

HEMINGSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held at The Hut on Thursday July 15, 2021 at 7.30pm

PRESENT

Cllrs Mohammed Touman, Jason Fayers, David Byrnan, and Rod Caird (Clerk). District Cllrs John Whitehead and Tim Passmore were also present. County Cllr Chris Chambers was unable to attend. Two members of the public attended.

1/150721 Apologies and approvals of absence

Dave Penny and Claire Martin had sent their apologies and their absence was approved.

2/150721 Declarations of Interest and dispensations requested

None, though David Byrnan noted he is a neighbour of the property referred to in planning application 21/03550.

3/150721 Approval of the Minutes of the meeting on May 20, 2021

The Minutes were approved

4/150721 Public comments on matters on the Agenda, and reports from District and County Councillors

A written report from Cllrs Whitehead and Passmore was noted. Work has begun on the Needham Lakes café, which should be open by the end of the year. Localities Fund grants are available from both councillors. Cllr Passmore referred to the abrupt nature of the closure of Claydon Health Centre. 80% of patients have so far been allocated elsewhere. But with an ageing population – and new homes being built in the area – this was a poor example of planning by the Clinical Commissioning Group. 13 days' notice to the 3,500 patients on the list was inadequate. A new police headquarters is being built at Stowmarket close to the A14 junction. Costs have been supported by CIL funds. Care still needs to be taken to prevent further spread of the Covid infection. An influx of visitors in the next month will be very welcome but everyone should follow strict hygiene and ventilation procedures.

Concern was expressed about the static caravan and other activity on land next door to Rectory Cottages. The Clerk will raise this with the Planning Enforcement team at Mid Suffolk.

5/150721 To review any current planning matters including consideration of:

DC/21/03550 | Householder application - Erection of two storey side/rear extension with 1no front dormer (following demolition of existing ground floor utility, study and

garden room). | Water Run Cottage 4 Granville Court

No objection was raised.

DC/19/04997 Use of annexe as dwelling house including use of land as residential curtilage, 2 Hare and Hounds Corner – *appeal in progress*

Update on planning enforcement referral of work at Brick Kiln Farm

The current position on these matters was noted. The Clerk will monitor both for further information.

6/150721 To review spending decisions and priorities as discussed at the meeting held on May 20, 2021, particularly the purchase of picnic tables and development of an environmental project

It was agreed to purchase four picnic tables from Realise Futures at a cost of £542.88 each. The Clerk will check alternative sources and will make application to the District Cllrs for grant funding.

7/150721 To review the status of the Quiet Lanes project

In the absence of Cllr Penny it was understood this process is nearly complete.

8/150721 To consider any further steps to be taken in furtherance of the decision to declare a climate emergency

This matter was held over to the next scheduled meeting.

9/150721 To consider the Clerk's pay grade

It was agreed to increase the Clerk's hours from seven to ten per month.

10/150721 To consider a financial report and deal with any payments due; to receive the internal audit report on 2020/21

It was agreed an Agenda item would be included for the next meeting to discuss issues arising from the annual audit by SALC, and any action points which were necessary as a result of the report.

A bank reconciliation was presented showing a balance of £6,178.14.

Two payments were made:

July 13, 2021	Rod Caird	203	£121.64		Clerk pay
July 13, 2021	MSDC	204	£124.11	£ 24.82	Bins

It was agreed after discussion to make a payment of £250.00 to St Gregory's Parochial Church Council to assist with the annual cost of maintaining the churchyard. This is in line with payments made each year by other Parish Councils for the same purpose, and should become a regular commitment.

11/150721 Urgent matters to be brought to the attention of the Parish Council

In relation to the discussion about a defibrillator being purchased by Retreat East for the benefit of visitors and walkers on their land it was agreed to take no action as no direct approach has been made by Retreat East to the Parish Council.

NB in subsequent correspondence the Parish Council agreed to support Retreat East's intention to install a defibrillator. The Council was not being asked for financial support, simply for a general indication that the proposal was of value.

DRAFT