

Hockering Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Hockering Parish Council held at 7:30 pm on Tuesday 21st December 2021 in the village hall.

Present: Cllr J McMahon (Chair)
Cllr R Neave
Cllr M Mason
Cllr J Blackwell
District Cllr Gordon Bambridge
Two members of the public
Sue Marsh (Clerk)
Sheryl Irving (Responsible Finance Officer)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, apologies were received from Cllr Matt Darge and Cllr Brian Higgins.

2. To receive declarations of interest.

None received

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9th November 2021

Approved and signed by the Chairman

4. To receive County/District Councillor reports.

District Cllr Gordon Bambridge reported that Breckland District Council (BDC) were finalising their part of the Council Tax. BDC have the lowest district council tax in the country.

Councillor Bambridge went on to report that the anticipated grant of £500 per parish council to assist with funding for village Platinum Jubilee celebrations might be changed to individual awards. Exact methodology was still being discussed.

5. Open Forum for Public Participation

Comments:

- Could the minutes include fewer acronyms to make them easier to follow.

6. Planning Matters:

- a) Applications for consideration – none.
- b) Take note of any planning decisions:

Council noted the following decisions by Breckland District Council:

- **3DC/2021/3030/D** – The Mollets, Mill Lane, NR20 3HH – Discharge of conditions 5 & 7 on 3PL/2021/1193/F – Completed
- **3PL/2021/1503/H** – 3 The Glebe, NR203TX - Raising of roof of existing garage to create first floor studio accommodation together with external staircase – Approved

7. Highway Matters

The clerk confirmed that she had attended the A47 zoom meeting. The clerk has sent the minutes of this meeting and the presentation to the councillors.

8. To receive an update in respect of the Queens Platinum Jubilee 2022

Cllr McMahon requested that a working party was set up in the village, that was not to be run by the Parish Council. The Parish Council has budgeted some funding for the celebrations. It was agreed that the first meeting of the working group should be held in the village hall on Thursday 27th January 2022.

9. To receive an update regarding local events

As Cllr Higgins was unable to attend the meeting, this item would be carried forward.

10. To receive an report regarding the COVID – 19 Memorial Plaque

Cllr McMahon will liaise with The Lord Lieutenants office regarding a date for the presentation.

11. To receive a report on the HQN funding

The professional advice received was not clear on whether the Parish Council could fund the HQN without any editorial control. The funding equated to 20% of the Parish Council precept. It was agreed that a meeting should be held between the editor of the HQN and Cllr McMahon – date TBC.

12. Finance & Governance Matters

- a) Financial report for the year ending 31st March 2021 was received and agreed.
- b) Revised budget was received agreed. A motion was carried to keep the precept for 2022/23 at the same level as 2021/22 (no increase).
- c) The Code of Conduct policy was agreed - Proposed By Cllr Blackwell, seconded by Cllr Mason – Motion carried.

The Grant Award Policy was agreed. Proposed By Cllr Mason, seconded by Cllr McMahon – Motion carried.

The Events Working Group Report was carried forward to the next meeting.

- d) The bank payments were authorised:

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| • Clerk (November salary and allowance) | £226.00 |
| • Responsible Finance Officer (November salary and allowance) | £119.62 |
| • HMRC – PAYE | £ 82.60 |

- SLCC Membership £103.00 (inc VAT)
- NALC Membership £ 41.67 (inc VAT)
- Santa's Sack - Donation £ 50.00 (paid)
- HGQ – Winter/Christmas Edition £479.27
- Website TBC
- Play Area Repairs TBC

13. It was agreed that no meeting would take place in January 2022. The next meeting would be at 7:30 pm on Monday 7th February at the village hall.

Signed Date