



Huntingfield Parish Council

Minutes

Minutes of the meeting 13th November 2019 at 7.30 pm at the Hub, Huntingfield

Councillors: Cllr. E. Ward (Chairman) Cllr. J. Driver (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr. D. Burrows Cllr. G. Newton Cllr. D. Blackmore

Also present: Clerk - Karen Forster, County & District Councillor Burroughes & 4 members of the public

19/47 **Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies. Cllr. Newton was not present.

19/48 **Declarations of Interest & Requests for Dispensations**

Cllrs Burrows declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 8 as he is a trustee of the Hub. Cllrs Burrows, Ward & Driver also declared a non-pecuniary interest as members of the PCC.

19/49 **Minutes of the Previous Meetings**

Minutes of 23rd September were submitted for approval. **It was unanimously RESOLVED that the minutes be accepted as an accurate record and were duly signed by the Chairman.**

19/50 **Open Forum**

A member of the public asked for an update on the Forge. It was agreed that the Clerk would ask for a report from Heveningham Hall as to the status and convey that a number of residents feel that this is an eyesore in the village. **NOTED**

19/51 **Reports from the County & District Councillor**

County and District Councillor Burroughes had previously sent his reports. As he was present, he went through a number of the items on both reports.

Cllr. Blackmore asked about the status of the bus service. Cllr Burroughes said that County Council were negotiating with the Bus Company but there was no progress. However, the new Community partnership might be a method of providing finance. Cllr. Blackmore asked that the Council is kept up to date with any initiatives or progress as this was a most important item to the village.

Cllr. Burroughes was asked about helping to fund the SID (speed indicator display). He asked for further information of the costs and stated that it might be an idea to leave the purchase until after this financial year when more funds might be available.

s19/52 **Update on the Vacancy on Council**

There have been no applications for co-option to Council.

19/53 **Accounts.**

- a) The Clerk stated that as at the end of August, the bank account stood at £ 29,066.89 of which £ 19,824.34 is ringfenced for the Hub and the balance belongs to the Parish Council including the grant from Cllr. Burroughes towards the solicitor's costs for the Hub lease.
- b) It was noted that the second half of the Precept had been received in September.
- c) **Authorisation to Pay:** The previously circulated Authorisation to Pay for £ 240.00 was discussed. **It was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the Authorisation to Pay.** A replacement cheque was issued to the PCC as the previous one had been lost.
A Direct Debit was set up for CAS for the provision of the website as they were no longer accepting cheques.
- d) There were no urgent decisions taken by the Clerk.

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e) **Draft Budget 2020/21**

The draft budget, previously circulated, was reviewed. After discussion **it was unanimously RESOLVED to proceed with the recommendation of a precept of £ 6,369.86. This is a 0% increase to Band D households although this is an increase in the precept that will be received £ 189.86.**

Cllr. Burroughes offered to pay for the Batteries for the Defibrillator from his locality budget. Cllr. Driver to establish the cost so that an application can be made. **NOTED**

Cllr. Burroughes also offered to pay towards new lights so that next year the tree on the green could be lit rather than purchase a Christmas Tree. It was also agreed to use solar lights if possible. This item is to be put on the agenda for the following meeting. **NOTED**

19/54 **The Hub**

a) **Formal Lease Agreement:**

No progress. The Clerk and the Chair of the Hub Trustees is to try to establish the status of this.

b) **Requirements for expenditure:**

None received

19/55 **Village Improvements.**

a) **Village Sign**

The Chairman reported that the village sign was being reinstated after the glue was removed and would hopefully be complete this weekend.

b) **"Smell"**

The Clerk had reported the random smell in the centre of the village to Anglia water and is awaiting a report.

c) **Litter and Dog Bin**

After discussion and input from members of the Millenium green association, **it was unanimously RESOLVED to purchase a litter bin to be donated to the Millenium Green association and to purchase a dog bin to be sited at the Laundry Lane end of the Millenium Green.**

The Clerk was authorised to purchase the above within the budget of £750.

d) **Handrail**

A quotation from Easitron had been received of £448 to make and install a handrail by the steps from the village green. **It was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the quotation and ask Easitron to proceed.** In order to fund this, the finance would come from the Village Improvements budget however that is insufficient. **It was unanimously RESOLVED to vire the funds from the Village Cleaner (£250) to the Village Improvements budget so as to pay for the above and the outstanding bills for grass cutting.**

19/56 **PCSO Funding**

A request had been received from the police authority to fund a PCSO. It was discussed and agreed that the Council would not be participating.

19/57 **Highways & Footpaths**

a) **Speed Indicator Display (SID).**

Cllr. Blackmore had reviewed the area and believes there is one spot on the road from the Church where a sign could be sited. He will provide further information to the Clerk who will co-ordinate the application with Heveningham PC. Cllr. Blackmore was thanked for the work he is doing on this.

b) The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr. Newton to ask for any updates on the footpaths. It was noted that the pothole on Laundry Lane is still to be filled in. Comments were made about the Carnser which is looking better.

19/58 **AOB**

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- a) The Clerk was asked to add VE75 Commemorations to the agenda for the next meeting. Comments were made about the seating for the meeting – the Clerk stated that using the projector was a last-minute decision, so as to save printing and paper and therefore needs to be thought though better for the next meeting.
- b) The Clerk was asked to add the flooding at the end of the village by the village sign to the agenda for the next meeting.
- c) The Clerk was asked to contact SCC to ask them to clean the storm drains. She was also asked to contact the Heveningham Hall estate and ask them to clear the ditches along Church Lane.
- d)

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m. Next meeting: Wednesday 8th January 2020 at 7.30 at the Hub, Huntingfield.

Karen Forster - Clerk to Huntingfield Parish Council,
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Signed _____ Date _____