



Helhoughton Parish Council

Meeting Minutes

Monday 9 September 2024.

Parish Councillors present: Tim Harris (Chairman), Sean Millard (Vice Chairman), Paul Flint, Tim Pinkstone, Melvin Lacey Freeman, Ursula Price-Moss and Tom FitzPatrick (County Councillor). Also in attendance: Jodie Bond (Parish Clerk) and Jean Freeman. There were 5 members of the public present.

1. Welcome and receive apologies for absence

The Chairman welcomed those present. There were no apologies received.

2. To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda and consider any requests for dispensations

There were none.

3. To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 8 July

The minutes were approved without amendment and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4. To report progress on items not on the agenda from the last meeting

Cllr Flint agreed to follow up on the play area repairs with AOT Engineering.

5. To receive reports from NCC Cllr & NNDC Cllr, if attending

Cllr Fitzpatrick's report will be published on our website.

6. Open forum for Public Participation: an opportunity to hear from members of the public

A member of the public wished to share the petition for a new swimming pool in Fakenham with the community. Agreed to share on Facebook to reach a wider audience.

A member of the public asked for the weeds to be sprayed off along the church wall, Highways website stated that it was done in the spring, however this does not appear to have been done. Cllr FitzPatrick to ask Highways to include this during the next Rangers visit.

A member of the PCC explained that items for discussion will be requested to be added to the agenda on the proper way. All agreed this would be helpful.

A member of the public wished to share the details of a Septic Tank Grant Scheme. The parishioner has suffered with an aged sewerage system, but this company have only heard from the one person in the village interested in the scheme. As it could be very beneficial to others it was suggested that the parishioner organises a public meeting with the contractor so that the news can be shared to as many people as possible. Details of the scheme were also published in the last newsletter.

In response to the request to move the public participation item down the agenda, the Chairman advised that it will remain as is to keep things in order. The Chairman is, however, happy to consider input from members of the public as items arise on the agenda, from time to time.

7. To receive updates from councillors & working group members

7.1 Update from the Friends of Helhoughton Playground

A previous group member is concerned about the 'dark tunnel' at the entrance and requested that the trees are cut back. It was noted that the trees belong to the Estate and they are unable to get necessary machinery through the gate to enable them to be cut back. Those members present did not feel the trees around the entrance were an issue. The new group members will liaise with previous members outside of this meeting to agree a plan of action. The new members are Vicky, Lynn and Edit.

7.2 To receive SAM2 data report

Cllr Harris reported that the laptop failed last time, as it will not keep charge. The Council therefore RESOLVED to purchase a new battery. Cllr Harris to action. Thanks, given.

7.3 Helhoughton Cemetery & Church yard report

Cllr Flint reported that all is in good order, but some rubbish was collected and put in the litter bin.

7.3.1 Receive update on churchyard bramble clearing

Cllr Moss reported that a volunteer working party will cut the brambles in October. The low yews will be cut by FACT and any other hardcore clearing, as agreed. Clerk to confirm a date with them. Help form additional volunteers will be greatly appreciated and should contact Cllr Price – Moss. Once the date is confirmed the Estate will be notified, who agreed to collect the debris.

7.3.2 Review and approve cemetery fees

Following discussion, the Council RESOLVED to apply a 10% increase to all cemetery fees, as proposed by Cllr Harris. Clerk to action.

7.4 Village Hall Committee report

Members present heard from Sean Millard and Jean Freeman. The dividing wall has been sorted out and the toilet will be repaired. Sally has developed a booking form, to be finalised shortly. Date for the Christmas party is Friday 20th December Sally and Lynn will apply to the Solar Fund for a grant towards this. . The Summer Tea Party was a success.

The whole outside space was sprayed with weed killer, costing £60, which was funded from the Hall Committee reserves. Thanks, given.

7.5 To hear from Jean Freeman with Solar Farm Committee report

Jean freeman reported that she has attempted to update the correspondence address with the bank but this is proving very difficult. The Solar money received this year amounted to £12413.98.

Almost all the funding was awarded last year, with approx. £1000 remining. £7400 approx. was awarded for the play area with new swing etc. £13,000 remains to be applied for. Last financial year new tables were purchased for the Hall, costing £1700, a Cayleigh dance for £260 and community afternoon tea for £500. The Committee will endeavour to source 3 quotes for repairs of the wall and church wall, and an application will also be applied to the Solar Fund. The management company (Bluefields) requires 2

representatives from the PC be appointed as members of the Solar Committee. They are also seeking a new Secretary/Clerk. Thanks, given.

8. Open Spaces

Cllr Price-Moss has received various verbal concerns from parishioners regarding dog mess around the meadow, pavement outside the Hall and Fludde Lane. Clerk to request NNDC carry out a survey.

The Village Hall Committee has asked the Estate to place dog signs on the field and outside the village hall. Evidence of offenders can be sent to police, if it is safe to do so. It was suggested that a note is included in the newsletter reminding people to pick up their dog mess and dispose of it correctly.

A parishioner requested an additional dog bin empty, as it appeared to be overflowing. Cllr Harris has reported it already and it was emptied the following day.

9. Planning Matters

9.1 To receive results of applications

PF/22/1584 | Site To East Of The Common, North Of Helhoughton Settlement,

Change of use of agricultural building (with extant permission ref. PU/21/3029 to convert to a dwelling) with extensions and external alterations to form a single dwelling

PC comment – NEUTRAL | NNDC decision – **PENDING**

Cllr Millard noted that additional reflective posts have been installed along the verge but that NNDC/NCC have approved them and are happy. It is believed these posts are the less rigid posts which are safer to other road users.

PF/23/0628 | Raynham Estate , The Lake , Harlands Road

Erection of 9 boathouse/lodges for use as holiday accommodation, access routes and use of existing barn for parking and cycle storage; landscape, woodland and ecological management and landscaping

PC comment –SUPPORT | DC decision - **PENDING**

PF/24/1122 - Paxfield Farm, Paxfield Road

Erection of agricultural workers dwelling

PC comment – NEUTRAL – DC decision - **PENDING**

9.2 To receive and consider new applications

There were none.

10. To receive and consider any correspondence

There was none.

11. Financial matters

Following consideration, the Council RESOLVED to approve a 3 year long term renewal for the street light maintenance contract.

11.1 To approve the bank reconciliation and payment of accounts list

The Council RESOLVED to approve the bank reconciliation and payments list (below)

Payments

Clerk	Salary Aug	111.70
HMRC	PAYE	27.80
Clerk	Salary Sept	111.70
HMRC	PAYE	27.80
EG Care	Grass Cutting	1152.00
K&M Lighting	Street Light Maintenance	20.20
Sam Jackson	Payroll Agent Fee	60.00
Sculthorpe PC	Clerk Exps	7.66
HNND C	Dog/Litter Bin Empties	273.48

Receipts

Barclays	Interest on reserves	30.20
----------	----------------------	-------

12. To receive any items for inclusion on the next agenda and to note the date of the next meeting

Items for inclusion at the next meeting:- Consider additional dog bin, propose members of the PC as representatives on the Solar Committee. The next meeting will be held on Monday 11 November. The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.10pm.

Signed by Chairman: Date: