



Hockliffe Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Monday 10th February 2020 7.00pm

Present

Cllrs Dickens, R Scott, Rose, Coleman.

Clerk Washbrook

Apologies

Cllr P Scott, Cllr Versallion, Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC), Police

103. Declaration of interest

(None)

104. Approval of minutes from 13th January 2020.

The minutes were agreed and signed.

105. Public forum

5 members of the public were present.

- Flashing 30MPH signage. One of the signs has a defective light. This has been reported to Cllr Capstick, but as yet Highways England have not replaced it. It was discussed that HE have not signed off the works through Hockliffe, and it is likely be picked up when they make the final assessments.
- Verge outside the churchyard and cemetery. Cllr Dickens met up with a local farmer, who thought that it should be a straight forward job to stabilise the ground, however there are BT cables 12"-15" beneath the soil. If the cable is damaged then it could cause problems. It was queried as to whether there was a BT engineer in the village who would be available /on call if anything were to go wrong. The farmer gave an approximate quotation of £1.8-2.7K. Cllr Dickens is expecting another quotation.
- Note: The verge is conservation area and the council may need to apply to CBC for permissions.
- Church gate, clerk to chase up date for installation.
- It was suggested that aA thank you to the secretary for running the Evergreens, for so long in the Hockliffe Herald.
- The new works on the Harvester means that they expect to be able to accommodate 30 more covers. A resident queried whether the Harvester had considered the parking facilities, which are already small, to be enlarged.
- Speed reduction outside Hockliffe Lower School. The clerk had queried this with CBC as well as the police. CBC will only consider lowering the speed limit if the police would be on board. The police's response was that would only consider it if there were traffic calming measures in place – of which there are currently none. It would be advisable to ask Cllr Versallion if he would be able to see if traffic calming measures from CBC would be possible, especially in light of the recent accidents outside the school.

106. Police report.

No report was provided

107. Central Bedfordshire Councillor Mark Versallion Report.



Hockliffe Parish Council

Mark Versallion gave the below report, which was read out by Cllr R Scott.

There is a Boundary Commission review of CBC wards, restricted only to balancing the number of electors equally among CB Cllrs. It excludes any move of parish boundaries, county boundaries and parliamentary boundaries. There is a need to balance the numbers across Bedfordshire, including Leighton Buzzard and the surrounding villages, seven of which I represent. There is likely to be a submission from CB Council itself as to the shape and make up of these wards and a draft is to be tabled at its full council meeting on 20 February 2020. The Commission however may decide to adopt an entirely different proposal if it wishes. Any changes will not take effect until April 2023 and there will be a public consultation later this year. I have made the proposal that large rural wards with, in my case many parish councils, remain as single member wards, as the alternative is two member wards in the countryside and consequently a doubling would be needed in the population, and therefore the geographic size of the ward and many more parishes. This is an issue town/urban wards do not have as there is always only one town council and a much smaller territory to cover.

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

- Handyman appointment. The applicant is currently away, but the council will arrange a meeting with them when they return.
- Refuse bin outside the Newsagents. McDonald's were unable to provide a bin for the shop. As the parish council or CBC will not provide a bin there is no further avenues to be taken. Cllr Scott to talk to the owner of the shop to inform them of the situation.

109. Appointment of new Clerk for Hockliffe Parish Council.

Interviews for the new clerk will be arranged over the coming week. The new clerk is to introduce themselves to the school, council, etc and CC Cllr Capstick to her Hockliffe PC email account.

110. Reports of issues with Public Rights of Way.

All issues are currently resolved with exception of:

The bridge over to Goose Lodge is slippery.

Cllr Coleman to provide a map with footpath numbering.

111. Hockliffe In Bloom Quotes for planters

Quotes from Hockliffe in Bloom. 3 quotations were provided, the council's preferred quote was with the same company that Leighton-Linslade council use. The council asked for the Hockliffe in Bloom organisers to order the required containers and invoice Hockliffe Parish Council.

112. Finance

a) Payments for Authorisation:

Date	Cheque no	Company	Description	Amount
10/02/2020	1714	Goldleaf	Grounds Maintenance	£ 533.20



Hockliffe Parish Council

10/02/2020	1715	Simplink	Website building	£	91.30
10/02/2020	1716	Hockliffe School Association	Xmas Presents	£	100.00
10/02/2020	1717	CBC	Hall Hire	£	27.00
10/02/2020	1718	CBC	Hall Hire Speedwatch 24/1/19	£	34.88
10/02/2020	1719	C Washbrook	Salary	£	240.00
10/02/2020	1720	C Washbrook	Expenses	£	143.74
10/02/2020	1714	Goldleaf	Grounds Maintenance	£	533.20

- b) Account balances and Budget
- c) Budget 2020/21 and ring fencing of funds

The Budget for 2020/21 was agreed, it was agreed to bring the ring fencing of funds to the next meeting when the full council present.

113. Planning applications

Application: CB/20/00074/ADV. The council asked the clerk to respond to the planning application to say that the main sign was very imposing.

114. Hockliffe Parish Council website

The website builder was asked to attend a private meeting. He informed the council in writing that if the meeting was to be rearranged for a 3rd time he would charge for his time and travel.

115. Correspondence received (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

Items regarding the A5 and the new HE works should be forwarded to Cllr Capstick's email: cllr.r.capstick@hockliffepc.org.uk

116. Items for next meeting's agenda

Ringfencing of council funds

117. Date of Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting, is Monday 9th March 2020 at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

9th March 2020

Signed