

**HAWSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
AT THE VILLAGE HALL
ON 29th September 2022 at 7.30pm.**

Present: Cllrs P Baker (Chairman), J West, P Barham, C Carr and H Brewis. C Hibbert (Clerk).
SC Cllr K Soons; fifteen members of the public.
Apologies: Cllrs R Alexander and G Rushen.

The meeting started at 7.30pm.

The filming statement was taken as read.

A minute of silence was held to mark the sad death of HM Queen Elizabeth II.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Noted.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

2.1 Public participation

The following matters were raised during public forum:-

A: A resident expressed concern about the way the village hall is now being run; the current focus on wedding event hire is causing the following issues; (1) unacceptable noise for residents; (2) mess after events, including broken glass around the play area and greenswards/recent damage to a barrier; (3) regularly overflowing bottle bank; (4) hall less available for local event hire contrary to Charity Commission guidelines; (5) the hall has benefitted from Covid grants which have, it was suggested, been used for reinvestment in fixtures and fittings for the commercial hire market which is beyond what is required for the community; (6) fireworks/kids with sparklers have been running amok on the Green over the summer. The meeting heard that the plot upon which the village hall stands has been leased to Hawstead Community Council by the Council; HCC manages the use of the village hall; it was noted that there used to be a limit of 6-8 wedding bookings accepted pa; 14 bookings have already been accepted for 2023. Following discussion (including as to the appropriate level for any hire damage bond) it was agreed that these points should be put to Hawstead Community Council at its next meeting.

B: Maglio Rosso has applied to the Camping and Caravan Club for accreditation as a certified camping site. Residents expressed concerns about; (1) noise and loss of privacy for residents; (2) how the site will be supervised overnight and how any unacceptable behaviour from visitors will be managed; (3) potential for trespass from campers onto private property; (4) the potential for the camping site to be used by village hall wedding guests; (5) commercialisation of this property. It was agreed that any residents with views should be encouraged to contact the Camping and Caravan Club before the close of the objection period; a message will be circulated via the village email group.

C: The bench on Pound Green is overgrown and in need of cleaning to allow use. It was agreed that subject to checking which trees in the vicinity are subject to tree preservation order, the volunteer group should be requested to undertake this work.

D: Comments from members of the public in relation to agenda items 5.2, 7.2 and 7.3; these are considered at the appropriate agenda items below.

2.2 County Council. C Cllr K Soons presented her report which will be loaded onto the website; she highlighted the ongoing vaccine campaign and sources of support accessible via the SCC website for those struggling with cost of living issues.

2.3 West Suffolk Council. No report received.

2.4 Police; a link to the most recent police report is available at <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/your-area/haverhill>.

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Signature.....

3.1 Cllr HB declared a pecuniary interest in the planning applications at items 7.2 and 7.3 as landowner of the application site (no vote in relation to relevant items);

3.2 No dispensations were granted in relation to any identified pecuniary interests.

7.2 . DC/22/1349/FUL Planning application - change of use of paddock land for the siting of four bell tents at Land Off Church Road Hawstead Suffolk IP29 5PE (taken out of turn);

Public forum

The applicant presented his proposals for a small scale enterprise which, in his view, would generate local employment/business; the dilapidated, existing outbuildings would be redeveloped into shower/toilet facilities; in his view there would be no impact on the public footpath, the tents (moveable) would be well screened, and there would be minimal impact on local ecology.

A neighbour commented that he was concerned as to the potential for expansion in due course and; (i) requested some formal assurance that there would be no further similar development on the site; (ii) raised concern about impact on power supply. In relation to the latter point, the applicant replied that the power supply had been configured so as not to have any impact on neighbouring homes. The applicant clarified that sewage would be dealt with in a similar way to the arrangement at his nearby holiday let, which had been operating well.

Public forum closed.

The proposal was discussed and in particular following points were made; (a) the sewage facilities might require re-seeding if the tents go unused for periods of time; (b) the existing dilapidated buildings would benefit from improvement; (c) screening might be better achieved by siting the tents further back from the edge of development/having all toilet/shower facilities to one side of the footpath; (d) a commitment not to expand beyond the proposed number of units without further planning permission would ensure the scale of development is maintained at an acceptable level for the community. Subject to these points the Council unanimously agreed (4 votes) to

SUPPORT the proposals.

7.3 DC/22/1564/FUL Planning application - one dwelling at The Spinney Bury Road Hawstead Suffolk (taken out of turn);

Public forum

The applicant presented his proposals for a single modest dwelling in place of the current storage buildings on this well screened plot, which would provide new housing for the village - potentially for a family member - available housing in the village being in short supply. A member of the public highlighted that trees on the application site are subject to a tree preservation order (333 of 2002) which required the replanting on the site of 20 trees to replace elms which had previously been removed.

End of public forum.

The meeting discussed the proposal and in particular the following points; (1) SCC highways have set out the technical requirements for the site access; concern was expressed about whether the vision splay required by the highway authority might impact on any part of the protected village Green which is the responsibility of the Council; (2) a request for the 20 trees required by the 2002 TPO (333) to be replanted to be delivered via this permission (if this has not already happened). It was agreed that a **COMMENT** should be submitted stating that; (a) the Council will not be in a position to comment on the proposals until SCC are satisfied with the access scheme in order that the Council can properly assess whether the village Green is impacted; (b) the obligation to replant trees attached to 2002 TPO should be delivered, if this has not yet been done.

4. MINUTES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATED 14th July and 17th August 2022.

The minutes from the Parish Council meeting dated 14th July and 17th August 2022 were **APPROVED** and signed as a true and accurate record of this meeting.

5. REPORTS

5.1 Communications; the meeting heard village communication groups continue to work well.

The clerk asked for feedback from councillors as to the use of the new Hawstead PC domain email accounts. It was noted that the Clerk and AP have arranged to meet with a view to the Council taking back responsibility for updating the website, insofar it relates to parish council documentation.

Signature.....

5.2 Greens; the meeting heard that; (i) there had been a request to plant a new black poplar on the Green in memory of a resident. It was **AGREED** that the clerk should write to applicant expressing support in principle, but exploring whether there was any flexibility on type/location of trees and inviting him to attend the next meeting.

5.3 Conservation; in the absence of RK, there was nothing to report. One councillor expressed eagerness to get the conservation project for the Green/Brook Green underway. Now that a year has passed since the original meeting with SWT, it would be good to generate more momentum; the volunteers group are able to support.

5.4 Footpaths; the meeting heard that the footpaths are generally in good order/; it was **NOTED** paths have been strimmed recently (thanks to Mr B). The lost footpath working group continues to investigate any lost local paths; it was **AGREED** that a budget of up to £100 should be made available for footpath search costs.

5.5 Highways; in GRs absence, there was nothing to report save that additional wording has been added to the speed warning signs at Larkfield Corner. Now that the experimental phase of the ANR trial is over, the clerk will check to see when Speedwatch can be resumed.

5.6 Volunteering The meeting heard that the volunteer group is getting ready to take on various tasks around the village. JC was requested to liaise with SB regarding a fallen tree in Brook Green area

5.7 Clerk. The clerk report was received and **NOTED**.

6. TO CONSIDER

6.1 Insurance renewal; Quotes were received from BHIB (Aviva - £395.28) and CAS (Ansva £457.42). It was **AGREED** to proceed with BHIB (3 year LTU discount available).

6.2 Grit bin replacements; Quotes from Glasdon (£163.38), Seton (£119.99) Screwfix (£149.99) were received. It was **AGREED** to proceed with the purchase of three yellow grit bins from Seton (total £359.97 exc VAT/delivery) to replace damaged grit bins.

6.3 Proposal to enter into Countryside stewardship 'mirror agreement' It was **AGREED** to enter into a mirror agreement to ensure continuation of countryside stewardship grant until the successor scheme is in place.

6.4 Grant application. It was **AGREED** to approve an application received for the Macmillan Cancer coffee morning - £200.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS, APPEALS AND NOTIFICATIONS

7.1 Planning notifications

The following planning permissions have been issued since the last meeting:-

Application for listed building consent - a. external render and joinery colour change to dwelling, outbuilding and garage b, driveway piers demolished and rebuilt c. internal alterations to kitchen and bathroom including removing of internal walls d. replacement of balusters and newel caps to internal staircase e. internal and external alterations to outbuilding f. installation of air source heat pump - Church House Church Road Hawstead Suffolk IP29 5NT

Ref. No: DC/22/0892/LB | Status: Application Granted | Case Type: Planning Application

Householder planning application - a. external render and joinery colour change to dwelling, outbuilding and garage b, driveway piers demolished and rebuilt c. installation of air source heat pump - Church House Church Road Hawstead Suffolk IP29 5NT

Ref. No: DC/22/0891/HH | Status: Application Granted | Case Type: Planning Application

Planning application - one dwelling (following the demolition of existing dwelling) - Church Farm Church Road Hawstead Suffolk IP29 5NT

Ref. No: DC/22/1117/FUL | Status: Application Granted

7.4. DC/22/1635/FUL Proposal Planning application - one dwelling at Church Farm Church Road Hawstead Suffolk IP29 The meeting heard that this building has now been demolished. The meeting resolved to unanimously **SUPPORT** these proposals.

8. FINANCE

8.1 To receive and approve the bi-monthly financial summary for July-August 2022; received and **APPROVED**.

8.2 To approve payments; the following payments were **APPROVED**:-

	Detail	Cheque no/online payment	Net (of VAT)	Vat	TOTAL
--	--------	--------------------------	--------------	-----	-------

Signature.....

1	CH 1&1	online	59.97	11.99	71.96
2	Ch – road signage card payment	online	95.00	19.00	114.00
3	CHT	online	135.00	27.00	162.00
4	CHT	online	46.00	9.20	55.20
5	CH	online	877.60		877.60
6	HMRC	online	2.60		2.60
7	BHIB	online	374.02		374.02
8	Macmillan Cancer	online	200		200
9	West Suffolk Council	online	2183.28	436.66	2619.94

8.3 Option to opt out of external audit arrangements. It was **AGREED** that the Council should not opt out of the existing audit arrangements.

9. CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY: the Chairman thanked those present for their contributions.

10. CORRESPONDENCE AND CIRCULARS

The following correspondence was received;-

10.1 Play area reports for August/Sept 2022;

10.2 Letter from WS Cllr N Wiseman. It was **AGREED** that the Council should write to N Wiseman following his resignation as WS Councillor to thank him for his support during his tenure of that role.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Revised date of Thursday 17th November 2022 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Distribution
All Cllrs
Email list
Website
Noticeboard

Docs before the meeting

CC report
Clerk report
Bi Monthly summary

Signature.....