

Minutes of a Meeting of Horbling Parish Council held on Wednesday, 1st December 2021 at 7.00pm in the Meeting Room, Horbling

Present: Miss L Brown Chair
Mrs J Wesley
Mr P Wesley
Mr J Gale
Mr G Stonestreet

Parish Clerk: Mr I Sismey

The Chair welcomed the new members to the meeting.

1614.478.21 Apologies for absence and acceptance of reasons given

Proposed by Cllr L Brown, seconded by Cllr J Wesley, and unanimously
RESOLVED: To approve reasons for apology for absence from Cllr K Lunn

1615.478.21 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

1616.478.21 To ask if members of the public, resident or employed within this Parish, have any intention to speak under any agenda items of this meeting.

None were present

1617.478.21 To adopt the notes of the meeting held on the 16th September 2021 as a true record and to resolve for the chair to sign them.

Cllr Brown commented that the two councillors that had recently departed wanted to thank the Council for their gifts.

Proposed J Wesley, Seconded J Gale

RESOLVED: For the chair to sign the notes of the meeting held on the 16th September 2021 as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

1618.478.21 Possible purchase of a De-Fibrillator.

The clerk informed members that he continues to receive assurances from the BHF with regard to the provision of a de-fibrillator but the Clerk did not feel that these could be relied upon. As a back- up the Clerk is to meet up with LIVES in late January to investigate an option with them.

1619.479.21 Grit Bin – Primary School

The clerk confirmed that the Grit Bin had been delivered and was awaiting the delivery of the requisite Grit. This was promised by Lincolnshire County Council by the end of January 2022..

1620.479.21 Footpath – Ousemere Lode

The clerk reported that he had received a letter from Andy Savage of Lincolnshire County Council confirming that they were aware of the missing foot bridge but that budgetary constraints did not allow for its replacement at the current time but that it would be considered in the future.

1621.479.21 Community Cleaner

The clerk informed members that the new appointee was working out well. Members mentioned that they had seen him out completing the job.

1622.479.21 Community Land

The Chair explained the basis of this proposal but that no further developments had had been made.

1623.479.21 Emergency Planning

This item had remained on the agenda due to the current pandemic situation and it was agreed that the clerk would liaise with the chair on this matter.

1624.479.21 Noticeboard

The Chair confirmed that this had been commissioned with Neil Ballard and the not only was it complete but that it would be installed in the next few weeks.

1625.479.21 Queens Platinum Jubilee

The clerk confirmed the dates for the celebrations as 2nd/3rd/4th/5th June 2022. The Chair, Cllr Brown had arranged a recent open meeting that was poorly attended but has not dampened the enthusiasm of the Parish Council. Following the meeting Cllr Brown decided to produce a letter covering the proposed celebrations that will be sent to all households in the Parish, various offers of help to distribute the letter were made to Cllr Brown.

The clerk informed the members that he had tentatively applied for the Saturday road closure on Spring Lane. Cllr Stonestreet mentioned that he had a contact for the necessary road closure signage.

Cllr Brown said that she would organise another Jubilee meeting early in the new year.

CORRESPONDENCE

1626.480.21 The clerk produced a list of correspondence for the members to receive.

The clerk informed the members that should they wish to inspect any item of correspondence then they should contact him direct.

A) *For Information only – to be received en bloc*

- a) **LALC Community Collaboration Project**
- b) **NALC – Chief Executives Bulletin**
- c) **Rural Services Network – Rural Bulletin**
- d) **NALC – Chief Executives Bulletin**
- e) **LALC – Enews Update**
- f) **NALC - Newsletter**
- g) **LALC – News October 2021**
- h) **NALC - Newsletter**
- i) **Rural Services Network – Rural Bulletin**
- j) **LALC – Enews Update**
- k) **NALC – Chief Executives Bulletin**
- l) **NALC – Chief Executives Bulletin**
- m) **LALC – Enews Update**
- n) **NALC – Chief Executives Bulletin**
- o) **Rural Services Network – Rural Bulletin**
- p) **LALC – Enews Update**
- q) **NALC – Chief Executives Bulletin**
- r) **NALC – Chief Executives Bulletin**
- s) **NALC – Chief Executives Bulletin**
- t) **Rural Services Network – Rural Bulletin**
- u) **InvestSK News**
- v) **LALC – ENews November 2021**
- w) **Weekly Planning Lists SKDC**
- x) **Rural Bulletin**
- y) **Neighbourhood Policing Team**

The clerk informed members that he had incorporated a copy of the Neighbourhood Policing Team newsletter in the pack for information.

Proposed L Brown, Seconded J Wesley

RESOLVED: To receive the above items en bloc

FINANCIAL REPORT

1627.481.21 Approval of Treasurers report

The clerk presented the members with the Income & Expenditure Account for the period to 31.10.2021. The report showed a surplus of income of £11,560.82 this included the receipt of the precept income of £12,232.00.

Proposed L Brown, Seconded P Wesley

RESOLVED: To approve the treasurer's report for the period to 31.10.2021

1628.481.21 Approval of Payments since last meeting

The clerk presented a list of payments to the members totalling £ 1091.71

Proposed L Brown, Seconded J Wesley

RESOLVED: To approve the payments as listed totalling £ 1091.71

1629.481.21 Budget & Precept 2022/2023

The clerk explained the methodology in preparing the budgetary information by taking the Income & Expenditure for the period to 31st October 2021 and initially extrapolating that figure to the end of the financial year. Then using that as a base formulating a budget for the new financial year based on current expenditures. The budget that the clerk had prepared for the year 2022/2023 showed a deficit of £7,396.00. The clerk continued that this budget would effectively form the Parish precept and would be charged to the residents at the rate of £45.82 per band D household, a reduction against last year of some 38%.

The clerk informed members that the issue needed to be resolved by the end of January 2022.

All members were in agreement that there needed to be a reduction against last year and the chair was of the opinion that whatever the precept level was the Parish Council needed to show to the residents that the precept was not all about the 'Plough'. Cllr Brown was clear that we would need to communicate the reduction to all the local residents and point out some of the other positives that are emerging, Queens Platinum Jubilee, the long-awaited Conservation Status, Community Speed watch etc.

The members concerns were that the Plough, whilst a huge issue, should not be seen as the only matter that is of concern to the Parish Council.

Discussion at this point moved on to the Plough and Cllr Gale mentioned that residents had spoken with him with regard to the Plough and how even with having charged the residents the precept the pub was not open any more frequently.

Quite rightly Cllr Brown pointed out that the Parish Council could not be responsible for the way that the business is run but that it now had to be treated as a business.

It was agreed that a reasonable reduction on last years precepted figure would be between 10-15%.

Proposed L Brown, Seconded J Wesley

RESOLVED: To rework the budget to achieve a 10-15% reduction in the precept.

1630.482.21 Grants

The Clerk informed members that the request had been received from Billingborough Parish Council for the annual contribution to the shared playing field.

Proposed L Brown, Seconded J Gale

RESOLVED: To authorise the payment of £1,000.00 to Billingborough Parish Council for the shared cost of the playing field.

Cllr Wesley informed the members that she had been approached by a member of the local cricket club to see if the Parish Council could offer some financial support to the organisation. The club caters for seniors and juniors from the village.

The clerk appraised the members of the section of the Local Government act (S137) that enabled the Parish Council to make small grants to local organisations.

Cllr Brown was of the opinion that considering the period everyone has just been through it would be positive to make a contribution to the cricket club and bring some cohesion between the parishes of Horbling and Billingborough.

Proposed L Brown, Seconded G Stonestreet

RESOLVED: To grant the amount of £500.00 to the local cricket club.

1631.483.21 Highways Update.

The clerk informed members that there was no current update, but that Cllr Brown wished to introduce the idea of the community speed watch programme.

Members were clearly aware of the continuous speeding issues in the village and also that various accidents had occurred overtime.

The clerk explained the Speed Watch initiative to the members and also the costs involved. The clerk also informed members of the local 4X4 Response team that he could possibly recruit to assist with the manning of the scheme. The members agreed that the initiative should be taken forward.

Cllr Brown was keen to ensure that once more detail was known that we should inform all the residents of the situation and if they wish to get involved they should have the opportunity to take part in the training.

The clerk commented that the scheme was an important part of evidence gathering on speeding drivers to force the authorities to impose greater restrictions on the roads in the area.

Proposed L Brown, Seconded G Stonestreet

RESOLVED: To allow the clerk to proceed with signing the Parish Council up to the Speed Watch scheme.

1632.483.21 Conservation Update

The chair explained for the benefit of the new members the history of the Conservation Appraisal to date.

Cllr Brown was of the opinion that if a further consultation needed to be undertaken to conclude the process, then this should be done under a very tight timeframe.

Cllr Brown continued that SKDC had failed the Parish Council on a number of matters relating to the appraisal and that even the formal complaint to them remained unacknowledged.

This clerk informed members that he was now communicating with SKDC's Deputy Chief Executive Alan Robinson to try and bring the issue to a close. It was agreed that progress should be made in the next two weeks.

1633.484.21 The Meeting Room and the Plough Inn.

This matter had been touched on earlier in the meeting but Cllr Brown confirmed that the Agent had now been appointed, Brown & Co, and that the formal agreement was now being concluded.

The clerk informed members that the agent would be contracted to deal with two matters:

- 1) The management of the Plough and the tenant.
- 2) The negotiations for the lease renewal.

Generally, the members were encouraged that the tenant was making an effort to move the business forward but were of the opinion that the opening days and times of the pub should be more consistent.

Cllr Brown then raised the issue of supporting the tenant with a 'Dog Ban' on the premises only allowing well behaved dogs in the car park.

There was a general opinion that members were happy to support this approach to dealing with the matter.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The clerk presented the following applications to the Council members:

1634.484.21 Application S21/1962 Mr & Mrs Parr

Proposal Rear Extension , conversion of existing store
Location 20 Sandygate Lane, Horbling

Proposed L Brown, Seconded G Stonestreet

RESOLVED: That Horbling Parish Council have no objections

1635.484.21 Application S21/2287 Mr E Levan

Proposal Alterations to a listed building
Location Horbling Hall, 1 Billingborough Road, Horbling

Proposed L Brown, Seconded P Wesley

RESOLVED: That Horbling Parish Council have no objections

1636.485.21 To receive reports, if any, by District/County Councillors or representatives on other organisations

There were none.

1637.485.21 To discuss any such information which the chair may legally bring to the Councils attention.

Following the sad passing of one of the Parish's land tenants, Mr Tom Smith, the family had asked if the lease could be transferred into the daughter's name.

The clerk said that he would deal with this matter.

1638.484.21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be scheduled for the 19th January 2022 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 20.45pm

Signed Chair

Date