

THARSTON AND HAPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at Church Rooms, Hapton
On 17th November 2021 at 7.30pm.

In Attendance: Mr Nick Potter (Chair) Mr Alan Arber (clerk)
Mr Graham Bleach
Mr V Blake
Mr C Hewitt
Mr T Ward

District Councillor Barry Duffin was in attendance but no members of the public were in attendance

Before the meeting started District Councillor Barry Duffin presented the Covid memorable Plaque to Chairman Nick Potter thanking the parishioners for all they did during the pandemic.

Public participation

Standing Orders were suspended to allow the public to speak.

No public participation.

Alison Thomas gave her apologies and sent no report

Barry Duffin made the following report

Village clusters now moving towards finalising. The accommodation review for Broadland and South Norfolk is still ongoing and the two councils are looking at purchasing an £11million building on Broadland Business Park but there is opposition to this.

Comments were made on the proposed accommodation review that they would be opposed and ensure they stay local.

There are grants for new shop fronts of £2,000 which are free grants and need applying asap.

Finally, Independent Living grants were available from the help hub to assist local residents to stay in their homes and have independent living.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

1. Apologies

Alison Thomas sent her apologies and everyone agreed to accept.

2. Minutes

The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting of 27th October 2021 and were duly signed by the chair.

Proposed Nick Potter. Seconded. Victor Blake All Agreed to accept.

3. Declarations of interests – To receive any declarations of personal or prejudicial interest from members on any item to be discussed.

None

4. Planning Applications.

- To discuss the Planned Open Space Land Adoption.

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Nothing Received

- Planning Application.
Planning Application 2021/2341 Land to the rear of long Stratton Surgery
Proposal of eight new dwellings for the over fifty-five's (with phasing Plan
It was proposed to not support this application in any way. The clerk will detail the reasons why on the planning application. There are issues with the actual Planning application, Access to the doctor's surgery and many other issues that other parishioners have detailed including Tharston residents.

5. Highways.

- **Highways Issues.**

Drain on top of Cow Lane needs reporting and needs digging out as its blocked and is the one on the verge has been reported and work will take between 6-8 weeks since it was reported

- **To discuss the proposed long Stratton development and the adoption of the open space.**

No report

6. Finance

- To approve Payments to Parish Clerk Alan Arber for Nov salary and expenses £784.38
- To approve payment to Norfolk Pension Fund for Clerks Pension in October £219.08
- To approve Payment to Vale Sport for completion of the play area £35, 946.90
- To approve payment for PWLB for second yearly payment for the loan by direct debit £1131.67
- No new payments came in after the agenda posted.

Proposed Nick Potter Seconded Graham Bleach.

The clerk took the council through the latest financial position and reported that the council was in fine financial condition. The Chair also initialled the bank statement to show it balanced with the financial report.

Budget Date – The clerk had done a lot of work on the budget already and will send to all councillors for their attention and it was agreed to meet at The Chairman's house on to finalise the budget ready for the January meeting and the filling in of the Precept request.

Unity Trust Bank Change – The clerk commented that the bank account is up and running and it was hoped that we will start to use the online payment system asap. Tim ward agreed to be a signatory and the clerk will action asap

The Clerk reported that he had emailed South Norfolk to request the final S106 payment for the Hapton Community project and received a reply that they were calculating the interest due and would forward it to our new bank account soon.

7. To receive an update on Current Issues and to consider any necessary action.

Tree Warden's Report

No Report

Footpath Wardens Report

Clerk to speak to SNDC regarding the Bins being emptied but a parishioner has requested that the one that is on the long walk be removed to stop people keep littering the area

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when it is full and it is placed on the one near Horsenford farm that was stolen a while ago. GLS to be contacted on this.

Village maintenance

Gary Bentley to look at meeting house field for the dog area

Hedge at Surveyors land not been cut.

Walnut Trees to go in on the new field and one on Meeting House Field. Protection will be put round both trees

- **Tree Species**

The Clerk forwarded the details to Graham Bleach who instructed the clerk to order the following and the clerk will resend

Hedge on meeting House field

Surveyors land hedge or field

New field on community project

Alison Thomas will support our application on this

8. To receive and update on the Long Stratton Neighbourhood Plan

The Long Stratton Neighbourhood Plan is now legal and final steering group meeting on Friday 19th November and will be a zoom call with SNDC and it was hoped some members would sit in on planning meetings. To be removed from the agenda.

9. To discuss the options on adopting the open space land at Tharston Meadows

No update since the last one and the chair has visited and it is still being maintained. New title to be made for this to maintenance of the open space at Tharston Meadows.

10. To receive an update on Hapton Community Project

The Play Area has now been finished and inspected and is available for all to enjoy and The Clerk is to write to the contractor thanking him for his excellent work along with his employees who worked so diligently at all times and left the site exceptionally clean A decision is needed on the date the pad is to be installed and the compostable toilets are purchased and the contractor to install them allocated. A walkway to be installed to the toilets plus a metre out the front for tables. Paul Timpson will do this. Pad will be increased for the for the toilets and a BBQ area too.

Clerk to get more information on the compostable toilets.

The new benches have arrived and we need to arrange to get them made up ASAP and thanks to Graham for his help in unloading them and keeping the screws and bolts to put them together.

11. To receive an update on flooding in the parish.

No update

12. To discuss Parish Projects.

- **Newsletter.**

The latest edition of the Newsletter is ready for councillors to check to ensure it goes to print in the last week of November and can be delivered in the first week of December.

- **SAM Machines.**

The SAM machine could not be downloaded for Hapton as the Lock is stuck fast and will be done in time for the next meeting.

- **Phone Box**

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Awaiting a reply from the diocese on the letter sent and from The Heal family on the toilet proposal. A new site is needed in Tharston Meadows for the phone box

- **Surveyors Land.**

Notice has been served to the Tenant who is slightly sad to be losing the land but understands the reasons why.

- **Parish Councillors and Clerk training.**

New Chairman's training is required by Tim Ward and an update for Nick Potter and The Clerk reported that it is hoped this will take part at Wacton Village Hall on Monday 17th January starting at 7.30pm. Training needed for new councillor Chris Hewitt.

- **Village Hall.**

No comments made

- **New Play Area/Hapton Community Project**

Dealt with earlier in the meeting.

- **The Vision.**

Dealt with under Village Hall.

- **New Park Fundraising Ideas**

No report

- **Hapton Phone Box**

The bookshelves and lights are all in place and look fantastic but it was agreed to speak with the contractor to ensure the lights stay on to show the Defibrillator sign

- **New Defibrillator Training**

The Clerk has contacted London Hearts and is looking at dates for the new Defibrillator Training to take place in the new year. It was a worry that there was no quick response member available and it was thought that there was one on Tharston Meadows and The clerk will contact the ambulance service on this subject.

- **Neighbourhood watch**

The Clerk has forwarded the link to Graham for him to log on and create his own account to work with this. The clerk to purchase fifteen signs from the Neighbourhood watch scheme.

- **Meeting House Field**

The Chair reported that he has looked at this and will be meeting with contractors on his thoughts for the site.

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

There are now seven applicants that have signed and registered to become speed watch volunteers and on-site training is awaiting a date. Tim ward commented that he had written to google regarding The Street Hapton to ensure it is classified as the C road it is and not the B road that the district council think it is.

14. To discuss Green Initiatives for the council moving forward

The Chair commented that his neighbour is working with a group of people who are refurbishing chalk rivers in North Norfolk. They would like to work on the local river in our area and a question was asked if there could be helping to remove the obstacles that are taken from the river. Barry Duffin would look at this for us and report back to the January meeting. A discussion ensued on riparian ownership but we will await Barry Duffin's findings in January. The Chair also commented that we need to push even more ideas to move this forward and he hoped we could move forward with these as we develop our plans. The plans to talk to the UEA have fallen

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flat but Tim ward is looking at another organisation on soil biodiversity and the chance to attract more insects and birds to help the planet.

15. Public participation.

None

16. To receive items for the next agenda.

Chairman Training confirmation

Policies Update

Queens platinum Jubilee Celebrations

Community Engagement

Next Parish Meeting Wednesday 8th December 2021

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45 pm.