the exact type of blossom and the Company being used. The Clerk will correspond, and this will be an item on the February agenda.

117: Co-option of new Councillors:

A resident formally offered her services as a Councillor via co-option. Her name is Jennie Lane. She advised that she will be unable to attend every meeting as she will be abroad – but would attend whilst in the UK. She is unable to come to our February meeting – but will be at our March meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Wuczke and seconded by Cllr Alexander that we accept this application – and then resolved by all Councillors present. The Clerk advised that he would check the law governing absence from meetings, and advise the Council at our February meeting.

118: Planning – Applications received:

The Chair advised that there were two planning applications, both received for the same property - received as CB/23/03599/Full & CB/23/03600/LB. One application is for a dropped curb onto the A5 to provide car parking on the property – and the other is for internal

renovations (as the property is listed). Cllr Alexander proposed we support both – the dropped curb because it will mean less vehicles parking on the A5, and the other application, because it would generally improve the property. This was seconded by the Chair and resolved by all Councillors present.

119: A5:

The Chair reported that he had an email from our MP (Andrew Selous) asking us to contact him if we need any further assistance (re M1 closure). He responded to say that he would like to see the same measures (as adopted in December) with any further closures. The Chair also advised he had received a formal invite to visit the M1 work site headquarters – and he will go on 22nd January, with Cllr Alexander & Wuczke

120: Finance:

The Chair asked the Clerk to speak.

1. To authorise accounts for payment:

It was resolved that the following amounts could be paid:

Cheque	Amount	to	For
2095	£308.90	C Underhay	Salary
2096	£205.60	HMRC	Clerk tax
2097	£10000	Hockliffe Parish Council – transfer to deposit account	

Payment of all the above was proposed by the Chair, seconded by Cllr Alexander, and then resolved by all Councillors.

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

The bank statements have not been received for December – so no report.

3. **Cemetery – annual review of charges:**
   After these were reviewed, it was proposed by the Chair, and seconded by Cllr Wuczke that no change is made to the fee structure. This was the fully resolved by all Councillors present.

121: Village Notice Boards:

Cllr Alexander asked this item to be held until next month, so it can be discussed in conjunction with a review of our communication policy.

122: Village Hall:

Standing item – nothing to report at this meeting.

123: Handyman:

The Handyman advised there was nothing to report – other than notice board maintenance – and this will be discussed next month.

124: Development of HAS26:

The Chair noted he has included this as a standing item – nothing to report at this meeting.

125: The Park:

Standing item – nothing to report.

126: Correspondence Received (for information only):

None

127: Items for inclusion in the next agenda:

Communication policy
Community Newsletter
Notice Boards

Hockliffe Parish Council
"Serving the local community"

The meeting closed at 8pm

Colin Underhay – Clerk – 20th January 2024

Signed as a true copy……. (R Scott - Chair) 12th February 2024

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