



Hockliffe Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Monday 14th October 2019 7.00pm

Present

Cllrs Capstick, Dickens, R Scott, P Scott, Rose, Coleman.

Clerk Washbrook

Steve Thulborn, Highways England (HE); Alan Jones and Pascal Baptista GallifordTry (Smart Motorways).

Apologies

Cllr Versallion, Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC)

063. Declaration of interest

(None)

064. Approval of minutes from 9th September 2019.

The minutes were approved and signed by Cllr Capstick.

065. Public forum

17 members of the public were present.

- The Hockliffe Herald is much improved and was said to be wonderful. Thanks were given to Cllr Dickens for his work in improving the newsletter and from Cllr Dickens to those from the village whose contributions were very much appreciated.
- The cemetery is looking very tidy, although the gate has dropped and won't shut properly. Action: look into companies or check with the handyman to see if this can be repaired.
- The cemetery gates have been damaged by the ride on lawnmowers.
 - Action: Cllr Coleman to provide photos of the damage, Clerk to contact Goldleaf.
- Remembrance Day. One of the residents displayed a cut out soldier in the village last year, it was queried if another one could be purchased by the Parish Council. The Parish Council would not be able to fund this, this year. Poppies have been made by a group of the residents to put around the village. It was hoped these would be able to be placed on lamp posts which will require permission from HE who would try to oblige if possible but will need the reference numbers for the lamp posts.
 - Action: Cllr Capstick to forward the reference numbers to HE once provided by the team producing the poppies.
- A HGV has been parking illegally on the hashed lines and pavement opposite the business park.
 - Action: details including company and registration to be passed onto the Clerk to alert the company and CBC.
- The pavement from the post office to the business park needs cleaning.
 - Action: Clerk to contact HE to clean this stretch.
- Hockliffe Signage at the village entrance has been missing for some time. HE will be replacing some of the gateway signage through the village. More information in item 068.
- There is a fallen tree blocking the footpath on the north end of the A5.
 - Action: Clerk to contact HE and ask to remove the tree.

066. Police report.

As no police were present, the crime statistics for the past month were reported.

067. Central Bedfordshire Councillor Mark Versallion Report.

No report was provided.



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068. Highways England update on safety measures and Smart Motorway works

Steve Thulborn from HE, Alan Jones and Pascal Baptista from GallifordTry (Smart Motorways team) were present.

Steve Thulborn apologised for the absence of his colleague who is responsible for the delivery team who was unable to make the meeting..

- There were no formal objections to the proposed traffic calming measures to the A5/Watling Street through Hockliffe, as a result these works will be commencing the week of 25th November, there has been some delay as HE have changed contractor. HE have booked road space to mid-December in case of activities being suspended due to weather, etc.
- Communications will be sent to residents and will be given to the Parish Council. The Parish Council will endeavour to keep residents up to date with any communications they receive throughout the works.
- Full closure of the road through Hockliffe will be required for the works to commence. During this period HE will arrange escort to and from properties for the residents.
- Work will initially start on vegetation clearance, followed by signage on the gateways and road. High friction surfaces will be put down and road markings including hatched areas will be painted.
- The Parish Council hope to lower the speed limit to 20mph on Woburn Road outside the school and hope to have Cllr Versallion's assistance with this.

Alan Jones and Pascal Baptista from GallifordTry Communications Team gave an update on the closures on the M1 upgrade to Smart Motorway that affect the traffic through Hockliffe.

- Signage has been changed including signage requesting drivers to turn off their satnavs and follow the diversion signs.
- GallifordTry are in contact with Waze, Tom Tom and Google Maps to divert traffic from going through Hockliffe during road closures to the M1. These will not be permanent, only during Smart Motorway works, however this is first and a big achievement.
- From 24th – 27th October there will be a full closure of the M1 from Junctions 13-15, both North and Southbound, during the night. On these nights there will be a mobile enforcement CCTV van monitoring diverted traffic, speed and collecting data. They will be able to prosecute speeding offenders. This van has never previously been usually used for this purpose, and is usually used to protect the workforce whilst on site.
- GallifordTry have worked with the police to get a box with two wires which go on the road to collect information to understand traffic movement and obtain data, e.g. speed of traffic. They are doing a lot of work to try to minimise traffic through Hockliffe. This will be in place on the 28th October. The data box location will be provided to HPC in due course.
- The next dates for planned closures on the M1 for Smart Motorways works are: 9th, 16th and 20th November; 14th December; 14th and 11th January; and 18th, 25th and 1st February.
- Feedback on signage from the residents and HPC will be sent to the Smart Motorways team, and they will make improvements if they are able, there are strict guidelines as to how the signage is delivered.

069. Matters Arising from the Minutes (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

- a. Councillor walk round. This has been carried out through some of the village, the remaining will be done in when possible. Notes have been taken about wonky/missing/dirty signage, the broken wheels on entrance to Hockliffe and the dog litter bin by the Post Office to establish what tasks need attending to.



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- b. Matters relating to the A5. The speed reduction to 20mph outside the school needs to be addressed now the A5 speed limit through Hockliffe is officially being reduced to 30mph.
 - Action: Contact Cllr Versallion and CBC regarding this issue.
- c. Planning application CB/19/02385/OUT. An objection from the council was submitted regarding this planning application.
- d. Christmas planning – Christmas tree and lights. It looks unlikely that the Greensand Trust will be able to provide a Christmas Tree, although Cllr Coleman will be looking to see if any are suitable. Cllr Coleman has passed one set of the previous Christmas lights to the clerk to give an idea of what is required.
 - Action: Clerk to contact other providers of Christmas trees to get quotes; and also get quotes and requirements for Christmas lights.

070. Matters for Resolution

- a. Replacement of small gate into churchyard. The quote for the gate and installation was agreed dependent of guarantee.
 - Action: Clerk to check guarantee and put into motion.
- b. Creation of sub-committees. The Parish Council and villagers would like to set up various sub-committees. A group has already had a meeting to discuss Hockliffe in Bloom. The Parish Council expressed their wishes to support such sub-committees. Each sub-committee will need to have their own terms of reference and guidelines to clearly set out what they will cover, permissions, the Parish Council's involvement, any financial aspects, etc.
 - Action: Clerk to contact NALC, SLCC, BAPT, etc to ascertain exactly what needs to happen to enable this and draw up a draft of guidelines and provide information for the councillors to edit.
- c. Public litter bin outside the village shop. The clerk has been in contact with CBC about moving the bin at the bus stop to the shop.
 - Action: Add to November's agenda.
- d. Renewal of grounds maintenance contract. Cllr Scott has received one quote, the deadline is 31st October. One contractor could not quote with boxcut, it was requested that they quote without.
 - Action: Add to November's agenda.
- e. Gutters and water surface drains. The drains on Leighton Road and A5 North are flooding.
 - Action: contact HE to ask them to clear these drains.
- f. Jobs for the handyman. The electric box needs checking; the MUGA needs to be cleared of moss/algae; the benches in the recreational grounds need treating and some of the childrens play equipment needs cleaning.
 - Action: Clerk to obtain the Handyman's contact details and to arrange these tasks to be carried out.
- g. Parish Council website. It was agreed that the Parish Council would use Simplink as a website designer and provider, subject to scoping requirements.
 - Action: Clerk to provide Cllr Capstick with Simplink's contact details. Cllr Capstick to go through information provided by Simplink and scope requirements to enable Simplink to provide a draft of the website for Cllrs and the Clerk (only) to view for comment.

071. Planning.

- a. Neighbourhood Plan Update. Due to personal circumstances the Neighbourhood Planner has been unable to work on the HPC Neighbourhood Plan, work will resume now these have resolved.



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- b. Local Plan Update. The CBC Local Plan (LP) needs revision. There are areas which need a lot of work, and some that do not. At present the council need to monitor what happens and how it will affect Hockliffe.
- c. Planning application 1-5 Kilby Court, Kilby Road, Hockliffe, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 9NR CB/19/02475/FULL. No objections were found to this application by the parish council.
- d. Planning application CB/TCA/19/00456 Works to trees in conservation area, The Crows Nest, Goose Green, Hockliffe.
 - o Action: Clerk to send out information/link of planning application to councillors.

072. Correspondence received (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

(None)

073. Policies signed off

The Financial Regulations (the NALC model) were signed off.

074. Finance

- a. Budget 2020/21. It was agreed to arrange an extraordinary meeting to discuss this.
 - o Action: Clerk to organise an extraordinary meeting before November's meeting on 11th November..
- b. Cheques authorised for payment:

Date	Cheque no	Company	Description	Amount
14/09/2019	1692	CBC	Hall Hire	£27.00
14/09/2019	1693	C Washbrook Clerk	Salary	£240.00

075. Date of Next Meeting and Items for the Agenda

The next scheduled meeting, is Monday 11th November 2019 at 7.00pm.

Items for next meeting's agenda:

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

11th November 2019

Signed