

# THARSTON AND HAPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at  
The Community Building, Holly Lane, Hapton  
On 12<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 7.00pm.

**In Attendance:** Mr N Potter (chair)  
Mr T Ward  
Mr G Bleach  
Mr D Daniels  
Mr J Goodall Browne  
Mr A Arber (clerk)

**2 members of the public**

## 1. Public Participation

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

It would be good if the arson attack in the village and see what the police say on this issue asap. A question was asked if we could contact South Norfolk on the land and the clearance of the land.

County Councillor Alison Thomas gave no report.

District Councillor Kim Carsok gave no report.

*Standing Orders were reinstated.*

## 2. Apologies

Apologies received from Victor Blake All agreed to accept.

## 3. Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chair as a true record of the meeting.

**Proposer: David Daniels      Seconder: Tim Ward**

## 4. Declarations of Interest

D Daniels for a payment for the orchard

## 5. Planning

- **To discuss the Planned Open space**  
Nothing to report.

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- **Planning Application**  
No Planning Applications received

## 6. Finances

To note receipts in May 2024

None

### **Important payment made between the meeting.**

None

### **Payments made at this meeting.**

I.	To approve payment of Clerks' salary May 2024	£962.21
II.	To approve payment to Norfolk Pension Fund for Clerks Pension May	£275.54
III.	To approve payment to HMRC for Tax and Ni	£25.49
IV.	To approve payment to Wensum Print for Mini Newsletter	£294.00
V.	To approve payment to Hutchinson 3g for Sim cards for cameras	£40.54
VI.	To approve Payment to Brownes for Grass Cutting	£300.00
VII.	To approve Payment to David Daniels on Orchard Work	£29.99

VIII. To receive the up-to-date financial report.

The clerk reported that the figure at the end of May was £17,041.63 and once all payment are made at this meeting the balance on the account is £15,113.86 but the clerk commented that he had sent in the details for the Pride in place deposit payment of £10,000 which we should receive soon and there is a VAT reclaim of £2276.26 to be reclaimed on 30<sup>th</sup> June which will ease council funds.

**Proposed: David Daniels Seconded: Jenna Goodall Browne**

## 7. Highways

### **Highways issues**

No issues reported

Cow lane Pothole has been repaired but not very well

### **Long Stratton Development.**

No report

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

### **Tree Warden report**

It was agreed that we would get a £100 garden centre voucher for our outgoing Tree Warden

**Proposed: Graham Bleach      Seconded: Tim Ward**

The tree warden advert will be out in the new newsletter, Noticeboards and word of mouth.

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## Footpath issues

2 parishioners have reported Redwings footpath FP8 and FP7 across the marsh being overgrown.

Br10 is getting overgrown at Tharston Mill (reported in May)

## 9. To receive an update on the Hapton Community Project and plan events for 2023-2024

The clerk reported that he started the latest grant application as requested by Andy sexton of pride in Place and this should be ready to submit in the coming 2 weeks once all items are finalised along with the wording and this is for the Play area pipe, slide, step and had rail to aid parishioners entering the site. District Councillor Kim Carsok is assisting the clerk with the application and is fully behind phase 7 of the project.

The chair thanked all those that helped get the marquee up for Saturdays event and also thanked everyone for their help in the preparations for the event.

## 10. To discuss the latest pylons Information

The clerk reported that in the local news there were reports that the county council would oppose the onshore pylon plans and request that it is looked at for offshore moving forward. This has not been formally agreed yet and we await their decision The planning application for the Dunston substation has only just gone in, and it will be doubled in size.

The next consultation is now out of date has been extended till 26/7 due to the upcoming election.

Jenna and David will draft our response asap from the Parish Council.

## 11. To discuss Parish Projects.

- **Newsletter.**  
The new mini parish newsletter was widely received with good comments, and it is hoped that the summer one will go out at the end of June if time allows so any information is to be submitted to the clerk asap. It was also agreed we may do more of these should the need arise in the future.
- **SAM Machines.**  
The clerk reported that he had not yet received the data from Long Stratton for the SAM 2 in Chequers Road But our second Sam I located on Norwich Road and the clerk will look to download this for the next meeting.
- **Tharston Phone Box**  
The clerk has contacted the management company on this and awaits their reply as he has taken it over from Chris Hewitt since he left the council. The phone box needs fixing and looking at asap to get it ready to site at Tharston Meadows.
- **Parish Councillors and Clerk training.**  
The clerk ha booked his place at the National SLCC conference and is looking forward to another good conference and the great networking that he gets from this event and the learning also.
- **Village Hall Fundraising**  
A parishioner asked if there is a possibility of a longer zip line and replace the steps with monkey bars, but the clerk reported that at present we do not have spare monies due to the main project moving forward.

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- **Hapton Phone Box**  
The phone box continues to be well used and now look very tidy and graham has cleared out some books and added 2 shelves. There are also DVDs in the phone box for all to take and watch. It was cleaned today, and it needs a coat of paint asap as the roof is not looking great.
  - **Defib training**  
All defibs are okay as the clerk has cleaned these.  
It was agreed that before the next meeting we would look at how it works
  - **Surveyors land**  
The camera was stolen, and a question was asked if we need a new camera to replace it.  
Question was raised if we could get all the camera logged into the cloud at a cost of around £25-£30 a year plus 2 new cameras
- Proposed: David Daniels      Seconded: Graham Bleach**
- A proposal has been received from National Highways for more trees and Tim Ward will look into this asap
- **Neighbourhood watch**  
The Police have provided some small neighbourhood watch signs and the clerk is in contact with the regarding some more bigger signs that hopefully will go on the lampposts.
  - **Community Orchard**  
Oli Browne has cut the area and David will continue with his work on this project asap with more planting and weeding.
  - **Gov.com emails**  
The clerk reported that most of the councillors are using these and if the final councillors contact Tim, he will assist them to get it working asap
  - **Dog mess in the village**  
There is still an issue with this problem and questions were raised what else we can do to stop this problem. It was felt that we had a serial offender, and this will and should be reported to South Norfolk.
  - **Tharston Fete**  
The clerk reported that this will run this year and that the Committee at Tharston have requested to use the table and chairs and that the Parish Council pay for the TEN notice as we did last year at a cost of £21. The event will run on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September, and they would like to collect the items on either 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> September

**Proposed: David Daniels      Seconded: Jenna Goodall Browne**

## 12. Hedgehog Highways and grass cutting on meeting house field

Then initial plan was to enhance the wildflowers in the village hence leaving the grass long.

3 Parishioners have raised issues with the gras cutting and saying it is too long with one parishioner saying that their dog had caught Ticks from the grass. A discussion ensued on how we cut in the future, and it was agreed we would cut the middle and leave the edges of the field except do not cut where the oxide daisies are.

Questions were then raised who will cut in the future and it was agreed Oli will strim under the benches and other areas such a Hapton and Tharston sign, plus the orchard too and the meeting Houe field.

The clerk would contact the organisers to find out the next steps.

## 13. To receive a report from speed watch group

Both Sam 2 machines have new batteries in them and are working well. The weather has meant the group has not been out.

## 14. Green Initiatives and initiatives (moving forward) including the recycling and Biodiversity policy

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- **Green recycling for blister packs and razor**

It was agreed that we own collection point and bin, and we would then transfer into the cardboard packs when we need to

It was agreed we would purchase boxes for both Hapton and Tharston and the link would we have sent through.

Questions were raised on the bio-diversity plan and its content, and it was agreed this would be looked at in the July

## **15. Public Participation**

Meeting house field is not dog proof and this needs to be looked at asap. A risk assessment will be added to our general risk assessment for all parish event and properties

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

**Sign on Fundenhall road to be looked at**

**Maintenance**

**Governance**

**Meeting Houe Field Risk Assessment**

**Camera Cloud Storage**

**Biodiversity Plan**

**V E Day celebration**

**Land West of Long Stratton**

Next Parish Council Meeting is Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 7pm at Hapton community cabin.

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.34pm.**