

**HAWSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
AT THE VILLAGE HALL  
ON 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Cllrs J West (Chairman), C Carr, H Brewis, R Alexander, P Barham, P Baker and G Rushen. C Hibbert (Clerk).

Two members of the public.

**Apologies:** N/a.

The filming statement was taken as read.

**1. RECEIPT OF DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Declarations of acceptance of office were received from the chairman and vice-chairman.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Noted.

**3. PUBLIC FORUM**

**3.1 Public participation.**

The following points were made: (i) a resident reported on his disappointment at the outcome of the planning decision at item 8.3; he has written to the planning department at WSC to express his concerns particularly given it appeared none of the decision makers were familiar with the application site and had not taken on board comments made by WS Councillor TC who has since resigned from the development control committee; the tree belt surrounding the application site has been largely felled; he was concerned there should be improved clarity available to small rural communities as to how the WSC planning policies should apply. (ii) another resident commented that she had written to the planning department to complain about the manner in which the relevant development control committee meeting (ref item 8.3) was conducted and was concerned that the outcome appeared pre-determined, no account having been taken of local objections to the proposals.

**3.2 County Council.** A copy of C Cllr K Soons' report was received; a copy will be uploaded onto the PC website.

**3.3 West Suffolk Council.** No report received.

**3.4 Police;** a link to the most recent police report is available at <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/your-area/haverhill>.

**4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

**4.1** HB declared an interest in item 8.2 to the extent he is a neighbour of the application site;

**4.2** No dispensations were granted in relation to any identified pecuniary interests.

**5. MINUTES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATED 6<sup>th</sup> MAY 2021.**

The minutes from the Parish Council meeting dated 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021 were **APPROVED** and will be signed as a true and accurate record of this meeting.

**8.3 Decision notice re DC/20/2212/HH (Woodlands The Pound Hawstead Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP29 5NJ) Householder planning application - three bay cart lodge and machinery store with first floor guest accommodation above approved 1 July 2021. (taken out of turn)**

The meeting heard that Cllrs PB, JW and WS Cllr TC had attended the development control committee and spoken against the proposal; the meeting was disrupted by technical difficulties/poor presentation; it was apparent that few if any committee members had visited the site - nor were they familiar with the site; local objections were dismissed and the committee chose to follow the officers' recommendation to approve. During discussion it was suggested that; (i) PC planning responses should be supported by reference to the relevant planning policies; (ii) the PC should consider whether to pursue a neighbourhood plan as a means of gaining more control over local planning decisions; It was **AGREED** that the PC would; (a) write to WSC/Secretary of State to complain about the conduct of the meeting and the fact that local objection as to scale and height/proximity to boundary /building line) had not been taken into; and

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(b) report the felling of the trees to WSC planning enforcement, given the nature of the planning conditions purportedly protecting the trees in this area.

## 6. REPORTS

**6.1 Communications;** the meeting heard that; (i) communication within the village is working well.

**6.2 Greens;** the meeting heard that; (i) the green is likely to be cut for hay shortly; (ii) the nature walk was well attended (thanks to HCC for helping to organise); (iii) the mowing schedule is being implemented, but the timing of cuts has been unpredictable. Councillors were requested to let Cllr CC know by text if they saw the contractors on site on order that she can speak to them.

**6.3 Footpaths and trees;** the meeting heard that the footpaths have been strimmed; the bridge defects and wobbly finger post have been reported; consideration will be given to the timing of any cut of the nettles along the riverbank to open up this area.

**6.4 Highways;** the meeting heard that the roads are in reasonable condition; various potholes/signage issues have recently been reported to SCC.

**6.5 Safety (emergency plan);** nothing to report.

**6.6 Volunteering;** it is hoped that the volunteer group will be able to resume its activities after lockdown.

**6.7 Clerk.** The clerk report was received and **NOTED.**

## 7. TO CONSIDER

**7.1 Flooding issues at Bells Lane and Pinford End;** correspondence had been received which noted that works to address flooding at Pinford End and Bells Lane bridges will be added to the schedule of planned drainage works; resourcing is limited and there are various criteria which inform the priority given to different cases.

**7.2 Speeding at Larkfield Corner;** those present **AGREED** to explore the purchase of signage to slow traffic down at this dangerous corner to prevent the risk of accidents.

**7.3 The Brook Green project;** Representatives from SWT will over the next few months prepare a work programme for implementation by volunteers to introduce some kind of long term management strategy to this area of woodland.

**7.4 Website administrator;** it was **AGREED** that AP should be invited to prepare an article for the Village Voice outlining the scope of this role for potential successors.

**7.5 Distribution of speeding stickers;** Cllr PB **AGREED** to organise the distribution of the wheelie bin speed stickers around the village for which thanks.

**7.5 Village Hall hire – terms during Covid;** it was **AGREED** that the village hall hire terms and conditions should be relaxed to allow additional gazebos to be placed on the green where appropriate during the ongoing pandemic.

**7.6 formal thanks following Covid support scheme;** it was **AGREED** that the Council would formally thank SW by gift for the work she did to support residents during Covid-19.

## 8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS, APPEALS AND NOTIFICATIONS

**8.1 Planning Appeal Notification -AP/21/0021/HAS. Householder planning application – detached garage (following demolition of existing garage) at: 19 Whepstead Road Hawstead IP29 5NS (re application NO: DC/20/1913/HH)**

It was **AGREED** that clerk should seek to establish the grounds of appeal.

**8.2 DC/21/1124/HH Householder planning application - single storey workroom and terrace on side of existing garage and change finish on existing garage to match new element at Peartree House Bull Lane Pinford End Hawstead IP29 5NU** The meeting heard that the proposals for a wooden studio with flat roof were sited in a well screened property.

Councillors considered a letter of objection from a neighbour concerned about overlooking of neighbouring property/loss of screening. It was **AGREED** that the Council would **SUPPORT** the proposal on condition that the front and side hedging is retained (subject to any reasonable height reduction for good management) to provide visual screening/ prevent the potential for overlooking which would otherwise impact on the amenity value of neighbouring properties.

## 9. FINANCE

**9.1 To receive and approve the quarterly summary to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021:** the summary attached was received and **NOTED.**

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**9.2 To receive and approve the bi-monthly financial summary for May-June 2021;** received and **APPROVED.**

**9.3 To approve payments;** the following payments were **APPROVED:-**

	Detail	Cheque no/online payment	Net (of VAT)	Vat	TOTAL
1	C Hibbert 1&1		14.97	2.99	17.96
2	C Hibbert wage		865.20		865.20
3	J West Expense		48.90		48.90
4	J West Expense		16.19	3.24	19.43
5	Suffolk Preservation Society training		25.00		25.00
6	SALC		158.00	31.60	189.60

**9.4 To receive and note the internal audit report;** the report was received and the recommendations were **NOTED.**

**10. CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY:** The chairman thanked those present for their contribution and emphasised the need for team work and effective communication going forward.

**11. CORRESPONDENCE AND CIRCULARS**

The following correspondence was received:-

11.1 Play area reports for June and July 2021 plus annual inspection report;

11.2 SALC info on Queen's Platinum Jubilee;

11.3 SCC info re finger post plaques

11.4 WSC letter re mowing

11.5 OSS advice note on footpaths

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 7.30pm.

*The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.*

Distribution

All Cllrs

Email list

Website

Noticeboard

Docs before the meeting

CC reports

Clerk report

Bi Monthly summary

Summary to 30 June 2021

Clerk report

Signature.....

**Attachment to item 9.1**

HAWSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL: SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2022 as at 30 JUNE 2021

RECEIPTS	21/2022 Actual	Budget 20/21	20/2021 Actual		PAYMENTS	Actual 21/22	Budget 21/22	Actual 20/21
DEFRA /RPA grant		250	1963.15					
Precept	7400	1500	7200					
Wayleaves	41.44	50	41.44					
Bottle bank		7400	420					
Locality grant			841		HCC		0	984.54
Community orchard					Community orchard		0	47.01
Contribution to Xmas tree					Xmas tree			88.96
Contributions to printing					Journal (Printer costs)		0	
VAT REFUND			1182.65		VAT PAID	14.98	0	517.14
					Grants s137		150	150
					Grants GPOC			
					Personnel (wages/tax + expenses)	846.20	4000	3460.80+242.66
					Admin (ICO, room hire/payroll)		350	210.90
					Subscriptions	144.44	250	185.72
					Training		150	25
					Insurance		350	304.30
					Audit fee		170	155
					Misc	405.96	300	185.99
					Reserves/legal fees			
					Tree work			
					Village maintenance		400	98
					Village greens		2730	1271.26
					Defibrillator		50	135
					Website fees	74.94	300	299.76
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>7,441.44</b>	<b>9,200</b>	<b>11,648.24</b>		<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	<b>1,486.52</b>	<b>9200</b>	<b>8,362.04</b>

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