

THARSTON AND HAPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at
The Community Building, Holly Lane, Hapton
On 15th November 2023 at 7.00pm.

In Attendance: Mr T Ward (chair)
Mr G Bleach
Mr V Blake
Mrs J Goodall-Browne
Mr C Hewitt
Mr A Arber (clerk)

2 members of the public

Public Participation

Standing Orders were suspended to allow the public to speak.

County Councillor Alison Thomas gave the following report.

Long Stratton bypass has been to cabinet and the cabinet member for highways and another councillor have been charged with submitting the business case for the monies from government. There will be some preliminary works starting to take place mainly due to things such as the nesting season in the summer. It was also reported that the planning application is for the first 230 homes on the west side and the bypass and roundabout must be built before the main housing application can be started and submitted by Norfolk Homes.

The warm and well scheme has started, and this is to help people understand the need to be prepared for the winter by having all important vaccinations they are entitled too, as well as ensuring they have all their medication in place and that any people that have home carers visiting them have plans in place should such carers get ill and cannot make their vital visits.

The Norfolk and Norwich hospital have a scheme to ensure that ambulances are turned around quicker and the home for lunch scheme is designed to help with this as once a patient is ready to go home, they can go and not wait for ages thus freeing up beds quicker and allowing ambulances a quicker turnaround.

The new Your Norfolk magazine will be produced again and will contain lots of information and essential numbers for residents to assist them in contacting the right department if they need help. Norfolk

Finally, Norfolk County council have released details of help available with the current cost of living crisis and details can be found at www.norfolk.gov.uk. Plus, Norfolk County Council have been voted second best in the country for climate emergency plans behind Oxfordshire County Council.

District Councillor Kim Carsok gave the following report.

South Norfolk House has now been sold to Blue Sky developments and new bungalows will be built on the land, but Long Stratton Town Council have been awarded £50,000 for a feasibility study to assist them with plans for a new community centre which will need to be match funded by the town council utilising the pride in place grant system. It is also hoped a working group will be set up quickly from the Town Council and other agencies to assist with the study.

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The new mobile outreach vehicle has been received and should soon be out on the road once all the types of help it will be giving can be sorted out such as debt relief, housing help and other vital information.

Finally, there are various grants in place now including the pride in place grant, clean up and bloom grant that gives £300 for litter picking equipment and other such important tasks such as planting in the village. It was also reported that D Day grants will be available nearer the time to help councils celebrate this important event.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

1. Apologies

Apologies received from Nick Potter and David Daniels all agreed to accept.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 18th October 2023 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chairperson with one amendment on the name of the field that the notice board is being moved on.

Proposer: Jenna Goodall Browne

Seconder: Graham Bleach

3. Declarations of Interest

Tim Ward for a payment

All agreed.

4. Planning

- **To discuss the Planned Open space**

Nothing to report.

- **Planning Application**

No planning received.

The clerk commented that the recent licence application for Greenmantle Hapton was adjourned till 8th December as the committee needed to look at it more and they were disappointed that the applicants did not attend. Their agent has also sent a letter in on the application regarding some aspects of the application.

5. Finances

To note receipts in October

Metro rod Newsletter Advert	£80.00
VAT refund	£441.33
CIL receipt from SNDC	£431.24

Important payment made between the meeting.

Lloyds bank	Credit card set up charge.	£50.00
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Payments made at this meeting.

I.	To approve payments to Parish Clerk for Salary September	£923.04
II.	To approve payment to Norfolk Pension Fund for Clerks Pension Sept.	£255.99
III.	To approve payment to Viking for stationery	£82.15
IV.	To approve payment to Nick potter for wood for cabin project	£24.00
V.	To approve payment to Tim ward for the CCTV system at the cabin	£56.74
VI.	To approve payment to Nick potter Treated Timber for Rainwater project	£25.20.
VII.	To approve payment to HMRC for Tax and NI	£46.17

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

The clerk reported that we are in good health and the balance before today's meeting was £36297.59 and after today's payments the balance stands at £34909.50 with a Vat refund to be reclaimed of £331.85.

Proposed: Chris Hewitt Seconded: Vic Blake

The Clerk Commented that the back dated pay rise had been agreed and it was for one SCP rise for the clerk totalling £1 per hour back dated till 1st April 2023 and will be paid at the next meeting. Total hours backdated are 390 meaning a taxable pay of £390 will be added to the clerk's salary next month plus the £1 rise taking the clerk to SCP 24 at present.

6. Governance

Nothing to report this month under this heading although the financial Regulations are being looked at moving forward and the consultation ends soon, and it is hoped that the model ones will be out for the start on the new financial year.

7. To receive the details of the long Stratton town council proposal and discuss supporting it.

This decision has been made for the building to go to the contractor to build houses on the site which is not the correct decision wanted by all local councils and we await any further developments.

8. Highways

Long Stratton New development

No report.

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

Tree Warden report

No report but more tree planting to be done soon when the new trees arrive.

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Footpath issues

FP33 has one issue which runs to Flordon common and a ditch crossing before you get onto the sheep marsh and the handrail has broken which was taken away by the rangers and the crossing is really dangerous and it is used a lot by local parishioners. Footpath warden will forward the exact details to the clerk to report.

Maintenance

Tim ward commented that he had seen a member of the public taking a toilet on the cabin paving. A report online regarding the issues around the recent facies being found outside the cabin and had been logged as anti-social behaviour and nuisance and Tim asked if anyone had any objections to sending the details to the police as we have clear pictures of the whole event as they have been less than helpful. Thanks to Graham Bleach for clearing this mess up.

Grass Cutting at Tharston Meadows

All okay at present.

Highways Barrier at Hapton School

Alison Thomas has requested a meeting with us, Gary Overland, and herself on this to take place asap. I recently informed the school of the issues detailed at the last meeting and the fact we are looking to put a barrier up, but they were not in favour as it would hinder emergency service entry to the school.

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

The clerk commented we were unsuccessful with our application for the community Action fund mainly due to us only having one quote and we are currently awaiting 2 more quotes, one from GLS and one from plan to garden to resubmit our application under the pride in place grant scheme. The question was raised regarding the £10 monthly charge for the sim card for the camera and it was agreed that we would set up a standing order with EE for this to be paid this way moving forward. The camera needs registering with the data commissioner and the clerk would check with the ICO.

Proposed: Tim Ward Seconded: Graham Bleach

11. To discuss the latest pylons Information

A parishioner reported that there is a new report from East Anglia's councils and leading power expert detailing that the solution for the pylons is not suitable and limited ideas have not been tested and the date for the upgrading of the pylons not till 2035 and that the information could be paused and that at present more information is needed on the other schemes as detailed before. The clerk reported that he had looked into the banners and the costs, and he had contacted Wensum print on this, and the banners would cost £18 plus vat for a 6 x 3 banner similar to the ones on the pylon's website. It was agreed to purchase 4 banners at a total of £72 plus vat.

Proposed: Jenna Goodall Browne Seconded: Tim Ward

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12. To discuss Parish Projects.

- **Newsletter.**

The clerk is still awaiting some invoice payments to come in the Christmas newsletter is finished and will go to the printers tomorrow for setting out and it is hoped that we will have them to distribute by the around week commencing 27th November.
- **SAM Machines.**

The clerk reported that these will be downloaded in the coming weeks.
- **Phone Box**

The words for the managing agent for siting of the phone box has been agreed and a date of the 22nd of December was agreed for final agreement of the wording once all residents are circulated. Once this is agreed the telephone box will be sited as detailed on a small patch of grass in Tharston meadow. The moving of the phone box would be an issue and it was thought we would need a local firm to do the installation and the repairs from the damage done when it was moved to grahams yard. It has been shot blasted and repainted already.
- **Parish Councillors and Clerk training.**

The clerk attended the recent Town and Parish forum and found it very useful. It is hoped this will become a more future event.
- **Village Hall**

No report
- **The Vision**

Dealt with earlier.
- **New Park Fundraising Ideas**

No report
- **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.
- **Defib training**

Shelton and Hardwick Parish council are looking at Defib and CPR training. Clerk to email to register our interest. The clerk has applied for a new defib under the new scheme which we await the decision. No new information received on this.
- **Surveyors land**

The new trees have turned up for this project and another 100 are due to delivered in early December. 2 quotes for the flailing for the work one at £430 plus vat and another £300 plus vat
It was proposed we use Julian Vincent Bunn at £300 plus Vat
- **Proposed Tim Ward Seconded Jenna Goodall Browne**
- **Neighbourhood watch**

The clerk asked how many of the signs should he order as not many people had replied. It was agreed to purchase 15 of each.
Proposed: Graham Bleach Seconded: Vic Blake
- **Meeting house Field**

No report
- **Community Orchard**

No report. But we have lots of trees coming to assist this project.
- **Gov.com emails**

The clerk had now received the details of the gov.uk scheme through Parish online and NPTS at a cost of £180 per year as we are subscribers and give us 20 free mailboxes linked to our website. It was agreed we move ahead with this and get it in place asap.
Proposed: Chris Hewitt Seconded: Tim Ward

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

Victor Blake commented that the recent speed watch and that there is not much to report due to the dark nights and the school being closed recently.

14. Green Initiatives.

Clerk working on Climate emergency policy It was also noted that Norfolk County Council have been made number 2 in the country at present.

15. Public participation

The clerk commented that on doing his defib check recently he found that both the Defibs at Hapton and the street Tharston are due to have their pads out of date by the end of the year and asked for permission to order new ones along with bleed kits for all the defibs. The cost would be around. £90 including stickers for the bleed kits and the pads cost around £118 for a twin pack that would which be enough for both defibs.

Proposed: Chris Hewitt

Seconded: Jenna Goodall Browne

To receive items for the next agenda.

Sensory and Commemorative Garden grant

Climate emergency Policy

Clerks Appraisal

9 months spend to budget.

Dog Mess in the village

Next Parish Council meeting Wednesday 13th December 2023 at 7pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25 pm.