

## HONINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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### Minutes of the Council meeting on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021, 7.00pm via Zoom Video Conferencing

**Cllrs present:**

David Bishop – Chair (DB), Linda Human (LH), Richard Kirkham (RK), Michael Eales (ME), Roger Human (RH), Tony Roberts (TR)

**Cllrs absent:**

Sam Steggles (SS)

**Other:**

Jordana Wheeler (Clerk), Cllr Greg Peck (GP), Cllr Peter Bulman (PB), 2 members of the public were present.

This meeting took place via video conference due to the current Coronavirus pandemic and current government guidelines.

1. Apologies for Absence
  - 1.1. Apologies were received and accepted from SS. All other Councillors were present.
2. To receive any Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda and consider any requests for dispensation
  - 2.1. There were no declarations of interest.
3. To approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020
  - 3.1. The minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020 were received and read by Councillors prior to the meeting. The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes. The Clerk will liaise with DB to sign the minutes after the meeting.
4. To report on progress of matters arising from previous meetings – Information only
  - 4.1. There was nothing to report.

Draft minutes until approved at the Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Chairman Signature:

Date:

5. Finance - To review and approve the bank reconciliation for December 2020/January 2021 and approve payments for the following:

The Council reviewed the bank reconciliation; no questions were received. The Clerk noted the donation to the village hall had been previously included in the budget to assist with the ongoing maintenance of the hall. Councillors considered whether the grant should still be paid as the Council have not used the hall for a year during the pandemic. DB noted the grants the village hall has received from Broadland District Council due to being forced to close the hall during lockdowns. LH reported that the halls finances were currently ok but repair costs had not yet been finalised for the recent flood damage. The Council **RESOLVED** to withhold the donation to the village hall for 2020-21 (payment 5.1). It was noted that if the village hall did require any assistance it was always able to approach the Council in the future. The Council **RESOLVED** to approve payment 5.2.

	Description	Payment Type/Cheque Number	Amount
5.1	Honingham Village Hall – Donation	Unpaid	£200.00
5.2	Jordana Wheeler – Salary & Expenses Nov 2020	BACS	£11.37

6. To agree the retention of the donation to the Grant Scheme
- 6.1. The Clerk noted that the Council Grant Scheme has not been advertised this year as all local groups are inactive during the pandemic. The Council **RESOLVED** to retain the budgeted £500 for the Grant Scheme and roll it over to next year's scheme. The additional funds in 2021-22 may benefit groups trying to restart after the pandemic.
7. To agree the appointment of an internal auditor for 2020-21
- 7.1. The Council **RESOLVED** to appoint Max Bergin as the internal auditor for 2020-21.
8. To discuss recent flooding in the village
- 8.1. Flooding occurred in the village again over the Christmas period, affecting The Street by the bridge over the river Tud. The Clerk has contacted Highways and they have agreed to unblock the drains around the area. Two residents have also attempted to clear the drains when the floods occurred and there was an urgent need to clear the water for safety reasons. Water continues to flow down Colton Road off the fields, the landowner has agreed to work with the Council to try and find a solution to reducing this.
- 8.2. Silt, mud and water is collecting at the junction of Colton Road and The Street making the junction slippery and is a danger to drivers who can't see it in the dark. TR suggested getting some temporary Flood signs which could be displayed as a warning to drivers. Advice would be needed from Highways about where the signs could be displayed. ME enquired when the drains were last cleared. They were cleared last February but are only cleared when requested and not cleared regularly.  
**ACTION** – Clerk to speak to Highways about options for Flood signs.
- 8.3. GP explained the new taskforce being set up by Norfolk County Council (NCC), bringing together 36 agencies who all deal with flooding to tackle future flooding. The taskforce will identify areas which flood across the County and try to identify who is responsible. Parishes will be asked to provide information on flooding issues in their parish.
- 8.4. LH noted that if you contact NCC currently when the village is flooded the village is not considered a priority and residents are left to deal with the flooding themselves. LH felt

- the flooding has been much worse since the Environment Agency left the sluice gate on the river Tud at Berrys Lane open permanently.
- 8.5. ME noted that land everywhere is saturated and cannot take anymore water, therefore it has to flow somewhere which is usually downhill. The Clerk encouraged residents and Councillors to report flooding whenever it occurs via the NCC website.
9. To receive an update on the planning appeal at Merryhill Country Park
    - 9.1. The appeal to change the planning permission from holiday use only to permanent residence for the caravan site at Merryhill has been dismissed.
  10. To consider a response to the Greater Norwich Local Plan Regulation 19 Consultation
    - 10.1. The Clerk noted that as part of the current consultation the final list of sites being put forward for development had been published. Comments could not be submitted on the sites at this stage. The Clerk confirmed that none of the sites put forward for Honingham were being taken forward. The plans for the new garden village at Honingham Thorpe were also not included, however were marked as a possible development for the future. The current consultation is looking at the soundness and legal compliance of the process of producing the Greater Norwich Local Plan.
    - 10.2. GP noted the Council should only comment about the process and that it was a significant achievement that all proposed sites for development in Honingham had been removed. Both GP and PB had fought for Honingham, representing and supporting their views on the sites. There were still concerns about the garden village still being an option in the future. PB suggested the Council continue to object at any opportunity.
    - 10.3. It was suggested that if there was no new roundabout on the A47 at Taverham Road then this might hinder future plans for a new garden village. The Council **RESOLVED** to submit comments to the consultation. PB was happy to assist the Clerk with drafting a submission. Councillors will agree submission via email.
  11. To discuss matters relating to highways
    - 11.1. Update on traffic modelling
      - 11.1.1. RK attended the meeting discussing traffic modelling and has shared a report with the Council. It was felt that Norfolk County Council (NCC) are starting to listen about concerns about increased traffic and are open to further discussions. GP had attended a meeting regarding the Norwich Western Link (NWL) and had been given reassurance that NCC are taking seriously the concerns about impacts of traffic on side roads. GP noted that Jerome Mayhew MP was also speaking with Highways England (HE) about these concerns.
      - 11.1.2. ME noted the suggestion to close Taverham Road would move the traffic problems elsewhere. An alternative suggestion was to reinstate a link road from Church Lane to the new roundabout at Taverham Road. Councillors were in theory in support of this idea.
      - 11.1.3. There were concerns that some other local Councils concerns are being heard louder than others. GP noted that all Councils should be treated equally. DB noted that NCC were now aware of the Councils concerns and the Council needed to allow NCC time to liaise with HE about the issues.  
GP left the meeting at 7.55pm.
      - 11.1.4. There was concern that HE are pushing through the Development Consent Order (DCO) without resolving areas of concern and that HE were not listening to the Parish Council and residents, leaving the Council reliant on NCC to work with HE to resolve the issues. It was suggested the Council prepare a Statement of Common

Ground with HE regarding the A47 dualling, the Clerk noted this process is usually carried out once the DCO has been submitted. The Planning Inspectorate will inform HE who they should produce a Statement of Common Ground with and if the Parish Council is not on the list they can request one. It was unknown if any other Parish Councils had produced a Statement of Common Ground yet.

- 11.2. Update on Norwich Western Link Local Liaison Group
  - 11.2.1. This item was discussed within item 11.1.
- 11.3. Update on meeting with Norfolk County Council regarding Taverham Road
  - 11.3.1. This item was discussed within item 11.1.

## 12. Correspondance

- 12.1. Request for donation from Norfolk Citizens Advice - The Council considered the letter and decided they did not wish to make a donation at this time.
- 12.2. Norwich Western Link project update – A further consultation is expected to take place in Spring 2021. Currently construction is expected to start in late 2023 to be finished in late 2025.
- 12.3. National Association of Local Councils update on virtual meetings - The current regulations allowing virtual meetings end on 7 May 2021. The Clerk suggested moving the May meeting a week earlier to allow for virtual meetings to continue a month longer. The situation will be monitored and considered again nearer the time.
- 12.4. Broadland Community at Heart lottery launch – The lottery is aimed at helping local organisations fundraise money, by donating 60% of tickets sales to those organisations. Tickets can be bought via the Broadland District Council website. Information on the lottery has been shared with the village hall committee as a potential way to raise funds.
- 12.5. Hornsea Three Wind Farm Development Consent Order – Permission has been granted to build the Hornsea Three wind farm which will include an underground cable close to the parish.
- 12.6. Broadland District Council Business Grants – New grants are available to businesses affected by the pandemic of between £2000-£20000. Business who have not previously been eligible for grants have been encouraged to apply.

## 13. Opportunity for public participation

- 13.1. The Bowls Club signs were still being stored by a resident. DB will liaise with resident to rehome them.
- 13.2. It was noted there was a lot of litter along Dereham Road, particularly towards the A47 end. Some signs had been put up to try and prevent further littering. LH thanked the member of the public for clearing some of the litter. The Clerk noted any larger amounts of litter should be reported as fly tipping to NCC so they can be cleared by the Council safely.

## 14. To confirm details of the next meeting

- 14.1. The next Parish Council meeting will take place via Zoom video conference on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021, 7.00pm. The press and public are welcome to attend.

**NOTE** – The Council meeting has been rescheduled to Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March, 7pm via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Draft minutes until approved at the Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Chairman Signature:

Date: