

Hemingby Parish Council Meeting
Thursday 14th July 2016
Village Hall Hemingby at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllr D Rodwell (Chair), Cllr A Kemp, Cllr J Harrison and Cllr C Logan

In Attendance: Mrs. A. Bushell (Parish Clerk), 5 members of the public and County Cllr Aron

1. Chairman's remarks

Cllr Rodwell welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

2. Apologies for absence and reasons given.

Apologies were received and reasons given were accepted from Cllr Roles. Cllr Bryant was absent.

ELD Cllr Andrews and PCSO Mohammed had both sent apologies.

3. Declaration of Member's interests in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and requests from members for a dispensation on any items on the agenda

Cllr Harrison declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 7.

There were no other disclosable pecuniary interests declared in matters on the agenda, which had not already been declared to the Monitoring Officer at ELDC.

4. To co-opt a new councillor to fill the vacancy

An enquiry had been received from someone who was interested in becoming a councillor, but a formal letter had not yet been received so there was nothing to consider at this meeting. This item would be on the next agenda.

5. Notes of the annual meeting held on 19th May to be approved as the minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Harrison, seconded by Cllr Kemp and unanimously RESOLVED to accept the notes as a true record of the meetings. The Chairman signed the minutes.

6. Report of the Clerk and Councillors on matters outstanding.

The Clerk reported on the following matters:

Transparency Code funding: The funding application was approved and a cheque for £100 had been received.

Annual Return form: The form had not yet been returned and was still with the External Auditor. No members of the public had asked to inspect the accounts.

Green Lane: The Clerk read out an e-mail from Highways which informed the Parish Council that the work to put grips on Green Lane was still scheduled but they had no exact timescales for the work to take place. The Clerk and County Cllr Aron agreed to keep chasing Highways for a date for the work.

7. Update on the Horncastle Flood Alleviation Scheme

In the absence of Steve Hamer from VBA, Cllr Harrison updated the meeting with the information that he had. He informed the meeting that the work had moved on quickly and water was now flowing through the control switches and the dam was getting higher. Recent weather conditions were slowing things down and the expected completion date was late October. It was commented that things seemed to be progressing well.

8. Reports from District, County Councillor and the Police

Only the County Councillor was present, but the Clerk reported that PCSO Mohammed had supplied a report and some leaflets for residents to read and these were on display in the hall. County Cllr Aron informed the meeting that following the review by the Electoral Boundary Commission, after the County Council elections next year Hemingby would be moved into the Woodhall Spa division, so even if he was to get re-elected he would not be representing Hemingby after May 2017. He explained that this had happened due to the reduction in the number of County Councillors and the re-jiggling of the size of the area each councillor represented.

Cllr Aron spoke about the Greater Lincolnshire Devolution consultation, and he encouraged residents to complete the consultation paper.

The Meeting was informed that the County Council had made investment into the Horncastle and Louth daycare centers which was good news for people with disabilities. Cllr Aron spoke about Highways and explained that everything was currently being classed as low priority as they were trying to save money. He encouraged the Parish Council to keep reporting any outstanding issues.

9. Reports from the Village Hall and Play Area Committees

Village Hall Committee: Cllr Kemp reported that the Queen's birthday tea event had gone well and made a small profit, and there weren't too many events planned in the hall over the summer period, but September was fairly busy.

Play Area Committee: Cllr Rodwell reported that the Family Fun Day on Saturday had been a success but the number of visitors was much lower than anticipated due to the weather. He thanked everyone who volunteered on the day especially those who were not part of the Play Area Committee. Lots of effort had gone into organising the event and a good profit had been made. Cllr Rodwell also reported that the play equipment had been cleaned for the summer and the next fundraising event was the fabric sale which was being jointly hosted with the Village Hall Committee on Saturday 24th September. The Committee was hoping to hold a race night with food to raise funds later on in the year.

10. To sign the contract with BT and pay them £1.00 to adopt the BT phone kiosk

Members had been sent a copy of the contract prior to the meeting and the Clerk drew their attention to things the Parish Council would have to do if it agreed to adopt the kiosk.

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously RESOLVED to sign the contract with BT to purchase the phone kiosk from them at a cost of £1.00, and ask them for permission to connect defibrillator equipment to the unmetered electricity supply.

The Chairman suggested that the Parish Council may wish to refurbish the phone kiosk once adopted because it looked in a very sorry state, and he had sourced the parts that were required which came to a total of £235.27. The Chairman had spoken to the people who had been involved in the Village of the Year competition in 2006 and they were happy for the remainder (£195) of the village of the year winnings to be spent on this project. Cllr Rodwell offered to make up the shortfall himself as he acknowledged that the Parish Council did not have a budget to pay for this work. It was proposed, seconded and unanimously RESOLVED to buy the parts required to refurbish the phone kiosk. Cllr Harrison suggested that VBA should be contacted to ask if they could help with the project and the Chairman agreed to speak to Steve Hamer from VBA about this.

11. To resolve to purchase a defibrillator and cabinet to be housed in the phone kiosk at a cost of £1,300.

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council currently only had £300 which had been donated by ELD Cllr Andrews towards purchasing a defibrillator, but the Chairman explained that the village pub had been fundraising for LIVES and he thought that the amount raised brought the total so far to in the region of £700 and a resident had offered to donate the rest.

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously RESOLVED to purchase a defibrillator and cabinet to be housed in the phone kiosk at a cost of £1,300 subject to all the funding being in place.

12. To make changes to the village website to make it more user friendly

Cllr Logan explained that the village website was old and very difficult to update and she was able to build a new website at no cost to the Parish Council and make it look the same, but it would be more streamlined and user friendly.

Members agreed that this was a good idea and Cllr Logan was asked to get on with it and report back at the next meeting. It was agreed that the current website would be kept running until the new site was ready to go live. Cllr Logan was asked to speak with Ian Shephard for advice on updating the current website until the new one was ready.

13. Consultations

a. East Lindsey 2016 Draft Local Plan

Members queried why the village was classed as a Medium sized village and not a small one, but apart from clarifying that there were no other comments made as it was felt that it wouldn't have a great effect on Hemingby.

b. Greater Lincolnshire Devolution

The Chairman shared his personal response with the meeting which was a resounding 'no' and he explained why. It was felt that £15 million was not a lot of money to share with the whole of Lincolnshire, and it was questioned what the Police and Crime Commissioner did. The Council completed the questionnaire and disagreed with the proposals for a Greater Lincolnshire Mayoral Combined Authority.

14. To consider items of correspondence received since the last meeting

The Council noted the following items of correspondence which had been received since the last meeting and were available to read on request:

1. County News magazine – Summer issue
2. The Pensions Regulator – The essential guide to auto enrolment
3. Clerks and Councils Direct magazine – July issue
4. ELDC letter notifying the Parish Council about the consultation on the Draft Local Plan
5. Monitoring Officer e-mail encouraging councillors to attend Code of Conduct training
6. Notification of the Greater Lincolnshire Devolution consultation
7. Invite for one representative of the Parish Council to attend the ELDC Area Forum on Monday 19th September, 7-9pm at The Stanhope Hall, Horncastle

It was agreed that Cllr Rodwell would attend the ELDC Area Forum on 19th September.

15. Financial Matters

a. To resolve to pay the Clerk's wages for the period of 1st April to 30th June

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously RESOLVED to pay the Clerk's wages of £253.47

b. To resolve to pay HM Revenue and Customs the sum of £63.20 for PAYE

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously RESOLVED to approve the payment to HM Revenue and Customs

c. To resolve to pay the Clerk for expenses incurred

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously RESOLVED to pay the Clerk the sum of £14.94 for expenses incurred.

d. To receive a financial report

The Council received a financial report and the Chairman signed the bank reconciliation and bank statement.

16. Items for the next Agenda

The next meeting would be held on Thursday 14th July, the following items were suggested for this agenda:

- Feedback from the external auditor
- Update on the flood alleviation scheme
- Clerk's annual appraisal
- To suggest items for the 2017/18 budget
- Update on the village website
- To co-opt a new councillor

The Chairman declared the meeting closed 8.31pm

Notes from the Public Forum (7.30pm – 7.45pm)

- The Clerk provided the meeting with updates on the outstanding Highways issue and agreed to contact Highways again about the pothole on Chapel Lane
- A resident reported a blocked drain outside the pumping station on Mill Lane and the meeting was informed that the leak on Main Road had already been reported to Anglian Water
- A resident queried why the contractor didn't cut further back on the verges, and it was explained that a buffer was left to promote wildlife, although the resident felt that all it was encouraging was weeds and it looked a mess.
- A comment was made that certain areas in the play area was getting very waterlogged after heavy rainfall, and they were informed that the Play Area Committee was aware of this.