



Hapton Parish Council Meeting

Monday, 9th September 2024

Present: Councillor Birbeck (in the Chair) and Councillors Differ, Downham, Fowke Lakeland, Owen and Young.

Others: Steve Watson (Clerk), Borough Councillor Joanne Broughton and 3 residents. County Councillor Cosima Towneley joined later.

Parish Council Agenda

Councillor Birbeck opened the meeting and welcomed Councillors.

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| 24/25/058 | Apology for absence and reasons given. | | |
| | Apologies for absence were submitted by Borough Councillor Jamie McGowan who had another engagement and County Councillor Alan Hosker. | | |
| 24/25/059 | Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest / Code of Conduct. | | |
| | Councillors Carol Downham and Shirley Young declared an interest in their individual allotments. | | |
| 24/25/060 | The meeting would be adjourned for Public Participation. | | |
| | RESOLVED: That the meeting would be adjourned to welcome comments from members of the public. | | |
| | A resident advised that the sandpit was being well used and needed to be weeded. The bins by the Pump Track are filling with water and holes need putting in the liners. The bin by the sandpit has not been replaced and rubbish blows out of the bins around the park. The resident was concerned that the football club were not | | |

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| utilizing the new car park area and had only seen the gate opened once. Ragwort is growing in the park and the end of Ruskin Grove is to be given double yellow lines. A sign for the car park gate advising it will be locked when the football finishes was suggested. The gap in the wall behind the goal needs rebuilding, Simon Goff is to be notified. E-bikes use the ginnel and signs on the pathway only show from one side. There are grants available to plant trees. | | |
| County Councillor Cosima Towneley joined the meeting. | | |
| A kissing gate is needed at the top of the path and a hole driller is required to build a fence. Jamie is looking into any liabilities if a pathway is provided. | | |
| Cosima advised that the consideration is being given to resurrecting the Rural Landrover project. Rural Parishes included Briercliffe, Cliviger, Hapton and Worsthorne and all were being asked if they would like to share in the project. | | |
| Councillor Broughton provided an update from Alan Hosker. The Hameldon Road gully has not been sorted and is now overgrown. Hapton Moor is overgrown and needs reporting. Gleasons have been asked to tidy the weeds in their wall. The Multi Use Games area refurbishment has been brought forward and there is no funding or equipment available for the sandpit. The Borough still owe £7,500 for the Pump Track and a bin is needed on the new estate. The Fairwell bash went well and the Borough has devised a new definition for Islamophobia. There was a Council motion to challenge the removal of the Winter Fuel Payments and a gate has been installed at the top of Castle Street. | | |
| Councillor Broughton was thanked for her report. | | |
| There was no movement on the Manly House application and it was agreed that a Coronation Orchard was a good idea and a grant is to be applied for from LALC. Information is still needed on how to update the new website and someone has shown an interest in buying Cleggy's old shop and a compulsory purchase was suggested. | | |
| There was no Police Report. | | |
| 24/25/061 The meeting was formally re-convened for business. | | |
| RESOLVED: That the meeting would be reconvened. | | |
| 24/25/062 Minutes of the meeting held on the 8th July 2024. | | |
| The minutes of the last meeting were submitted for approval as a correct record. | | |
| RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 8th July 2024 are approved as a correct record. | | |
| 24/25/063 Matters Outstanding as listed. | | |
| The website was covered earlier, the Cenotaph application needs to be submitted, the nuisance bike signs from United Utilities are outstanding and it was noted the Police do not have funding for signs. | | |
| 24/25/064 Updates. | | |
| The Christmas tree plug needs to be repaired. | | |

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| 24/25/065 | Councillor Reports including reports from representatives of outside bodies. | | |
| | There were no reports. | | |
| 24/25/066 | Lengthsman. | | |
| | The item would be discussed at the end of the meeting. | | |
| 24/25/067 | Allotments. | | |
| | A tenant has moved out of the village and has been terminated. There is 1 empty plot that needs a skip to clear. A fence has come down and Elliott is to be asked to repair it. It was agreed to provide a skip and use allotment budget for 1-day Lengthsman for fence repairs. There is 1 person on the waiting list after a specific plot and eco-plugs are needed for the cut down trees. | | |
| 24/25/068 | Planning Applications. | | |
| | There were no applications this month. | | |
| 24/25/069 | Finances. | | |
| | The following invoices were tabled. | | |
| | Expenditure Clerk's Salary – (Standing Order) Paid £255.92 S/O Paid Bank Charges £7.80 Direct Debit HMRC £79.56 100867 Lengthsman £460.00 100868 Allotment Deposit Refund £150.00 100869 Allotment Deposit Refund £200.00 100870 UK Test £81.00 100871 Allotment Deposit Refund £200.00 100872 Income VAT Refund £14,163.81 Allotment rents and deposits £1,045.00 Maintenance Grant £201.00 Bank Balances – Fundraising Account £12,369.65 Expenses Account £30,819.93 Environmental Account £4,311.00 TOTAL £47,500.58 | | |
| | RESOLVED: That the above bills are paid, the Budget Monitoring Report, Bank Reconciliation, payments and receipts lists are approved. | | |
| 24/25/070 | Clerk's Report including Correspondence. | | |
| | The Chair declined the invitation to the Mayor's Civic Ball. | | |
| 24/25/071 | Visual Audits. | | |
| | The weeds on Moor Road and by the bridge have been ear-marked for spraying. The hanging baskets have not been watered again and have died. | | |

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| 24/25/072 | Resolved that in view of the sensitive and confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw. | | |
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| Resolved: | That the Lengthsman contract will be terminated with 1 month's notice. | | |
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| 24/25/073 | Date of next meeting. | | |
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| Date of the next meeting Monday 14 th October 2024 at 7:00pm, in the Community Centre, Ruskin Grove. | | | |