

# THARSTON AND HAPTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at Church Rooms, Hapton  
On 20<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 7.30pm.**

**In Attendance:** Mr Nick Potter (Chair) Mr Alan Arber (clerk)  
Mr V Blake  
Mr T Ward  
Mr C Hewitt  
Mr G Bleach  
Mrs J Goodall Browne arrived 8.00pm

**County Councillor Alison Thomas, District Councillor Barry Duffin was in attendance  
along with three members of the public.**

## **Public participation**

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

Greg Introduced himself to the meeting and commented that he has moved into the village and will provide the music for our upcoming event.

Alison Thomas gave the following report

As chair of the Health Scrutiny committee Alison said there were representations made to the Secretary of State on the issues around dental care in Norfolk and as yet no reply had been received but with the worrying figures of 50% of children not getting access to dental care during the pandemic and that this figure is now down to 25% so 1 in 4 children are not getting access to dental health care and also the number of dentists providing NHS care is decreasing as they are not duty bound to provide this and most only provide private dentist care.

Alison also commented that she had written to all MPs in Norfolk regarding the inability of parishioners in all areas to get a doctor's appointment, even by Telephone, so far Alison commented most MPs had replied except a couple and she was awaiting these replies.

Finally, Alison commented that she had her updated Highways budget and would like to spend some in Tharston and Hapton as she had not helped the parish in a while.

Barry Duffin provided the following report

SNDC are set on moving its operation to Broadland Business Park which not everyone was in agreement with.

Barry also commented on the new scheme called Nutriant Neutrality which affects ALL applications with overnight accommodation. All applications are dealt with the same amount of scrutiny. It is simply holding up any consents being issued. Hope to have further update very soon.

The Long Stratton Bypass is moving forward but may be held up by the new policy detailed above.

Finally, Barry commented that he has his new members ward grant and would be willing to help the parish if it felt it was needed. The chairperson asked Barry about the provision of some waste bins at our new community project and he intimated he could help.

A member of the public asked questions on the land at Tharston Church around the PWLB and the length of time the loan had to run. The clerk commented it would be around 8 years but was fully unsure. A question was also asked if we would be selling the land. The chairperson replied No

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*Standing Orders were reinstated.*

## 1. Apologies

Jenna Goodall Browne sent her apologies All agreed to accept Jenna Joined the meeting at 8.00pm

## 2. Minutes

The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> March and were duly signed by the chair as a true record of the meeting with one small alteration around the date at the bottom of the draft minutes.

**Proposed Nick Potter Seconded. Vic 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.

Chairman Nick Potter for a payment in item 6

## 4. Planning Applications.

- To discuss the Planned Open Space Land Adoption.  
**Nothing Received**
- Planning Applications.  
**2022/0519 No Comment made from Parish Council**

## 5. Highways.

- **Highways Issues.**  
A road sign at Parkes lane/ Long Lane junction and has been reported and a new sign requested from Highways. No reply as yet on this issue and The clerk will chase  
A sign on Bungay road near the railway bridge on the mill and needs road narrowing sign. The clerk will report
- **To discuss the proposed long Stratton development**  
No report.

## 6. Finance

- To approve Payments to Parish Clerk Alan Arber for March salary and expenses, including back pay from recent SLCC agreement back dated to April 2021 £885.22
- To approve payment to Norfolk Pension Fund for Clerks Pension in March £219.08
- To approve Payment to NPTS for Councillor Hewitt Training £40.00
- To approve payment to HMRC for NI payment missed in March £22.68
- To approve payment to NPTS for annual Subscription £246.25
- To approve payment to Norfolk ALC for Annual Subscription £248.77
- To approve payment to Anne Barnes for Internal Audit £66.00
- To approve payment to Nick Potter for paint for building £598.54
- To approve payment for ICO Annual Subscription £35.00
- No new payments came in after the agenda posted.

**Proposed Tim Ward                      Seconded Vic Blake**

The clerk took the council through the latest financial position and reported that the council was in fine financial condition.



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## **Proposed Nick Potter      Seconded Graham Bleach**

Inside of the building have put three coats of varnish done by Hapton Meadow Working group and the Compostable toilet needs moving nearer the building and it was agreed to move it in the next few days.

Scott's Building Supplies will put the cover strips on the building on Monday. Nick also spoke to a parishioner who has offered to help with painting the shed asap. This will be done on Tuesday/Wednesday week commencing 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022

The three quotes were as follows

Hapton Building services was £7940 + vat

GLS Quoted the following £11176 + vat in 3 quotes

Simon's landscaping quoted £7830 + vat in 2 quotes

The clerk also reported that he had received the quotes for the extra work and after a discussion it was agreed that the quote from Simons landscaping at a cost of £7830 + Vat would be accepted and The clerk was asked to inform the company of this asap

## **Proposed Nick potter                      Seconded Jenna Goodall Browne**

A problem with Paul Riches on the grass cutting and a question was asked if the council would be happy with Hapton Meadow Working Group doing it or do we speak with new contractor to undertake the role and the clerk to contact Ben Willis on this asap and The chairperson commented that he was struggling to get the electric pack in place

The clerk also commented that he had visited the showroom of Millar West as instructed and they held no stock of old chairs and it was agreed that he purchase the original chairs and tables agreed at the previous meeting at a cost of

Proposed Nick Potter                      Seconded Tim Ward

The event would be held on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June at the community park from around 2pm onwards and it was agreed that we would do the burgers and provide our own alcohol and teas and coffees via a gas stove.

The clerk will get an alcohol Licence as well

Greg will bring his band to play on the day

The chairperson asked for volunteers to help with setting up the event and asked they email him with their thoughts

We have still to receive the £200 grant from SNDC for the event.

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

The clerk commented that he had not received any further information on this issue

## **12. To discuss Parish Projects.**

- **Newsletter.**  
The latest edition will start around mid may and it was hoped to go to circulation asap after that date.
- **SAM Machines.**  
The SAM machine has not been downloaded yet and the clerk would do this at his earliest convenience once he is mobile after his upcoming surgery
- **Phone Box**  
No change on this subject
- **Surveyors Land.**  
No report
- **Parish Councillors and Clerk training.**  
The Clerk is looking to book himself on excel Training once out of hospital and mobile again

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- **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 further report on this
- **Hapton Phone Box**  
Nothing to report except the book library is flourishing
- **New Defibrillator Training. Community Responders**  
The Clerk has now received the new Defib pads for the defibs for Hapton and Tharston street and he will install them in the correct defibs. Chris Hewitt commented that the first responders in Long Stratton to include Tharston and Hapton.
- **Neighbourhood watch**  
The Clerk reported that no information had yet been received and he will keep chasing
- **Meeting House Field**  
The Chairman reported that the landowner is happy to put the extra bits of fencing up asap.

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

Victor Blake commented that the speed watch group was working and its important that we are seen to be seen doing this and will keep moving forward with the speed watch group having an effect

## **14. To discuss Green Initiatives for the council moving forward and Active Travel**

The chairperson commented that he had done nothing as yet on this but he wondered how we as a parish can ask our parishioners what they can do to help this. It was hoped we could put more in the newsletter on this.

Tim ward commented that he had tried to get someone to come to the meeting from Biffa and News at Long Water Interchange.

A discussion ensued on this with many points raised and it was agreed to ask SNDC on these issues and see if we can get an officer from SNDC to come to our meeting in the future.

## **15. Public participation.**

None

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

### **Policies Update**

**Opening Hapton Project and Queens Platinum jubilee celebration finalised.**

**Meeting dates for 2022-2023**

Next Parish Meeting Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May for the following meetings

Annual Meeting of the Parish 7pm – 7.30pm

Annual Parish Meeting 7.30pm to 9.30pm

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**There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.52 pm.**