

**Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Monday 11th
January 2021 – 7PM (Zoom Meeting)**

Councillors Present: Cllrs R Scott (Chair), P Dickens, P Scott, L Antonini, A Rose,
M Versallion (CBC)

Clerk: C Underhay

172: To receive apologies for absence:

Apologies were received from Cllrs D Coleman & R Capstick.

173: Declarations of Interest:

None received.

174: Approval of Minutes from 14th December 2020:

The Minutes were signed as a true reflection of the meeting.

175: Public Forum:

There were no submissions from any member of the public

176: Central Bedfordshire Councillor Mark Versallion report:

Cllr Versallion reported to the meeting as follows:

COVID vaccination programme - specifics will be out this Thursday (e.g.,
which surgeries etc will have the vaccine).

CBC draft budget for 2021/22 is out for consultation. Council tax
increase proposed is 2% plus 3% additional for adult care – total increase
therefore proposed is 5%.

Neighbourhood Plan – CBC has defended dropping 3 sites from
Hockliffe. HM Inspector has asked for reasons and is investigating and
should be back to CBC by the end of May 2021.

The Chair discussed two issues:

Building work going south past McDonalds – Cllr Versallion to ask CBC Planning.

Roseground owned land in Leighton Road – Cllr Versallion to initiate conversation with CBC regarding the orange fence that is in severe disrepair, and trees on the land that are in need of attention before they damage property.

177: Solar Farm:

Cllr Versallion reported that two are being built the area - Tillsworth and Chalgrave – construction traffic should not use the A5.

178: London Luton Airport – Arrival flightpath consultation:

Cllr Versallion advised that his interpretation of the details and maps circulated to Councillors is that this will not have any impact to Hockliffe. He says that our MP Andrew Selous shares this thought.

179: Matters arising not dealt with elsewhere on the

Agenda:

The Chair noted the following:

No CBC response yet regarding rats adjacent to Woburn Road or the rubbish on the Leighton Bypass.

The Chair had an email conversation with our MP Andrew Selous regarding speeding outside of the school as well as the A5, in the hope that this will influence CBC and Highways England.

Christmas Tree – Cllr Coleman will remove it on his own, so no COVID issues.

Telegraph pole (Leighton Road) - no update yet – Clerk has corresponded.

180: April 2021 – March 2022 Meeting Dates.

The Chair presented the proposed meeting dates for the year April 2021 to March 2022. It was universally resolved by Councillors that these dates be adopted. The dates will be available on the website and posted

in the Notice Board by the Post Office. The Clerk will check the dates with the school as and when it reopens.

181. Neighbourhood Plan:

The Chair notes that the Training session for the Council (including Clerk) has been arranged for 20th January 2021. The only Councillors left to confirm attendance are Cllr's Capstick & Coleman.

182. The Park:

The Chair reported that the Clerk has been in touch with other Parish Councils to obtain names for other contractors for work required from the ROSPA report. As it was Christmas, he has not approached these Companies – this is to be done in January. This will be an item for next month's meeting.

183. Tree Survey:

The Chair provided a quotation for this work to be undertaken (from RGS Arboricultural Consultants). This is for £350 plus VAT. This will provide a tree risk assessment - and provide mapping for those trees that require action for risk management purposes including a schedule of works. Cllr Dickens advised that the trees on the Green (by the church) are also the responsibility of the Parish Council. The Clerk will provide advice regarding the need for additional quotes.

184: Finance:

1. To authorise accounts for payment:

The Chair invited the Clerk to speak.

It was resolved that the following payments could be made (dated 11th January 2021):

Cheque	Amount	Payee	For
1791	£86.25	C Underhay	Clerk expenses*



Hockliffe Parish Council

"Serving the local community"

1792	£249.60	C Underhay	Clerk salary
1793	£62.40	HMRC	Clerk tax
1794	£415	Kallkwik	Hockliffe Herald
1795	£537.00	VGS	Grass cutting etc
1796			Cheque spoiled and destroyed
1797	£240	Mazars LLP	External Audit

*includes £32 for gifts re Santa Float – agreed at December meeting

2. Account Balances & Budget:

Due to postal delays (COVID at the post office) – the December bank statements have not been received. A reconciliation could not therefore be provided.

The spend against budget year to date was presented to the meeting, and this shows a 76% spend against budget (against 75% of the year passed).

The Clerk advised that we have received the external audit (this has been shared with Councillors). It has also been posted on our website. The legal inspection notice has also been posted on our website as well as in the Post Office notice board. Other than items noted from the internal audit (previously discussed), the auditor drew our attention to the funds held in the accounts and suggested we should earmark some of these. This will be a separate agenda item at the next meeting.

VAT - The Clerk has also advised that after he had received the outcome after a lengthy wait) to a query with the Inland Revenue, he has now submitted the return for the missing period – 1/8/17 to 31/3/19. Total claim is £9541.03.

Cllr Antonini updated the Council regarding quotes for printing the Hockliffe Herald – she has one additional quote, and is looking for one more (so we will have three including the current printing cost).

185: Planning – Applications Received:

CB/20/03489 – Hockliffe House – update from November meeting – no decision made yet (by CBC).

CB/20/04598 - Four Fields Tebworth – No comments

CB/20/04594 & CB/20/04285 – The Old Chapel – Noted that this would cause a tight turn, and that Highways England would need to be Consulted. The Council resolved that they were happy, subject to a risk review by Highways England.

CB/20/04627 – Goose Lodge. The Chair invited residents to comment. It was noted that the area is a conservation area on Green Belt Land – also noted that various Saxon artifacts have been found on the land – additional building would also increase traffic as well as increase light pollution. Cllr P Scott noted that in her view, as the planning application was in a conservation area, it should be protected. The Chair noted that we should also object because the proposal was on Green Belt Land. It was resolved by the whole Council that this proposal should be objected to on the basis of the proposed building being on Greenbelt land and part of a conservation area. The Clerk will formally advise CBC.

186: A5/Speedwatch:

Cllr Capstick was absent – so no report this month. A resident asked if Speedwatch could continue – even if it was conducted by a co-habiting team (COVID) – the Chair said he would bring this up with Cllr Capstick. It was also noted by a resident that there had been 2 accidents on the A5 in Hockliffe since the last meeting.

187: Blooming Hockliffe:

The Chair invited a member of the Blooming Hockliffe team to speak. Soil and plants will be ordered in time for the Spring planting. Planting will be done by co-habiting teams (to take care of COVID restrictions).

188: Handyman:

No report this month.

189: Cemetery Verge:

The Chair noted that the Clerk has obtained another name from Cllr Versallion, and he has written to him (as no response from the previous contact). The aim is to meet with someone to discuss what we want to do and hopefully agree a way forward. At the same time, a discussion regarding the flooding on the road by the cemetery would take place. The Clerk has not had a response yet.

190: Correspondence Received (for information only):

The Chair noted that one item of correspondence from a resident had been received regarding the path between the A5 and Church Lane. This is very muddy and full of leaves. The Clerk is to communicate with CBC regarding this.

191: Items for inclusion in the next agenda:

None – other than items noted so far.

192: Date & place of the next Parish Council Meeting:

This will be held on Monday 8th February 2021 via Zoom, commencing at 7pm. The Meeting was closed at 8.27pm

Colin Underhay – Clerk – 16th January 2021

Signed as a true record..... Rob Scott (chair) 8th February 2021

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