

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3rd JANUARY 2021 AT 5.00PM VIRTUALLY

In Attendance – Cllr J Windsor - Chairman Cllr S Ratledge
Cllr S Martin Cllr O de Braekeleer
Cllr L Sackett Cllr M Pilkington
Cllr R Bird
Cllr M Roscoe Members of the Public: 6
Cllr S Hyden

DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS & DISPENSATION REQUESTS – Cllr Ratledge declared he was a Governor of Huxley Primary School.

PUBLIC SESSION

The Clerk highlighted that Public Participation was on the agenda to allow any residents who had comments to make on the agenda or questions to ask to raise them. The rest of the meeting was open to the public to attend and listen in but not a public meeting therefore residents could not contribute throughout the meeting without the permission of the Chairman.

Roadworks on Hoofield Lane – a resident questioned if the Parish Council had any information regarding the scheduled road closure on Hoofield Lane. The Parish Council confirmed no information had been received. Residents had not been advised of what work was being undertaken. A resident confirmed that OpenReach were undertaking work on Hoofield Lane over three days.

Huxley Primary School Update – A resident asked if there was an update following the consultation. The Parish Council confirmed that they had not received any further information following the submission of their comments. Cllr Ratledge reported that he believed CWaC would now be scrutinizing the plan that had been put forward. This would he felt be a lengthy process, he confirmed that the consultation has been suspended to allow the local authority to look at the recovery plan in detail.

MINUTES

RESOLVED 20/027 that the Chair signs, as a true and correct record, the minutes of the meeting held on 1st November 2020 proposed by Cllr Hyden and seconded by Cllr Bird.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

No matters arising from the minutes were raised that were not covered on the agenda.

BUSINESS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Huxley Primary School – Cllr Braekeleer asked if the Parish Council had been forwarded a copy of the recovery plan – Cllr Ratledge undertook to circulate this.

Footpaths – Cllr Windsor confirmed that nothing has yet been done with the footpath between Hargrave and Huxley. Cllr Windsor confirmed that she had seen Mr Ankers and mentioned this – Mr Ankers confirmed that he was chasing the contractors and if nothing happened by the beginning of 2021 Mr Ankers had undertook to organise the work himself.

Village Gates – Cllr Sackett confirmed that there was no update since the last meeting. Cllr Sackett confirmed that she was still waiting on quotes from Mr Bateman.

Cllr Sackett also reported that she did attend a meeting recently with Highways which she had since circulated the questions and answers around the Parish Council. Cllr Sackett confirmed that CWaC were looking to change their contractors and this would be under review in January 2021.

Broadband – Cllr Bird reported that the OpenReach Broadband services are poor in his area. He has been told by various engineers that there are plans to improve the service. Cllr Bird's concern is that moving forward there will be an increased need for people to work from home and therefore providing a decent broadband service will be vital in the future.

Cllr Pilkington confirmed that there are other areas with poor broadband, she reported that there are a few residents in Hargrave that have paid for their own broadband. There also is a resident moving into Hargrave who is interested in improving the broadband in the area. Cllr Windsor confirmed that superfast broadband had been installed in Huxley but not Hargrave. It was confirmed that there are grants available for residents to apply for improving broadband services. Cllr Pilkington confirmed that she is speaking to a company tomorrow and if this is of interest, she will share it with the Parish Council.

Satellite broadband is also an option which some Hargrave residents are using successfully – Cllr Roscoe to provide information on this to Cllr Bird.

The Significance of Parish Councils in the Future – Cllr Bird commented that Parish Council's may be a thorn in the side of local councils, and he was concerned that Parish Council's powers could be reduced. Cllr Bird sought clarification if he could attend other Parish Council's within the area. Cllr Windsor confirmed that she and Lorraine had recently attended a joint meeting between Clotton Hoofield and Willington Parish Councils with a view to looking at developing a collaboration/relationship with other similar sized and neighbouring Parish Councils. Cllr Hyden had accepted being the representative to attend these meetings for the future.

Consideration given to monthly Parish Council Meetings – Cllr Bird asked for Parish Councillors consideration to be given to holding Parish Council meetings monthly. It was discussed and agreed that two monthly meetings were sufficient with the understanding that extra-ordinary meetings can be called if required.

Roles and Responsibilities of the Parish Councillors – Cllr Windsor sought consideration that Parish Councillors spread the responsibilities across the Parish Council of the major duties of the Parish Council as follows:-

Footpaths – Cllr Pilkington

Highways – Cllr Sackett

Broadband – Cllr Bird

Liaison with Parochial Church Council – Cllr Roscoe

Joint Meetings with Neighbouring Parish Council – Cllr Hyden

Huxley Primary School – Cllr Ratledge

IT Responsibilities – Cllr Ratledge

Planning Issues – All Parish Councillors

Consideration of the Parish becoming a Conservation Area – Cllr Windsor sought support to get the Planning Department to speak to the Parish Council with regards to the benefits of becoming a Conservation Area and whether it would be advantageous for the Parish Council to consider.

ACTION: Arrange a meeting with Planning Department.

Recycling Centre – Tattenhall – Cllr Sackett raised concerns with regards to increased traffic through Huxley due to the Recycling Centre only allowing one car at a time into the facility. It was suggested that a letter be sent to CWaC asking if opening hours could be extended due to only allowing one car into the site at a time and therefore increasing the traffic on the road waiting to get on the site.

ACTION: Contact Tattenhall Parish Council to see if they have any concerns with regards to the Recycling Centre services.

ACTION: Put on Website information with regards to green bins not being collected.

CWaC Waste Consultation – Cllr Windsor highlighted that CWaC were undertaking a Waste Consultation and she had agreed to attend on behalf of the Parish Council and report back to the Parish Council.

PLANNING

The Planning Register dated 24/12/2020 was accepted and changes to the planning register from last meeting were noted. The Chairman requested that all items that have been decided, be removed off the Planning Register for the future.

Field in Hargrave next to the Church – It was reported that the planning application had now been amended and is now for a riding arena and stables only. The Caravan would be removed from the site, the fence has been lowered in height and the gates lowered – a native hedging has now been planted. The removal of the Caravan and Septic Tank is now in the hands of the Enforcement Team. The Parish Council undertook to monitor this application.

20/04036/FUL – The Inn at Huxley -It is believed that Highways Dept is involved regarding car parking facilities. Parish Council comments to be prepared and circulated to the members of the Council prior to submission.

20/03955/FUL – Swallow Farm – Following the Parish Council making comments, no further information has been reported.

18/04117/FUL - Greenlooms Farm – Cllr Bird reported that a fourth smell test was being undertaken prior to a decision being made.

FINANCIAL ITEMS

Accounts for payment

RESOLVED 20/028 Year to date cashbook dated 24/12/2020 was approved as a true and correct record. Approved Cllr Windsor, seconded Cllr de Braekeleer

Income – it was reported that between November & December £0.20 had been received from Interest payments.

Payments made/received since last meeting:-

Clerk Pay	Tax Point 9	£229.49
Clerk Pay	Tax Point 10	£229.49
Clerk's Expenses		£60.20
Hargrave PCC	Room Hire	£20.00
Autela Payroll	Payroll Services	£48.24

RESOLVED 20/029 to accept the income and payments since the last meeting for approval.

Bank Reconciliation to Cashbook YTD

RESOLVED 20/030 to accept the Bank Reconciliation to the Cashbook dated 24th December 2020.
Cllr Windsor reviewed the bank statements and signed them at the meeting.

Budget 2021-22

It was **RESOLVED 20/031** that the budget for 2021-22 would be set at £5,875 as set-out below, approved Cllr Hyden, seconded Cllr Bird:-

Budget Element	2021-22 Budget
EXPENDITURE	
People & Expenses	
Clerk	3,096
HMRC tax	0
Expenses	150
Training	250
Professional service	
Insurance	330
Internal Audit	50
Autela payroll	210
General Services	
Admin/Website	200
Room Hire	100
Admin.	
CHALC Membership	150
SLCC Membership	50
Data Protection fee	35
Elections	500
Projects	
NDP	500
British Legion Wreath	25
Inflation %	124
Contingency % of above	105
TOTAL CASH OUT	5,875
RECEIPTS	
Precept	5,869
Bank Interest	2
VAT recovery	0
Other	0
TOTAL INCOME	5,871

Precept Request – it was approved by Cllr de Braekeleer, seconded by Cllr Bird that the Parish Council **RESOLVED 20/032** to request a precept level of £5,869 which is calculated by CWaC to be a small increase in the precept for 2021-22.

SLCC Membership – it was **RESOLVED 20/033** to approve the payment of the SLCC membership for the Clerk which is split between 4 other Parish Councils. SLCC membership currently cost £185.00 between 5 Parish Councils. Cllr Windsor approved and was seconded by Cllr Hyden

Training Request – it was **RESOLVED 20/034** to approve the payment of the clerk undertaking the following training:-

26th January 2021 - Internal Controls Training

13th January 2021 – Role of Internal Audit

10th February – End of Year Accounts and Audit

At a total cost of £90 and the costs be split between 5 Parish Councils.

Churchyard Grant – it was **RESOLVED 20/035** to submit a Churchyard Grant Application on behalf of St Peter's Church, Hargrave.

ACCESSIBILITY POLICY – The clerk updated the meeting confirming that the company that was working on making

the Website Accessibility compliant had also undertaken work to make it more accessible. The draft new website had been approved by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman with caution to ensure that updating the website was easy to undertake.

ITEMS REQUESTS FOR NEXT AGENDA – please email any agenda items two weeks prior to the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Sunday 7th March 2021 at 5pm venue to be agreed.

The meeting closed at 18.11

Signed:.....

Dated:.....