

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HOCKHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN HOCKHAM VILLAGE  
HALL ON MONDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2022**

Attended by all parish councillors, the clerk and 5 members of the public.

- 1) **Apologies for absence** received from P Cowen who was on leave.
- 2) **Declarations of Interest**, received from A Lambert as landlord and owner of the Eagle, J Leech as a farmer in Little Hockham, and T Bennett and B Campbell as allotment holders.
- 3) **Requests for dispensation.** None.
- 4) **Co-Option of a parish Councillor.** The two applicants spoke to say why they should be considered for the vacant position. There were no questions from councillors. A ballot was conducted, with Mr Loft getting four votes and Mrs Dalton 2 votes. Mr Loft as the new co-opted councillor, signed the declaration of office, was handed a code of conduct and a Parish Councillors guide and was given a declaration of interests form to complete.
- 5) **The minutes from 30<sup>th</sup> May 2022** were approved with one minor correction to the year date.
- 6) **Progress Report for Information.**
  - a) Vicarage Road Ditch. Councillor Leech had had discussions with Alex Beard and would continue to progress the matter.
  - b) The outstanding Councillor vacancy had been concluded in item 4.
- 7) **The meeting was closed** briefly for public participation.
- 8) **County and District Councillor Reports.** None.
- 9) **Highways and Road Safety**

Councillor Thomas reported that Wretham Road verge damage, carriageway damage and potholes continued to be chased, the drain at the Watton Road /Vicarage Rd junction had been reported. Little Hockham Lane works had been prioritised for completion. The B1111 finger post had not been replaced and would be reported. It was suggested that reporting methods should be advertised in In Touch. The Peddars Way/Tottington Road carriageway needed repair. The criteria for not agreeing highways repairs would be investigated.
- 10) **Planning Applications.** Frog Manor was agreed to be no objection but that it should be asked that the extension was just for use by the owners and not for rental or letting. Smithy Cottage Wall replacement was in the hands of Mr Gayton the Historic Buildings officer. Mrs Suggitt was chasing what was a potential serious precedent if not replaced like for like.
- 11) **Finance.** The current account had £15383 in it. Councillors reviewed the finance report. The clerk noted that EON had still not claimed any of the direct debit payments so an accrual for that needed to be made.

Payment Due to Pearce and Kemp for the monthly maintenance fee of £38 plus VAT was approved.
- 12) **Allotments.** Councillor Bennett mentioned that there were a few potential grants available and was working out what to consider applying for.
- 13) **Footpaths and Rights of Way.** Nothing new to report.
- 14) **Streetlights.** Mr Lloyd had spoken to the new development developers and there was the potential to “piggyback” on their road closure to replace the Wretham Road

Post. The clerk was given delegated powers to purchase the lamppost and discuss the matter of road closure with Pearce and Kemp.

15) **Councillor Updates.** A few people had approached councillors regards access to the green for those with impaired mobility. The clerk would seek advice to see if there was any way to improve access. The clerk was asked to contact the school regards the tree works across the neighbouring footpath. The old sign was requested to be mounted in the village hall and a discussion over bonfires took place. Councillor Bennett would get some guidance over bonfire use and mentioned the law of nuisance which may apply.

16) **The next meeting** would be Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July.