

# NOTES

*Please be advised that these are notes of the meeting taken by the Clerk and cannot in any way be regarded as the official minutes of Council proceedings until they are approved and signed at the next meeting*

**Hemingby Parish Council Meeting**  
**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2018**  
**Village Hall Hemingby at 7.30 pm**

**Present:** Cllr D Rodwell (Chair), Cllr A Kemp, Cllr J MacInnes, Cllr S Chapman, Cllr C Bryant, Cllr J Harrison and Cllr C Logan

**In Attendance:** Mrs A Bushell (Parish Clerk), 5 members of the public and District Cllr David Andrews

## **1. Chairman's remarks**

Cllr Rodwell welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that County Cllr Patricia Bradwell had contacted him to give her apologies and she had asked to be informed of any issues raised.

## **2. Apologies for absence and reasons given.**

There were no apologies. All members were present.

## **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**

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

## **4. Notes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2018 to be approved as the minutes.**

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

## **5. Report of the Clerk and Councillors on matters outstanding.**

JoeFest: One of the Directors of JoeFest would be attending the March Parish Council meeting to speak about JoeFest taking place in August at Stourton Estates.

## **6. Reports from District Councillor, County Councillor and the Police**

District Councillor Andrews reported that ELDC had spent a lot of money refurbishing public toilets in the district but Horncastles was not one of the ones which had been refurbished. The maintenance of the toilets was going to private company to save money. The East Lindsey Local Plan was continuing to be monitored, it was currently in year 1 and there would be a 5 year review. Interviews had started for a new Chief Executive.

There was nobody from the Local Policing team in attendance, but Cllr Kemp raised the issue of burglaries as there had recently been a spate of them in the area, and people were being advised not to have key locks visible on their properties because it advised burglars that the residents were elderly, and residents were reminded to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity. Cllr Rodwell agreed to check if the Neighbourhood Alert system was still active in the village.

## **7. Reports from the Village Hall and Play Area Committees**

Village Hall Committee: Cllr Kemp reported that the Lincoln Red Supper had been very well supported in October and he spoke about the work that was being done to the hall which included wi-fi being installed. Details were given of the upcoming events.

Play Area Committee: Cllr Bryant explained that there was not too much to report. The events for the calendar year were almost complete with only the Children's party on 9<sup>th</sup> December left to take place. There had been a few issues with the play equipment and quotes had been sought for the repairs which had come in quite expensive, so the Committee was looking whether they could get the work done cheaper.

## **8. Update on superfast broadband in the village**

The Council had received a letter from Victoria Atkins MP including a response from the Minister for Digital & Creative Industries. Councillors discussed the letter and it was felt that the main issue was that BT was not convinced that the properties in Church Lane were being treated any different to the other properties in the village. Residents of Church Lane were asked to do speed tests on their internet connection so that it could be compared to the speeds in the rest of the village, and the findings would be passed to County Cllr Bradwell to feedback to Steve Brooks at the On-Lincolnshire Team. It was reported that County Cllr Bradwell was keen to move this forward. The Chairman invited Julian Millington, a resident of Church Lane to speak about the issue and he explained that he had been told that BT wouldn't link the 6 properties in Church Lane to the other cabinet because it would set a precedent, plus it had been said that there was no further capacity in the new cabinet, so it would be interesting to see which cabinet the new wi-fi connection at the village hall would be connected to. It was also commented that communications between BT and other internet providers was not good.

Councillors agreed to keep plugging away at this issue. Private internet schemes were mentioned, but residents of Church Lane didn't feel that they should pay for a service which others in the village were getting for free, and these schemes were very expensive.

## **9. To confirm winter preparations and agree to participate in the Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) Winter Self-help scheme**

Cllr Bryant explained that there was very little salt left so a new supply was needed, he also commented that he would be happy to take on the role as Snow Warden again although he didn't plan to be around for much of the winter. Cllr Mac Inness offered to share the role with Cllr Bryant and would liaise with him. Lots of volunteers had already come forward to assist with the spreading of grit and snow clearance should it snow again this winter, therefore it was proposed, seconded and unanimously RESOLVED to participate in the LCC Winter Self-help scheme and request for a 1 tonne bag of salt to be delivered to Cllr Bryant's home. The salt would be used to treat the footways and roads in the entire village subject to the number of volunteers available to assist at the time. Cllr Rodwell agreed to write an article for the village magazine encouraging any vulnerable people in the village to ask for help if snow occurred, as there were many people who would help and assist them.

## **10. 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. LCC information about grit bin filling and gritting routes
2. LALC – invitation to book a place on NALC/Plunkett East Midlands Local Council webinar on 13<sup>th</sup> December. The theme is rural community business and how local councils can support and promote rural community businesses moving forward.

3. Lincolnshire Fire & Rescue new Emergency Text Alert System – *Cllr Rodwell and Marie Newmarch to be added to the system for the village because it would be useful to be aware of any local emergency.*
4. Clerks and Councils Direct – November 2018 Magazine
5. ELDC Town and Parish E-newsletter – *E-mailed to councillors*
6. Community Lincs – News and updates bulletin November 2018 – *E-mailed to councillors*
7. ELDC – Letter regarding precepts for 2019/20
8. Came & Company – Council Matters newsletter
9. LCC Funding Officer – Information about grants available from the War Memorial Grant Scheme to repair and conserve freestanding war memorials in England.

Cllr Rodwell spoke about engagement session being held by Lincolnshire Fire & Rescue taking place on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January in the Village Hall. A talk on fire safety in the home would be given and leaflets handed out. This would be advertised in the village magazine.

#### **11. To consider the draft 2019/20 budget**

The Clerk ran through the draft budget which she had produced for Councillors to consider. The meeting was informed that ELDC had not yet confirmed the tax base for 2018/19, so the actual impact of the precept amount to council tax payers was still unknown, but the tax base would be confirmed by January's meeting when the budget and precept had to be formally adopted. The draft budget showed that to set a balanced budget a reduction to the precept was needed, however Councillors felt that the precept should be kept at the same level and it was suggested that since no repairs had been carried out on the bus shelter for a very long time, and there was a chance that the reserves earmarked for an election in 2019 might be used, funds should be allocated in the 2019/20 budget for these two items. The Clerk was asked to redraft the budget to set a balanced budget with the precept being at the same level as in 2018. The budget would be formally approved, and the precept set at January's meeting.

#### **12. Financial Matters**

##### **a) To receive a financial report**

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

##### **b) To approve the payment to Andy Jackson of £350.00 for cutting the parish footpath and grass verges during 2018**

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously RESOLVED to approve the payment to Andy Jackson.

##### **c) To resolve to pay Horncastle Royal British Legion for the large poppies**

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously RESOLVED to approve the payment to the Horncastle & District Royal British Legion for £12.00.

##### **d) To resolve to pay the Clerk's wages for the period of 1<sup>st</sup> August to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously RESOLVED to pay the Clerk's wages of £334.00

#### **13. Items for the next Agenda**

The next meeting would be held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019. The following items were suggested: - To approve the budget and set the precept for 2019/20

- Update on winter preparations
- Further update on superfast broadband

**14. To resolve on whether the Council will move into closed session to discuss employment matters**

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously RESOLVED to move into closed session.

*The Parish Clerk and members of the public left the meeting at 8.20pm*

**15. To receive feedback on the Clerk's annual performance review carried out by the Chairman**

The Clerk's annual performance review was received. There were no issues raised.

**The Chairman declared the meeting closed 8.25pm**

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

- A comment was received on how nice the poppies looked on Remembrance Sunday, and Cllr Mac Innes spoke about the poppy project at Banovallum School.
- Cllr Logan apologised for her absence during the past year and she explained why she had been unable to attend meetings and assured the Parish Council and residents that she would be attending meetings regularly from now on. The Parish Clerk explained the absence process and why Cllr Logan's position had not become vacant even though she had not attended a meeting since November 2017.