

HOCKERING PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING FOR 9th MARCH 2021

ALL COUNCILLORS CONSULTED: J McMahon, R Hawker, M. Darge, Mrs R Neave, M. Mason, N.Blackwell.

CHAIRMAN: J McMahon.

CLERK: Penny Hawker

APOLOGIES: None this month.

All documents were circulated electronically or by paper copies and circulated.

It was agreed to focus only on matters that needed immediate consideration.

The minutes of the last meeting of 9th February 2021 were agreed correct and signed by the Chairman, J McMahon.

MATTERS ARISING. It is still noted that the vacancy created by the resignation of D Johnson cannot be filled until a meeting can be held in the village hall.
Parish Handyman. This needs further discussion once the parish council can meet.

PARISH COUNCILLOR DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS: No requests for dispensation this month.

PLANNING & ROADS

3PL/2021/0215/F. Land north of 3 Bramble Drive, Hockering. Erection of dwelling. Deadline for comments was 8th March 2021. Details were circulated among the council and a unanimous objection was made to this application as it is outside the village settlement boundary and not targeted for any development at all. It was felt that there should be no further development in this area unless the local plan is revisited and the appropriate consultations and investigations have taken place.

3PL/2021/0298/HOU. 1 Canary Close, Hockering. Single-storey extension. This application came after the agenda was written and details were circulated. There were no objections to this application. Breckland DC confirmed that the neighbours had been notified.

3PL/2021/0319/VAR. Land adjacent to Heath Cottage, 24 Heath Road, Hockering. Variation of condition no.2 on 3PL/2018/03383/F. Proposal for a single-storey 3-bedroom detached dwelling. Updated details.
There were no objections to this application.

A47dualling and Norwich Western Link. R Hawker attended a virtual meeting of the Local Liaison Group (LLG) on 23 February 2021. No official minutes are yet available. There is much concern about the effect on other villages of severing Church Lane at Easton, through which around 4000 vehicles per day access the A47. With no Norwich Western Link in place, Norfolk County Council (NCC) is not certain where all this traffic will go, but much is likely to go through Ringland and use Taverham Road to get to the A47 at Norwich Road junction, or add to traffic through Weston Longville and possibly Hockering. NCC do not have a plan to divert this traffic elsewhere and do not have consistent traffic figures.



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FINANCE: -

Financial Risk Assessment – Approval of Annual Review.

This was unanimously approved.

PAYMENTS THIS MONTH:

S Hawker. Website admin. £66.00

OTHER ISSUES

Dog bin – The Stile – the chairman has offered to check the bins and advise Breckland if they have not been emptied or are full. It may be necessary to consider the purchase of another bin.

Trees bordering the A47 at St Michael's Close. R Hawker has detailed several options which Highways England(HE) have made for cutting back the trees. He has canvassed opinion of near residents, and has sent a response to HE (3 March) that our choice would be for Option 1, which is to remove all trees within 3m of the residents' fences, and trim those nearest the road to around 2 – 5 m height. He has yet to hear back from HE.

Damage to stream bank. The Stile. This seems to be holding up at present so action is not urgent.


CORRESPONDENCE AND AOB:

Parking on verge R Hawker is keen that the council take some action on this issue. It is unnecessary on Heath Road, as the road is quite wide, and the verge has been damaged quite badly. The alternative is to ask the police to take action, as there are obvious tracks where the car has mounted the verge. (It is not illegal to park on the verge, just to DRIVE onto it). Further discussion is needed.

Village Hall Defibrillator. This was used on 8th March in Hockering. No details of who, or outcome, except that G Leslie, parishioner, had to travel to Longwater Ambulance centre to retrieve the machine. New spare electrodes are needed. As the defibrillator is the Parish's responsibility, R Hawker has offered to purchase replacement pads on behalf of the parish council.

Heath Road, Lyng Road and Stone Road 50 mph speed limit order. Objections to this proposal need to be made to Norfolk County Council by 9th April 2021.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 13th April 2021. Decision on how this will take place is subject to lifting of the lockdown and any new regulations imposed. As there are important issues to discuss, it is likely to be held on the village hall, safety precautions in place.


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