

THARSTON AND HAPTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at The Community Building, Holly Lane, Hapton
On 19th April 2023 at 7.00pm.**

A minute's silence was held in memory of our District Councillor Barry Duffin who sadly passed away on Easter Sunday.

In Attendance: Mr N Potter (chair)
Mr T ward
Mrs Jenna Goodall Browne
Mr C Hewitt
Mr D Daniels
Mr A Arber (clerk)

Three members of the public plus county Councillor Alison Thomas

Public participation

Standing Orders were suspended to allow the public to speak.

The chairman addressed the meeting on his and the council's thoughts of what Barry did for the Parish and his other Parish Councils and how sad as a parish we were to hear of Barry's sad passing.

A Parishioner came and gave the details to the council on the upcoming events regarding fund raising events for the church over the coronation event weekend. The posters would be put on the website and Noticeboard this was because the church is in good order but need some remedial work to keep in good order such as the windows and waterproofing with a total of £20,000 needed. This will be coming from various trust with £9000 raised already. The main event will be an open day and history weekend with other events taking place in the coming months. There is a need to ensure the church is used showing this to the grant providers to ensure more funds can be received. It was agreed that one of the events would be held over the coronation weekend in conjunction with the Parish Council event over the weekend.

A jazz in the garden event on 3rd June with a professional Jaz musician coming to play and sing at the event. Again, this notice will be put on the website and notice board,

Alison Thomas gave the following report with Barry loss being felt by both district and county with a difficult time at present for all and the by-election will be around late June with Alison taking on the extra Parishes meaning she is stretched far and wide. Barry's Funeral will be at Wymondham Abbey on Friday 12th at 11am.

County perspective with change coming on Friday due to ill health and is not standing and change of leadership and senior positions will happen for sure.

Bypass Planning is moving delivery of the of the bypass over the next few weeks and expression of interest has been received and then the preferred bidders would be known by the end of May with contract approval and a full business case for the government need doing professionally with the final price know by the endo of 2023 with the starting date being around end of May and side road orders rejections have been withdrawn. A question was asked on the archaeological dig and only small items were found, and the details have yet to be released as cataloguing needs to be done of the artifacts.

Health scrutiny meeting in May will look at the walk-in centre and what happens next with it by either close it, continue as they are or restructure how they work. Alison wrote to the NHS as this is the first-place people are sent there from our area. This is a worry and all

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councillors agreed. Primary care is also being looked at on this with little information being given out at present.

The potential sale of SNDC with Cygnet House was discussed recently and long Stratton town council gave a report on what the town council let it should be used for with the community in the first instance. There were no press and public allowed with a decision deferred till after the election and the community bid to be explored and to get the Town council to be allowed to work on their case with the CIL monies from the Housing and Bypass aiding their cases.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

1. Apologies

Graham Bleach and Victor Blake sent their apologies. All agreed to accept.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 15th March 2023 were agreed with one amendment as a true record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chairman.

Proposer: Nick Potter Seconder: Tim Ward

3. Declarations of Interest

None Declared

4. Planning

- **To discuss the Planned Open space**
Nothing to report.
- **Planning Application**
2023/0902. The Council makes No comment.

5. Finances

The following invoices were approved for payment:

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| a). To approve Payments to Parish Clerk for Salary March 2023 | £828.01 |
| b). To approve payment to Norfolk Pension Fund for Clerks Pension | £249.77 |
| c). To approve payment to Viking for Parish Stationery | £150.62 |
| d). To approve payment to Gary Bentley for Parish maintenance | £70.00 |
| e). To approve payment to GLS for Tap repair at Old Village Hall site | £108.00 |
| f). To approve payment to HMRC for tax and NI | £32.99 |
| g). To receive the up-to-date financial report | |

The clerk reported that we are in good health and the balance before today's meeting was £30,785.26 and after today's payments the balance stands at £29,345.87 with the first precept payment due and the VAT refund also due.

Proposed David Daniels

Seconded Nick Potter

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The building was hired to a parishioner recently and great comments were received on what a fabulous space it was with lots to do for everyone.

9. To discuss Parish Projects.

- **Newsletter.**
The newsletter invoices will be done soon to see who will continue with advertising and the next issue is due out in late June.
- **SAM Machines.**
The clerk had contacted Victor to do them today, but Victor had advised him that he was away, and we will do them as soon as he is back.
- **Phone Box**
No change on this subject with a location needed asap once the phone box maintenance is done, we would look to site. It is a long-term project.
- **Surveyors Land.**
The chairman reported that a meeting is needed asap, and Tuesday and Thursday are the best for him, and a date will be arranged asap.
- **Parish Councillors and Clerk training.**
No further training booked.
- **Village Hall**
No report
- **The Vision**
Dealt with earlier.
- **New Park Fundraising Ideas**
- Discussed under Hapton Community Project
- Summer Fete Planning
- **Hapton Phone Box**
- The phone box continues to be well used and getting full up with books and the clerk would take some for Ashwellthorpe Book exchange next week.
- **Defib training**
The clerk has contacted London Hearts and is awaiting a reply with training dates. Still no reply received yet.
- **Neighbourhood watch**
Signs ordered but not received yet.
- **Meeting House Field**
Cut to be made before the coronation on both fields.
- **Community Orchard**
A report had been produced by Councillors Daniels and Hewitt on the future planning of this and a discussion ensued, and the following decision was reached, and it was agreed to do the soft fruit hedge now and the main trees in the end of the year. The grass needs cutting asap ready for the start of the project. The clerk was instructed to email the PCC on our plans asap.
Everyone agreed that we should move on with the plans.
- **Future events at Hapton community Project**
Summer Fete Planning
Flyers to be put out for the Coronation event in Tharston.

10. To discuss Speeding in the village and the setting up of a speed watch group.

Both SAMs are working OK and have freshly charged batteries.

Only 1 Speed watch session since the last meeting with fewer drivers registered at over 36MPH however 2 were measured at 51 MPH from Fundenhall direction.

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11. Green Initiatives

Tim had sent a paper from the Forncett nature matters and it showed the new volunteer and engagement officer's details, and he will get in touch with Tim in the coming weeks on this. 2 possible 3 years of conversations with Google they have accepted that the street has been classified as a C road not a B road which is great news. gov.uk email accounts need looking at.

12. To discuss the response from Border-Hoppa on the bus idea

Still No response for from Border-Hoppa yet and the clerk will follow up and as, yet no comments received from any parishioners on the proposed project.

13. Public participation

To receive items for the next agenda.

Coronation event

Policies update

Internal auditors report and agree actions.

Long Stratton Community space

Church events

Next Parish Meeting Wednesday 17th May 2023 Annual meeting of The Parish 6.30pm

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There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.38 pm.