

MINUTES OF MEETING OF HASKETON PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON 13th July 2023

At 6.20 pm in the Victory Hall, Tymmes Place, Hasketon, Suffolk

Final Minutes

Present: Stuart Dack Chairman (SD), Parish Councillors (PCllrs), Niki Field (NF), Iain Whyte (IW) (Vice Chairman) and Bill Helm (BH), Ann Turner (AT) and Steve LECKIE (SL), (Hasketon Parish Clerk).

Also present were County Councillor (CCllr) Elaine Bryce (EB) and District Councillors (DCllr) Colin Hedgley (CH), and Dan Clery (DC).

There was one member of the public (MOTP) in attendance.

1. **Welcome & Introduction:** SD welcomed everyone in attendance.
2. **Apologies for Absence:**
Apologies were received from Chris Everson (CE), due to work commitments.
3. **Declaration of Interests:** None.
4. **Minutes of Previous Meetings:**
Annual HPC and Parish Mtg 11/5/2023, EO PC Mtg 26/06/2023.
Minutes of meeting held on 9th March 2023, previously circulated, were accepted, and approved as a true record and initialled by the Chairman (SD).
5. **Matters Arising from Previous:**
110523 Annual meeting of Parish Council
Item 13 – Planning - submitted comments.
Item 17 – Annual insurance renewed.
Item 21 – Suffolk Cloud Final invoice paid.

260623 EO Mtg
Item 5 Planning- Comments submitted.
Item 6 ii. Transfer of funds – completed Form to be signed.
Item 8 Internal audit recommendations – completed by Clerk SL. [Exercise of Public Rights displayed on noticeboard and published in timely manner].
Item 9 AGAR submitted before deadline by Clerk SL and acknowledged by External auditor. Invoice to follow.
7. **Report: District Councillors:** Reports received and circulated. (attached)

DC gave an overview of his report and took questions. He gave details of a new scheme for school uniform but stated the timeline for application was tight being 280723. There was also a new organisation to assist 'Homelessness' through private rental accommodation. He spoke about ESSL East Suffolk Services Ltd – a new version of NORSE and other services which was proposed to be better value.

IW asked about the possibilities of local links for second hand instruments. This was to be explored due to health and safety aspects, but the Parish newsletter was suggested as an initial outlet. NF agreed to speak to school.

CH gave an overview of his report and took questions. He spoke about the recent Planning meeting where 100 persons were present and that it was now a top agenda item. He expressed that he had already granted £3500 and that DC had a further £6500 available. Expenses were available if requested through projects. A development had been made in planning so that representation could now be made if application goes to full planning Committee. There was 3 mins allocated for Councillors and CH had 10 mins.

BH made reference to the recent Planning meeting attended by the Parish Council and emphasised the lack of full understanding at top management level.

SD asked if recycling information offered by CH could be shared. It was agreed and SD stated that it could be placed on Hasketon Happenings. SL agreed to forward it to the Parish Magazine.

8. Report: County Councillor: Report received and circulated. (attached)

EB gave an overview of her report and took questions. She was aware of the continued problems of potholes in shrubbery Lane but emphasised the need to continue to use the Online Reporting Tool. She would follow up if not resolved.

She drew attention to the recent success of Suffolk Trading standards and grants of £1800,000 to assist persons with pre-payment meters. £100 million is to be spent on Broadband and City Fibre have the contract. IW stated the Village is divided by reception.

IW expressed concerns over Hogweed and Hemlock and was advised it was a Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries issue, but the website gave advice. There was a current issue outside the local Public House.

At 0715pm the County and District Councillors left to attend other meetings.

6. Invitation for Members of the Public to Speak:

A member of the public present expressed great concern over the building works in Blacksmiths Lane. This concerned the new development that the Parish Council had expressed approval for. They gave a personal example of careless parking and a lack of concern shown by site workers when challenged. They had witnessed unnecessary turning by large vehicles in private driveways. SD stated that the Parish Council could write to the Director of the building company to indicate their concerns. It was emphasised by the Clerk SL that the Parish had specifically made reference to parking in their approval but that I was not on the final document. SL gave advice on possible Police offences.

The MOP then stated that they had concerns over the overgrown hedge on the edge of the green when emerging from Tymmes Place and asked if it could be heavily trimmed. They were advised new steps were proposed and the hedge would be addressed.

They also expressed concerns over the Rewilding area in front of the houses and asked if this could be cut and repositioned inside the fence line. SD agreed this could be done.

They also expressed concerns over the quality of the work carried out by the contractors and asked if they could be changed. SD indicated it was a contract and with new changes we needed more evidence of poor work to make a change at this early stage.

ESSL to be contacted and provided with a new Plan for the rewilding.

ACTION - Clerk

9. Finances:

- i - End of Year Accounts (period 01/4/2023 to 30/06/2023)
Summary of Accounts since 010423. (attached)
Clerk reported an overall balance of £35136.03 being £34010.52 Savings account and £1125.51 current account.

It was resolved to approve and adopt the accounts as presented.

**Proposed -IW
Seconded -SD**

Clerk confirmed the accounts had been sent and checked by AT.

- ii - Approval of Invoices and transfers.

Ch No 100873 NIKI FIELD - REWILDING PROJECT	£115
Ch No 100877 Steve LECKIE [CLERK]-EXP 01	£95.09
Ch No 100878 HMRC 1st Quarter	£151
Ch No 100879 Steve Leckie [Clerk pay Jun 23]	£225.58

Anticipated Expenses

Steve LECKIE [CLERK PAY JUL 23]	£225.58
DD TESCO MOBILE JUL/AUG 23	£18
NORSE APR-JUNE 23	£198
Viking – Admin sundries	£57.36
Admin/Clerk Expenses (EXP 02 260623 to 130723)	£101.83

It was resolved to approve the invoices for payment.

**Proposed – IW
Seconded – NF**

- iii. Internal Audit Report /AGAR 2022-23
SL reported that the AGAR for this year had been submitted to the external auditors prior to the 3rd July 2023 and had been acknowledged. An invoice for services was anticipated. Copies had been circulated to the Parish Council and placed on the noticeboard and website.

- iv. VAT return 2022-23.

SL reported a return had been submitted for £1283.04 on 040723 and had been acknowledged.

- v. Clerk matters –

SL reported that a Direct Debit had been successfully set up for the payment of the ICO and a saving of £5 had been made – Fee £35.

10. Village Fete 2023:

General discussion about arrangements but nothing specific for the Council. IW requested grass to be cut week before.

ACTION - Clerk

11. Village Amenities and Events: Updates only

a) Allotment Matters –

Sarah Butters who reported overgrown paths had been a problem on the allotments, but requests have been made for these to be cleared. Allotments 3 and 5 have not been visited but this was possible a temporary issue. SB had been asked if there were any allotments available for use. SB was amenable to allowing ap art use to see if these persons were really committed to the idea. IW asked SL if this was allowed and was advised we could change rules if required.

IW asked SL to sent letters to the tenants emphasising the regulations.

ACTION - Clerk

b) Victory Hall (Village Hall)

IW stated discussions concerning Victory Hall refurbishments continued and he would update the Parish Council regarding possible requests for funding at the next meeting. It was agreed a new Dishwasher was need. Further plans to be discussed.

ACTION - IW

c) Amenity/Car Park area

Quotes- review of quotes from local contractor.

SL had circulated an overview of finances and possible permutations to allow some of the initiatives. Consensus of opinion was that all could not be achieved, and Reserves need to be preserved at this stage. Therefore, only two projects were approved.

It was agreed to pursue the rewilding quote:

The rewilding works as listed at £3,217.70 inc of VAT

**Proposed – AT
Seconded – SD**

It was agreed to pursue:

The Village Hall driveway area as listed at £12,179.60 inc of VAT

**Proposed – AT
Seconded – NF**

d) Play Area -pended

e) Bus Shelter - pended.

f) Benches – benches needed to be reviewed for repair or replacement.

g) War Memorial – pended.

h) Tree management – pended.

i) Grass/Hedge Management – as discussed.

j) Grit Bins – pended.

k) Footpaths – BH had reported the overgrown footpath because of an email redirected by SL. BH had done some clearing and was happy to continue to do so but a tree had fallen on path 17. BH also expressed that there was an initiative to extend footpath 33 but this was still in the planning stage.

12. Councillor Register of Interests: (ROI)

SL queried with those councillors present if they had completed their ROI as he had not received confirmation from many Councillors. It was acknowledged by all present that it had been completed. CE who was not present had informed SL it was completed.

13. Correspondence:

SL said Sarah Butters had directed an email to him concerning the Allotments, but this was dealt with earlier in the meeting.

Email re footpath being overgrown [see Above]

ACTION - Clerk

14. Date of Next Meeting and close: 140923 closed 20.15 hrs

Steve LECKIE Hasketon Parish Clerk.

Signed:Chairman. Date.....

Steve LECKIE Parish Clerk