

Minutes of a Meeting of Hockham Parish Council Monday 25th April 2022.

- 1) **Apologies for absence** Received from Councillor Tom Bennett. It was noted that Christine Woodford had resigned. Both the ward member and NCC member had offered apologies.
- 2) **Declarations of Interest** Aaron Lambert as landlord of the Eagle, Ben Campbell as an allotment holder and F&F trustee and Jonathan Leech as a farmer in Little Hockham.
- 3) **Requests for dispensation** The Clerk reported that a dispensation request had been received from the chair in connection with a potential planning application for his business. The dispensation was approved.
- 4) **The minutes from 14th March 2022** were taken as read and approved.
- 5) **Progress report for information**
 - a) The new dog bin had been installed and the noise problem had been solved.
 - b) Parliament Lane vegetation (See Highways RB5)
 - c) The Playing Field Ash tree had been reported to the Estate.
 - d) Community Car Scheme. Potential new drivers had come forward.
- 6) **Public Participation Session**

The meeting was adjourned for this item. (See item 14).
- 7) **County and District Council Reports**

The clerk read extensive reports from both parties.
The ward member had responded to a request to say that around £67k had been spent so far on legal matters regards Puddledock campsite.
- 8) **Highways and Road Safety**

Councillor Thomas reported that The Wretham Road warning sign was still outstanding and a blocked drain at the A1075 junction had been reported.
Progress had been made regards RB5. The whole public right of way had been inspected, the school written to about vegetation clearance, an agreement made that trees would be cut and removed, and that vegetation clearance would be put on the 23/24 rota. The dressing would not be worked on, but the engineers said that the parish council could consider a parish pot grant to get this done. The highways inspectors also sent letters to some residents of Scotgate Close to ask for vegetation to be cut back from the Parliament Lane part of the bridleway, which had caused some friction with the residents.
The clerk had received a report from highways saying that they would not be putting hashed markings on the Harling Road/School Square areas.
- 9) **To Consider Planning Applications**

3PL/2022/0196/HOU Scotgate Cottage garage change of use to accommodation
Approved, with a number of conditions.
Aaron Lambert addressed the councillors (under agreed dispensation) about a potential planning application at the Eagle. It was agreed to write to Kay Gordon asking if she would consider asking Jack Griffiths for information regards the historic parking issues that had been reported.
- 10) **Finance**
 - a) The Certificate of Exemption was approved and signed.
 - b) Mrs Lambert would be asked to consider being an interim internal auditor with the audit being signed off by a professional colleague.
 - c) Online banking with dual authorisation was agreed. The clerk would action this.
 - d) The Clerks employment contract was approved and signed.
 - e) The Annual AGAR was being prepared.

- f) Bank Balance at 01/04/22 £9919.45
- g) Monies in since 01/04/22
 - 50% of precept £4250
 - Allotment fees Shropham Rd £22.50
 - Townlands (Grass cutting 2021) £302.88
- h) All Payments below were approved
 - Glasdon balance of dog bin £26.11
 - Pearce & Kemp £45.60
 - Playing Field Insurance for 01/05/22 £758.55
 - Norfolk ALC Membership for 01/06/22 £157.39
 - Clerks Salary for March & April 2022 £220
 - Community Car (Jan to end March 22) £15.50
 - Village hall rent from Aug 21-March 21 £84
 - A new galvanised bin inner for the green £50
- i) It was resolved to move the ICO fee (July 22) to Direct debit, which saves £5 annually.
- j) Councillor Childerhouse gave details of issues with EON direct debit payments.

11) Allotments

The Questionnaire returns were being analysed.

12) Footpaths and Rights of Way

Progress had been made with FP2 which was blocked with trees. A route had been cut round and NCC were discussing the matter with the landowner.

13) Streetlight Risk Assessment

It was agreed to approve streetlight electrical tests @£287.50 plus vat and a structural inspection report @£115 plus vat.

Councillors had been made aware of a potential concrete streetlight column replacement in Wretham Road at a cost of £2444.20 (traffic management) plus £801.25(column) but would wait for the structural report.

14) Councillor Updates

Following the public participation, it was agreed to look at the following:

- a) To consider at parish assembly, to dissolve the playing field committee and bring the running of the playing field under the parish council using a sub-committee.
- b) To speak to the NCC and ward members over Serco grass cutting on NCC owned land.
- c) To investigate a blocked ditch in Vicarage Road.
- d) To pass the accident statistics on the A1075 to a concerned resident and continue to lobby for a 50mph limit.
- e) To investigate grants for a Parish Council laptop.

15) PC Minutes Norfolk Archives

It was approved to deposit some old parish minutes in the Norfolk Record Office.

16) Offer by Townlands to gift the community vehicle to the parish council.

Townlands no longer wished to run the community vehicle and had offered the vehicle to the parish council. The parish council declined the offer, but it was resolved that the Hockham Fuel Allotment had an interest.

The next meeting will be on Monday 23rd May 22 and will be the Annual Meeting of The Council. This will follow the Annual Parish Meeting, which will begin at 7pm in Hockham Village Hall.