

Hockering Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Hockering Parish Council held at 7:30 pm on Tuesday 8th November 2022 in the village hall.

Present:

Cllr J Blackwell (Chair)
Cllr R Neave
Cllr M Mason
Cllr B Higgins
Cllr L Parker
Cllr Bassett

Four members of the public
Sue Marsh (Clerk)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

No apologies received

2. To receive declarations of interest.

None received

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11th October 2022

Cllr Mason proposed that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th October 2022 be accepted as a true record of the meeting, this was seconded by Cllr Neave and agreed by Council. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

4. To receive County/District Councillor reports

None in Attendance

5. Open Forum for Public Participation

- a) A very enthusiastic discuss was had around what could be offered to the parishioners of Hockering, suggestions would be added to the December agenda for discussion.
- b) Discussion was had around what being a Parish Councillor entails, to be brought to the December meeting
- c) Comment was made regarding a typo on the agenda, also could the agenda be placed on the notice board earlier.

6. To receive a report on the Stile footpath and consider a tidy up of the watercourse

Matthew Philpot, area manager for the broad authority had walked the length of the footpath with the clerk and Chair to discuss what was needed. A few sandbags had been dislodged and Matthew would contact Anglia Water as he felt that these may be their responsibility. The rest of the watercourse was badly overgrown and needed clearing to minimise the risk of flooding.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would pay for the clearance operation at a cost of £1,400 plus VAT. Proposed by Cllr Neave, this was seconded by Cllr Higgins and

agreed by council. The upkeep of the stile footpath will be accounted for in the budget for 2023/24

The clerk has obtained two signs to go either side of the small bridge over the watercourse to warn of no handrails.

7. To receive a report on the trees along the stile footpath

Cllr Bassett had met with a tree surgeon who confirmed that nothing needed doing to the trees apart from clearing ivy from some of the trunks. Cllr Mason volunteered to remove the ivy

8. Planning Matters:

a) Applications for consideration

b) **3PL/2022/0761/D** – Approval of reserved matters application (Appearance, Landscaping and Scale) following outline permission 3PL/2021/0653/0 – 31 no. dwellings and associated works, including drainage infrastructure, internal road network, hard and soft landscaping, a Local Area for Play (LAP). Open space, and car and cycle parking pursuant. – **The council objects to this plan and will add comments to the Breckland District Council planning portal**

c) Take note of any planning decisions:

Council noted the following decisions by Breckland District Council:

- **None received**

9. To consider the HQN

Concerns were raised regarding the editorial amendments that had been made to some articles.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would continue to fund the HQN, but this would be reviewed each year.

It was agreed that more community involvement should be encouraged. One suggestion was that each Parish Councillor send a short bio about themselves.

10. To consider future planning

It was agreed that the clerk should investigate the cost and procedure involved in adopting a Parish Neighbourhood Plan. Other suggestions for the village were coffee mornings, warm place to stay, open day.

Thanks were given to Cllr Higgins for organising the pumpkin competition, it was agreed this should be an annual event.

Thanks also given to all who organise and helped at the bingo evenings, these have been well attended

11. To receive a report on the play area and potential new equipment/location

This item will be moved to the December meeting as awaiting communications from the village hall committee

12. Finance & Governance Matters

- a) To receive a financial report for the year ending 31st March 2023
- b) Council approved a suite of policies – proposed by Cllr Parker, seconded by Cllr Neave, and agreed by council
- c) Acceptance of bank payments were proposed by Cllr Bassett and seconded by Cllr Higgins. Agreed by Council:
 - Clerk Nov salary/allowances £361.38
 - HMRC – PAYE £ 83.80
 - SLCC annual fee £134.00**£579.18**

13. Correspondence for Circulation

None received

14. To receive any new items for the next agenda

- Brick Bus Shelter
- Dog waste Bin
- Event ideas

To note the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7:30pm on Tuesday 13th December in the village hall

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 8:50 pm

Signed Date