

**Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Monday 21st
February 2022**

Councillors Present: Cllrs R Scott (Chair), P Scott, L Antonini, P Dickens & D Coleman

Clerk: C Underhay

Guest: Mr Jack Bradley from Stockton Bradley Surveyors

149: To receive apologies for absence:

All Parish Councillors were present at the meeting.

150: Declarations of Interest:

No Declarations of Interest were received.

151: Mr Jack Bradley – Stockton Bradley Surveyors:

There was a conversation, led by Mr Bradley, around the effect of heavy traffic on the buildings/structures of Hockliffe, and what evidence can be gathered to forward to relevant parties such as National Highways. Jack will provide some quotes for possible work.

Action – Cllr P Scott to do a Freedom of Information Request to National Highways to obtain traffic data for before and after M1/A5 link and before data for A6/M1/A5 link. Detail to go to Jack Bradley. Cllr R Scott to talk to our MP (there was a similar situation in Northampton that was resolved, and the Northampton MP was heavily involved - so can our MP talk to him). Cllr R Scott is also meeting our MP in the near future.

152: Approval of Minutes from 10th January 2022:

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

153: CBC Cllr Mark Versallion Report:

Cllr Versallion sent the following report:

1. I have met with the headteacher of the Lower school recently and again with CBC to ensure that the speed reduction outside the school is progressing. The council assure me they will do the monitoring, with the cables in the road sometime in March and then look to get the work done, i.e., a public consultation and with stakeholders after which signage and the legal notice can be published. I would expect this this summer and certainly by the start of the new academic year at the beginning of September. I will keep up the pressure as always.

2. I have been liaising with the Council's enforcement and planning departments who have some concerns about the new concrete entrance way onto the A5, next door to the pallet company. Although the planning permission for the pallet company did include the field immediately to the south it did not include the new vehicle entrance, which will surely increase the danger and also congestion. I await an update from enforcement officers on this.

154: Public Forum:

A resident asked if the pathways between Whitehorse Close/Ninlands and Birches Close/Clifford Close could be made safer as, for example, small children on bikes come through them at some speed and drivers can't see them – the Chair asked the Clerk to write to CBC. A resident also noted that a premises may be operating as a gym without a proper license, and the Chair also asked the Clerk to contact CBC over this matter.

155: Matters arising from the Minutes not dealt with elsewhere on the Agenda:

The Chair noted that the dog waste bin at Church End had been moved to new location. The Clerk has now written to the Post Office to have the post box re opened.

Now COVID restrictions have been removed completely, the Delegated Powers Policy is to be removed. This was proposed by the Chair and

seconded by Cllr P Scott. The powers have not been used since the last Parish Council Meeting.

Cemetery Parking – the Clerk has not heard back from CBC Highways regarding the width requirement – the Clerk will now correspond with Cllr Versallion.

156: Planning – Applications received:

The Chair noted that there were no new planning applications to discuss.

Goose Lodge – CB/21/05100/Full – this has been granted by CBC.

157: The Park:

1. Work Update:

The work has now been done to standard, and the Parish Council has received the bill – which is £49971.35. This bill has some adjustments from the original invoice as follows:

1 extra skip – £250

Cableway seat hose - £58

Waste clearance of old soil etc - £680

Minus a discount of £130

The agreed estimate (including pence and net of VAT) came to £40784.96 – the above is an addition of £858 comes to £41642.96.

VAT on this amount is £8328.59 – a total of £49971.55.

The extra skip and waste clearance was because at the time of the quote, the waste was to be deposited on the weeds just inside the park – however, since then Power On have put hardcore in that area – so it was not suitable for the waste to be deposited – we had not considered this and it was not brought to our attention until the contractors were on site – we needed to have it cleared so the extra spend was authorized by the Chair and Clerk. The £58 Cableway seat hose was paid because after the quotation, the existing seat was vandalised.

The clerk has advised that the invoice has been sent to CBC so we can draw down the £12070.25 Community Asset Grant agreed last September. The overall net amount to the Council (taking into account the CAG and VAT reclaim) will be £29572.71. £28,000 of this amount is held in reserves (earmarked).

In order to pay the bill £30,000 will be transferred from our savings account to current account.

All of the above was proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr P Scott and resolved by all Councillor.

2. Signs:

Cllr Antonini agreed to get an estimate for a keeping dogs on leads sign. The Clerk will obtain an estimate for the ROSPA required sign.

3. CCTV:

The Chair asked the Clerk to obtain a quote for a Management Company to undertake this task. A power supply will probably be required.

158: Policy Renewals:

The following Policies were renewed for 12 months:

- Code Of Conduct
- Communications Policy
- Complaints Policy & Procedure *
- Document Retention Policy
- Equality and Diversity Policy
- Media Response Policy
- Social Media Policy

*This policy had one small change – the word penultimate was added to point c so the policy reads as it should.

The above renewals were proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr P Scott and resolved by all Councillors present.

159: Speedwatch:

No update – the chair asked the Clerk to write to the coordinator for a list of future dates.

160: A5:

Cllr P Scott advised there was no further update.

161: HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee:

Cllr Antonini updated the Council on work so far – a family fun day, either in the school or park, will be run on the Saturday (4th June). Other events will be a tree planting day on the Thursday (2nd June) and a house decoration/scarecrow day on the Friday (3rd June). The committee is due to meet again this coming week.

162: Neighbourhood Plan:

Richard advised that he is still collating the information from the recent survey.

163: Handyman

No update – the Clerk will provide a spreadsheet at the next meeting

164: Finance:

The Chair asked the Clerk to speak.

1. To authorise accounts for payment:

The following payments were presented. It was resolved by all Councillors present that they could be paid:

Chq No	Amount	Payee	Reason
1910	£349.60	C Underhay	Jan Salary

1911	£87.20	HMRC	Clerk Tax
1912	£297.00	Kallkwik	Hockliffe Herald
1913	£599.55	Goldleaf	Groundcare
1914	£27.00	CBC	School Hire Jubilee Meeting
1915	£26.00	R Alexander	Cable Protectors (Christmas)
1916	£49971.55	Fenland	Park (above)
1917	£349.60	C Underhay	Feb salary
1918	£87.40	HMRC	Clerk Tax
1919	£63.57	C Underhay	Clerk Expenses
1920	£27.00	CBC	School hire for this meeting

In addition, the following Direct Debits/Standing Orders have been paid in February 2022:

£26 to C Underhay for working at home allowance

The following credits were also received:

47p interest

£28.00 – Hockliffe Herald advertising

£360 rotary donation for specific use for Jubilee Event – this amount will therefore be transferred to earmarked funds for this event.

2. Account Balances & Budget. To review summary of spend against budget:

As at 1st February 2022, the balance of the current account is £19224.11, and the savings account £54916.56.

Reconciliation for January 2022 was presented – as at the end of January, 80.4% of the budget has been spent against 83.3% of the year that has elapsed. Income is £1272 over budget – a further VAT refund of £854 is due – so expectation is that we will be £2126 up on budget.

165: Correspondence Received (for information only):

The Chair noted that one item of correspondence had been received about the adoption of Clifford Close, and this had been answered.

166: Items for inclusion in the next agenda:

Rubble in the park

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Colin Underhay – Clerk – 28th February 2022

Signed as a true copy..... R Scott (14th March 2022)