

THARSTON AND HAPTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at The Community Building, Holly Lane, Hapton
On 13th July 2022 at 7.00pm.**

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

2 members of the public.

1. Public participation

Standing Orders were suspended to allow the public to speak.

A

County Councillor Alison Thomas sent the clerk the following report

Standing Orders were reinstated.

2. Apologies

No apologies received. All agreed to accept these

3. Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 15th June 2022 were discussed, amended, and duly signed by the Chairman.

Proposer: N Potter Seconder: V Blake

Chris Hewitt was thanked for stepping in to take these minutes in the clerk's absence.

4. Declarations of Interest

No declarations given.

Proposed T Ward Seconded N Potter

5. Planning

No planning application discussed

6. Finances

The following invoices were approved for payment:

- I. To approve Payments to Parish Clerk Alan Arber for June salary and expenses £774.01
- II. To approve payment for Clerks pension for June £236.94
- III. To approve payment to Spotted Penguin Company for chairs £828.72
- VI. To approve payment to Gary Bentley for Parish maintenance £237.00
- V. To approve payment to Simons Landscaping for Hapton project work £8708.70
- VI. To approve payment to HMRC for Tax and NI £199.26
- VII. To approve payment to Graham Bleach for maintenance Items £29.98

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VIII. To approve payment to Hapton Church for Annual Churchyard maintenance Grant £375.00

X1. To approve payment to Tharston Church for Annual Maintenance of the churchyard grant. £525.00

X. To approve payment to Ken Grayling For Tree for Queens jubilee £27.50

XI. To approve payment to Paul Riches for Grass cutting £250.00

XII. To approve payment to Business services at CAS for Parish Insurance £576.81

XIII. To approve payment to SLCC for annual membership £270.00

XIV. To approve any payments that come in after the Agenda is posted

No payments came in

The clerk produced a financial report to show the current balance before today's meeting matched the bank statement at £48043.89 duly signed by the chairman as correct and the balance after today's meeting will be £35,004.97

The clerk also commented that he would be making a VAT reclaim at the end of June for a figure just over £2830.00

The clerk also commented that he had produced a 3-month budget report for all councillors and the chair thanked him for his work on this.

Proposer: N Potter Seconder: G Bleach

7. Highways

Nothing discussed

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

Tree Warden report

No report from Ken Grayling and the chairman thanked Ken Grayling for his assistance in the queen's platinum Jubilee celebrations.

Footpath issues

The Footpath Warden updated the Parish Council on relevant matters.

FP9 there was a concern around the walking of dogs along the fence of the footpath and the chairman will speak to the people concerned on this subject.

9. To discuss the National Grid proposal for new pylons in Hapton

The clerk produced an excellent report in conjunction with Tim Ward that he will submit to the consultation on the 16th of June which is the last day for comments.

Proposed N Potter Seconded Tim Ward.

10. To receive a report on the Hapton Community Project

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Nick has now worked out how to use the compostable toilet and will put the handrail up next week. We still have a few items we need to purchase such as a Mop, Bucket and Doormat. The Chair commented he will speak to Ryland on the lights issue

11. To receive a report on the Hapton Jubilee Celebration and opening of the Community project

This was a great day with over 80 parishioners attending and with local BBC tv newsreader Louise Priest planting a tree for the Queens Green canopy and also opening the new cabin and play area. The clerk also commented that he had received some great emails on the event. The Parish Chairman thanked all the volunteers who made this event happen. The worrying this was the parish newsletter being delivered late which was a worry and but the chair felt this was not very professional towards our Parishioners and advertisers who may have wanted to attend the event. The clerk was asked to contact the volunteers who deliver the newsletter to find out why. One piece of bad news was that the huge gazebo lent to the council for the event was damaged in a storm in the morning meaning that the volunteers and owners of the gazebo had to repair the gazebo to ensure it could be used safely. The chair asked due to the damage caused should we offer a compensation amount to assist the parishioners who owned the Gazebo. It was agreed to pay the figure of £100. Vic Blake to contact the parishioners on this and report back to the clerk. Comments were then made on the issues Long Stratton Town Council were being criticised on Social media and it was heartening that our event was only getting positive feedback.

Proposer N Potter Seconder V Blake

12. To discuss Parish Projects.

- **Newsletter.**
The next edition will be completed by end of August for delivery around the first week in September and the clerk is working on the invoices for the advertisers.
- **SAM Machines.**
The Hapton Sam had been downloaded and yet again the figures were worrying. In the 3 months since the last download 48, 966 cars had passed along Hapton street with the average speed being around 34.1 mph. One vehicle/Motorbike had travelled at 80 mph along the road on the 7/5 at 4.25 am. The clerk will complete the download and forward the figures to the police
- **Phone Box**
No change on this subject
- **Surveyors Land.**
No report
- **Parish Councillors and Clerk training.**
The clerk reported that with agreement from all his councils he will be attending the SLCC National conference at Hinkley on the 2nd-3rd November with all paying a quarter of the cost. He has also booked himself on planning training and excel and word training in the next few months.
- **Village Hall**
No comments made
- **New Play Area/Hapton Community Project**
Dealt with earlier in the meeting.
- **The Vision**
No comments made.
- **New Park Fundraising Ideas**

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Hapton Meadow working group have requested to use the new building on date in July with the date to be agreed for a quiz. It was agreed that we need to look at a booking system moving forward with the clerk researching this.

- **Hapton Phone Box**
G Bleach has cleaned it and installed bungees to keep the books tidy and it was very full.
- **New Defibrillator Training. Community Responders**
The training will take place at the new building once the lighting is sorted
- **Neighbourhood watch**
No report
- **Meeting House Field**
The Chairman reported that the little bits still need doing.

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

20/5 the group did an hour and they caught around 11 speeders on that day and at a recent event a Police Car came through at 36 mph but the speed watch group is very visible and cars are generally respectful once they see the speed watch group in action. It is proving to be a great resource for the parish moving forward.

14. Green Initiatives

T Ward made the Parish Council aware of a meeting that the chair and Tim met with Forncett Matters group and they are much further down the road than we are and they are interested in the Tas River as one of the only 210 Chalk Riverbeds in the world. They are keen to work with us and will be producing a report on the work they are doing but as yet has not been published. Tim has been on walks around wildflower meadows and how they are done and he will be attending more of these.

To receive items for the next agenda.

Parish Policies

Operation London Bridge

Notice Board at redwings

Grass Cutting at Tharston Meadows.

Parish maintenance

Next Parish Meeting Wednesday 13th July

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50 pm.