

# THARSTON AND HAPTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at The Community Building, Holly Lane, Hapton  
On 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7.00pm.**

**In Attendance:** Mr N Potter (chair)  
Mr T ward  
Mr V Blake  
Mr G Bleach  
Mrs Jenna Goodall Browne  
Mr C Hewitt

Mr A Arber (clerk)

**Two members of the public District Councillor Barry Duffin**

## **Public participation**

*Standing Orders were suspended to allow the public to speak.*

Not much to say as the election is close but you must have voter id and Helen House has been arranged as our voting site.

Furniture to be looked at and taken away on Friday from SNDC old offices.

Barry Duffin is not standing as District councillor, and this will be our last meeting with us and he was thanked by the chairman and parishioners for his work over the last 4 years.

*Standing Orders were reinstated.*

## **1. Apologies**

David Daniels and Alison Thomas sent their apologies. All agreed to accept.

## **2. Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> February 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**

Graham Bleach and Tim ward for a payment each under item 5

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## 4. Planning

- **To discuss the Planned Open space**  
Nothing to report.
- **Planning Application**  
The clerk Reported that he had attended the Long Stratton Bypass Applications meeting today and both applications passed unanimously, and he had prepared a paper on the meeting for all councillors to read. The chairperson thanked the clerk for his work on this.

## 5. Finances

The following invoices were approved for payment:

|       |   |          |
|-------|---|----------|
| I.    | To approve Payments to Parish Clerk for Salary Feb 2023       | £852.52  |
| II.   | To approve payment to Norfolk Pension Fund for Clerks Pension | £249.77  |
| III.  | To approve payment to Viking for Parish Stationery            | £168.86  |
| IV.   | To approve payment to Graham Bleach for maintenance items     | £25.00   |
| V.    | To approve payment to SNDC for Annual Dog bin Charge          | £535.68  |
| VI.   | To approve payment for gala Tents for new Gazebo              | £1149.99 |
| VII.  | To approve payment to Tim Ward for coronation items           | £82.94   |
| VIII. | To approve payment to Unity Trust bank for quarterly charges  | £18.00   |
| IX.   |   |          |

The clerk produced a financial report to show the current balance before today's meeting matched the bank statement at £33,689.05 duly signed by the chair as correct and the balance after today's meeting will be £30,606.29 but this may change if any further payments or receipts are received before year end.

The clerk also commented that the VAT reclaim for £306.92 is due to be reclaimed but he is holding off in case any more payments come in with VAT on them and will submit on the last day of the financial year

**Proposer: Nick Potter      Seconder: Victor Blake**

### **To receive the internal control report.**

The chairman had undertaken this before the present meeting and he found no issues with our internal control and thanked the clerk for his good work.

## 6. Highways

The clerk had been informed of a few issues in Tharston with broken signs and potholes and these had all been reported to highways.

### **Long Stratton New Development**

Already discussed so no further comments

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7. To receive an update on the following current issues and to consider any necessary action.

## Tree Warden report

Trees planted to replace those that did not survive and only 15 were dead but they spread out to make the area look better. Ken has taken the little oaks home to assist with their growth

## Footpath issues

FP9 is in danger of falling into the stream as is leaning over very badly and there are worries that the drainage is draining into the ditch from a parishioner side of the ditch. It was agreed the chairman would speak to the parishioner on this issue.

## Parish Maintenance

Heater fixed.  
Notice board at Cow Lane to be re-sited at community field.  
Another vent put in the cabin.

## Grass Cutting at Tharston Meadows

No comments

8. To receive a report on the Hapton Community Project

The clerk reported that the new gazebo will be delivered on Monday and the couriers will ring him and he will come over to effect delivery.

The clerk also reported that we had received the confirmation of the £200 king's coronation grant, and this should be with us by the end of the month.

Storage is being looked at and the clerk has a meeting with Scott's on Thursday afternoon 16<sup>th</sup> March at 4pm,

The event for the coronation will follow the same format as the jubilee and the parish council and Hapton meadow working group are working together on the event with a noon till 6pm finish. Band booked who will play 2 x45 minute slots with Hapton meadow working group will buy a sound system that is battery operated. Ice cream van booked, 2 robin pear trees for the event and it is hoped Louise Priest will attend. Clerk to arrange the TEN notice and Port-a-loo is booked. Face painting is also booked. Teas and Coffees to be done at the church to help them with their event on the same day to get people integrated with both events.

Multi use Glasses are being looked at with them being used over 100 times which are re-usable plastic, and it was agreed. Hapton Meadow working group will purchase the glasses in the first instance. The clerk to look at the Adnams grant process and what we can apply for.

Final meeting at the end of March to finalise to see what else is needed moving forward.

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## 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 been unable to do this and the Hapton one would be downloaded for the March meeting. The batteries are not charging as well as they should so it was agreed that we would look to purchase two new batteries if possible.
- **Phone Box**

No change on this subject
- **Surveyors Land.**

The clerk reported that he had now received details of our ownership of the land and SNDC are requiring a meeting with councillors at the site to go over things with them.
- **Parish Councillors and Clerk training.**

No further training booked. Clerks annual conference details are due out and he asked permission to investigate attending again.
- **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.
- **Neighbourhood watch**

The clerk will order the new signs next week. 20 signs to be ordered asap.
- **Meeting House Field**

Cut to be made before the coronation on both fields.
- **Allotments**

A report had been produced by Councillors Daniels and Hewitt and was discussed by the council and it was agreed to look at this and contact the PCC showing the project with their comments before moving forward. The clerk will get something detailed to send to all councillors to agree before submitting to the PCC

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

One speed watch session done, and one planned for Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March and found 16 people doing over 36 mph and one doing 51 mph between 4-5pm. Victor gave some figures from other villages and the figures were very down from the other village's figures. Tim ward commented that he is working with google Maps to make this a C road on their maps and making slow progress.

## 11. Green Initiatives

Nothing to report.

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

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**

A parishioner commented that an email will be sent to Parish council on the pylons issue

**To receive items for the next agenda.**

**Coronation event  
Borderhoppa project  
Tree proposal**

Next Parish Meeting Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15 pm.**