

**HAWSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
ON 21st January 2016.**

Present: Cllrs John West (Chairman), Henry Brewis and Michael Harrison. Catherine Hibbert (Clerk). 6 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllrs Clive Robinson and Christabel Carr.

The meeting opened at 7.30pm and the Chairman read out a short statement confirming that filming/recording of the meeting would be permitted in line with recent legislative changes.

The meeting recessed for Public Forum at 7.30pm.

The following matters were raised during public forum:-

- two footpath signs (Woodlands and Bull Lane) are broken;
- footpath signage in the vicinity of the Church/river could be improved;
- the various village email groups should be reviewed and amalgamated if appropriate to improve communications around the village.

The meeting reconvened at 7.35pm.

1. APOLOGIES.

Noted.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

None.

3. MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATED 10th DECEMBER 2016.

3.1The minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2016 were **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED** as a true and accurate record and signed accordingly.

4. REPORTS

4.1 County Council report; in the absence of C Cllr Terry Clements, his monthly newsletter was received and noted and will be loaded onto the website; *C Cllr Terry Clements joined the meeting during item 5 and highlighted County Council initiatives on mental health and fitness.*

4.2 Borough Council report; B Cllr Angela Rushen presented her report which will be uploaded onto the website. She highlighted; (i) the importance of detailed Parish Council responses regarding planning applications; (ii) the introduction of charges for brown bin collections from April 2016; and (iii) the current status of the applications considered by the Council on 10 December 2015 as follows:- (a) planning application DC/15/2346/HH for one and a half storey and single storey extension including balcony area to existing annexe at Bull Green Cottage, Bull Lane, Pinford End; **APPROVED**; (b) listed building consent application DC/15/2142/LB for retention of replacement thatched covering to existing dormer window to rear of property at the rabbit Hutch, Bull Lane, Pinford End, Hawstead; **PENDING DECISION** on 4 February 2016; and (c) planning application DC/15/2242/FUL for 1. no Two bedroom bungalow with lean-to on land south of the Firs, Church Road, Hawstead **PENDING**.

4.3 Police; in the absence of any police report, it was agreed to carry this item onto the next meeting.

4.4 Communications; Cllr Brewis reported that; (i) he would liaise with the other email groups in the village to review arrangements for best communication with residents on local issues; and (ii)

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BT is yet to confirm an installation date for the fibre optic cabinet. Thanks to Mr Andy Parrett for his ongoing work on the Parish Council website.

4.5 Greens; in the absence of Cllr Carr, it was agreed to carry this item onto the next meeting. The meeting noted that; (i) there are several car tracks on the Green, which are particularly noticeable during the current wet weather; and (ii) preparatory work for the TPO application in respect of trees adjacent to the Almshouses is being progressed;

4.6 Footpaths and trees (including tree maintenance programme update, footpath update); a report from the tree warden was received and noted. In summary, Mr Carr confirmed that quotes are being obtained for tree work on Great Green, Brook Green and Pound Green and noted that he had reviewed the TPO application at 6.1 below and had no objection. Thanks noted to Mr Carr for his continuing work in this regard;

4.7 Highways and safety; Cllr Harrison reported that; (i) the local roads are in reasonable condition; (ii) a temporary road closure for drainage works on Church Road is scheduled for 8/9 February 2016; (iii) the new bench has been installed on the Green, thanks to Mr Adrian Baker for his time effort in this regard; and (iv) the chain on the swings requires trimming. It was noted that (a) there is a pothole on Bury Road which needs to be repaired; and (b) the flood signage for Bells Lane is being progressed;

4.8 Planning and legal; in the absence of Cllr Robinson, nothing to report. See comments at item 4.2 above regarding recent planning applications.

4.9 Clerk. The clerk report was received and noted.

5. TO CONSIDER

5.1 Quiet Lanes initiative feedback (if any); the issue of whether this scheme would be appropriate for Hawstead, given there is no alternative route for motorised transport was discussed, together with anecdotal evidence of difficulties in progressing such schemes elsewhere in Suffolk. It was **AGREED** to consider this matter further at the next meeting.

5.2 Proposal to accept and seal draft replacement byelaws and submit for formal approval; it was noted that the proposed draft replacement byelaws have been uploaded onto the website for a further round of public consultation. No comments received to date. It was agreed to produce a map showing affected areas. Subject to any comments received during the consultation period it was **AGREED** that the Council should seal the draft byelaws and submit these to the Secretary of State for formal approval.

5.3 Reports of gunfire near public footpath; Cllr Harrison **AGREED** to review this report and relay any concerns to the police, if appropriate, given that the Council has no locus in respect of any activity on private land.

5.4 Neighbourhood plans; the meeting heard that in 2012 the Council held a public meeting to consider the benefits of promoting a Parish Plan for Hawstead to facilitate a proactive approach to local planning, but there was little local interest in pursuing this at that time. Neighbourhood Plans have succeeded Parish Plans and aim to guide development to acceptable local sites, provided they sit within the constraints of the overriding Borough-wide development plan. Consideration to be given to the benefits of setting up a steering group or similar to consider this matter further, given that Hawstead is designated as open country in the St Eds development plan. It was **AGREED** to roll this item onto the next meeting.

5.5 Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service and waste hub consultations; it was **AGREED** that no formal response on behalf of the Council was required in respect of either consultation.

5.6 Access to SALC website. It was **AGREED** that the clerk and chairman should hold access rights to the SALC website for the time being.

6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS, APPEALS AND NOTIFICATIONS

6.1 DC/15/2546/TPO; TPO 476 (2008) at Park Cottages; 2 stage retrenchment prune of 40% for safety reasons due to extensive decay at base at Park Cottages. Comments from the

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tree warden were noted. It was **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** that the Council had no objection to this application.

7. FINANCES

7.1 To receive quarterly financial summary; the quarterly financial summary for the period ending 31 December 2016 was received and noted;

7.2 To receive and review the bi-monthly financial summary for November- December 2015; the bi-monthly financial summary for November- December 2015 was received and noted.

7.3 To approve cheques to be issued;

The following cheques were **APPROVED**:

Payee	Detail	net	VAT	Total
Catherine Hibbert	wages			664
HMRC	tax			56
St Edmundsbury BC	mowing	1,056.01	211.20	1267.21
Ricoh	printing	120.44	24.09	144.53
SALC	Clerks day	15.00	3.00	18.00
C Hibbert – expenses INC scanner		302.05	6.75	308.80
St Eds –election expenses				21.34

7.4 To confirm arrangements as regards the new sector led audit body. The Council unanimously elected to stay opted into SALC/NALC scheme for appointment of an auditor.

8. CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY

The Chairman gave his report and noted the following; (i) thanks to Mr and Mrs Leslie for the Christmas tree donated to the village; (ii) thanks to Mr Baker and his colleagues for installing the new bench on the Green; (iii) thanks to Mr P Baker for his offer to renovate the old bench; (iv) defibrillator training is anticipated; (v) it is hoped that the Speedwatch scheme will get properly underway with the improving weather; (vi) efforts need to continue to co-opt a Councillor; (vii) Councillors continue to be invited to submit suggestions for improving the village.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 17th March 2016 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Distribution

Cllr C Robinson
 Cllr R Alexander
 Cllr J West
 Cllr C Carr
 Cllr H Brewis
 Cllr M Harrison

Website) following approval
 Noticeboard) following approval

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Documents before meeting

- BC report
- CC report
- Clerk report
- Quarterly summary of finance
- Bi-monthly financial summary

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