

THARSTON AND HAPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at Church Rooms, Hapton
On 15th September 2021 at 7.30pm.

In Attendance: Mr Nick Potter (Chairman) Mr Alan Arber (clerk)
Mrs Jenna Goodall Browne
Mr Tim Ward
Mr Graham Bleach
Mr V Blake

**2 members of the public were in attendance
Including County Councillor Alison Thomas.**

Public participation

Standing Orders were suspended to allow the public to speak.

No public participation.

Alison Thomas reported the following to the meeting.

The government have made £26.3 Million available for the building of the Long Stratton Bypass with the rest coming from developers and CIL monies. Discussions on drainage were still ongoing due to issues found that are not the responsibility of the developers as they were from previous issues. Alison also reported that the Flood report from Lord Dannatt was sent to all parish councils and the final report will be published soon but she felt the report did not go far enough. Alison also commented that some of the issues detailed were due to landowners not keeping their ditches clear and this again was an ongoing problem and pressure was needed from County and District Councils on this problem as well as Parish and Town Councils.

Alison also reported that she was now in charge of the Care and health committee and it was sad to learn that only 1.7% of breast cancer sufferers were accessing treatment meaning that meant that 98.3% were still needing help. Alison also commented that they are working to get access to Doctors and dentist's appointments more achievable.

Barry Duffin was unable to attend but sent this short report
Village clusters now moving towards finalising.

You should receive a consultation on the accommodation review for South Norfolk and Broadland.

I was disappointed in the Lord Dannett flood committee report. Seems to lack teeth

Standing Orders were reinstated.

1. Apologies

Barry Duffin sent his apologies and everyone agreed to accept.

2. Minutes

The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting of 14th July 2021 and were duly signed by the chairman.

Proposed Nick Potter. Seconded Jenna Goodall Browne. 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.

Graham Bleach for payment of item in agenda item 6

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4. Planning Applications.

- To discuss the Planned Open Space Land Adoption.
Nothing Received
- Planning Application.
No Planning applications received

5. Highways.

- **Highways Issues.**

The clerk Commented that the Highway rangers are due in the next three weeks and they are focusing on the following topics

Potholes

Regular incidents of standing or flooding water

Mud on the carriageway.

The clerk also commented that there was a new way of reporting this to the rangers that he had to undertake

The following Issues were reported for the clerk to report regarding the rangers

Gravel/Mud on Holly Lane

Gravel Mud on marsh lane

Gravel Mud on High Road

Gravel Mud on Cow lane

The clerk would report these asap.

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

No report

6. Finance

- To approve payment to Parish Clerk Alan Arber for August salary and expenses £757.38
- To approve payment to Norfolk pension fund for Clerks Pension £219.08
- To approve payment to G Bentley for Village maintenance £265.00
- To approve payment to Paul riches for Grass cutting £75.00
- To approve payment to PKF Littlejohn for External audit £360.00
- To approve payment to SLCC for Clerks Training Conference £284.40
- To approve payment to Graham Bleach for shelves £29.98
- To approve payment to Scott's Shed for deposit for Cabin £3600.00

Proposed Nick Potter Seconded Jenna Goodall Browne.

The clerk took the council through the latest financial position, 6-month budget review and reported that the council was in fine financial condition.

The clerk reported that the external audit report has been received back with one comment on Box 3 regarding the variance explained and that he had been too honest regarding the amount of VAT reclaimed and that was all. It was agreed to approve the External Auditors report

Proposed. Nick Potter

Seconded. Tim Ward

Unity Trust Bank Change – The clerk commented that the bank account is up and running and working well and that we just need councillors to set them selves up for approving payments

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The clerk then commented that we need to close our savings account via letter and he had prepared a letter for signatories Victor Blake and Jenna Goodall Browne to sign and it was agreed to get the money put into the main account until the Hapton project was completed then move an agreed amount into our savings account.

Proposed. Tim Ward

Seconded. Nick potter

The clerk also produced a 6-month budget comparison and showed that as of the 1st of September bank statements everything balance perfectly and that the council were in budget.

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

Tree Warden's Report

No Report

Footpath Wardens Report

No report but Footpath Warden will look at issues and report direct to the clerk

FP4 finger post covered in vegetation report to highways Rangers

Horsenford farm Bridleway BR15 clerk to send another letter.

Village maintenance

Gary Bentley has done the main gate and access can be via the pedestrian gate and it was agreed that a new padlock will be purchased and extra keys will be purchased by The Chairman. Ken Grayling could help with this.

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

Tim ward commented that most of the items brought up by the neighbourhood plan response to planning application. Also, that They were concerns that the land being given to Tharston and Hapton for a community building was greater than Long Stratton and this was due to the issues on the problems with smell from the treatment works.

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

A Reply had been received from Taylor Wimpey on the proposals sent by email after the last meeting and it detailed that our proposals for the area, we looked to take over had been dismissed by Taylor Wimpey and us either took on the whole project or none at all. A discussion ensued on this around many issues and the following motion was agreed. As Taylor Wimpey will not allow us to take on the community area that we proposed and it was agreed that we would write to Taylor Wimpey

Proposed. Nick Potter

Seconded. Tim ward

10. To receive an update on Hapton Community Project

A letter had been received from Hapton church warden regarding some questions on the following

What was the size and location of the cabin and the location of the cabin?

Who and when would be maintaining the compostable toilet?

The chairman commented that he had replied to the questions raised at the recent working party meeting and also by email to Hapton Church warden on all points raised.

It was also agreed that the contractor for the new cabin would be Scott Premier

Buildings in Longwater lane Costessey and The clerk would contact them asap to order the cabin

Proposer Tim Ward

Seconder Nick Potter

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

Flood report due out soon and clerk to add to website/Newsletter when received for all parishioners affected to access and make the necessary claims and comments

12. To discuss Parish Projects.

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- **Newsletter.**

The Newsletter needs to have more local information on the next issue but the clerk commented that he is struggling to get the information from local groups in time.

- **SAM Machines.**

The SAM machine had been downloaded and the clerk took the meeting through the findings and a discussion ensued and it was agreed to build up a comprehensive file on the issue that the parish suffered on the size of the lorries and increase in traffic using The Street as a rat run from the A140 to A11.

- **Phone Box**

It was agreed to site the phone box at Tharston Church on Parish Council land and to agree a site meeting with Tharston PCC asap

- **Surveyors Land.**

It was agreed that we would ask Helen Sibley to serve notice to The Tenant asap

- **Parish Councillors and Clerk training.**

New Chairman's training is required by Tim ward and an update for Nick Potter and The Clerk would look into this asap. It was also agreed the clerk would attend the upcoming SLCC National Conference with costs shared with Wacton PC

- **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**

Light in and the shelves are in for the book idea. Thanks to Graham Bleach for all his work on this.

- **Neighbourhood watch**

Graham Bleach asked that the clerk provide him with an updated log in for the site asap

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

It is slowly moving forward and the online training will be on-site for the seven volunteers and then the equipment being handover.

14. To discuss Green Initiatives for the council moving forward

A new scheme for Composter bins is being brought in and the clerk will put this in the newsletter along with any new information on this item. It was also asked on putting recycling bins on either the new Hapton Meadow or Meeting House Field. Councillor Tim Ward also commented that he had heard back from the UEA regarding the soil issue and also that one parishioner had replied and registered for the Wild East project in Hapton.

15. Public participation.

None

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16. To receive items for the next agenda.

Climate Change initiatives

Chairman Training

Policies Update

Surveyors Land

Next Parish Meeting Wednesday 27th October 2021

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00pm.