



HARSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 3rd June 2021
At the Parish Church

Present: Councillor O'Byrne; Councillor Bellamy; Councillor Holdom; Councillor Harris; Councillor Luffman; Councillor Stierer; Councillor Benning; Councillor Carroll arrived at 7.49pm.

Members 11: Vacancies 2: Quorum 4

3 members of the public.

County Councillor Maria King

21-22/25 Approval of Apologies and Reasons for Absence

(LGA 1972 s 85(1))

Councillor Arnold: Personal. (Approved)

Councillor Mir Work. (Approved)

District Councillor Sollom.

21-22/26 Members' Declaration of Interest for Items on the Agenda

(Localism Act 2011 s 31 s 33)

None.

21-22/27 Open Forum for Public Participation (15 Minutes)

At the close of this item, members of the public will no longer be permitted to address the Council unless invited to do so by the Chairman.

The Following points were raised by members of the public:

- The zip wire needs some maintenance as the wire is sagging.
- The grass cutting is not being carried out as professionally as it was under the previous contractor.
- The footpath from the Queens Head to the surgery on Church Street needs some remedial work.
- There should be more noticeboards in the village

Action: A letter to be sent to the residents and Highways (copy in the County Councillor)

Action: Additional noticeboards to be considered at a future meeting.

21-22/28 Harston Parish Council Committee Members

- a. It was proposed by Councillor Bellamy, seconded by Councillor Stierer, and resolved that Councillor Luffman is appointed to the Planning Committee for the municipal year 2021-22.

21-22/29 Harston Parish Council Working Group Members

- a. **Working Groups:**

As a full complement of councillors was not in attendance, the Transport and Communication working group appointments were deferred until the next meeting.

Recreation Ground: Councillor Harris; Councillor Luffman; Councillor Mir (to be confirmed).
Councillor Carroll arrived at 7.49pm.

HR/Employment: Councillor Carroll and Councillor Holdom.

b. Council Representatives to External Bodies

Harston Food Hub: Councillor Carroll

School: Councillor Mir (to be confirmed).

Parish Magazine: Councillor Arnold

Pinders Charity: Councillor Bellamy

Warden Scheme: Councillor Bellamy

Village Hall: Councillor Benning

21-22/30 Minutes of Previous Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Luffman, seconded by Councillor Holdom, and resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 6th May 2021 are approved and signed by the Chairman.

21-22/31 Matters Arising/Clerks Report (for information only)

An initial response had been received from County Broadband, to the request for a free internet connection at the pavilion. Further information is still awaited.

21-22/32 Chairman's Retirement Gift

- a. It was proposed by Councillor Bellamy, seconded by Councillor Harris, and resolved that the Council confer the title of 'Honorary Freeman' on Mr Niall O'Byrne, in recognition of his work for the Council over the past 12 years.

21-22/33 Committee Meeting Minutes

- a. It was proposed by Councillor Luffman, seconded by Councillor Holdom, and resolved that the Council receive the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 29th April 2021.
- b. The planning committee meeting minutes were not received as a planning meeting had not been held to approve them.

21-22/34 Matters Arising from Committee Meeting Minutes

None

21-22/35 District Councillors Report

- a. A report from the County Councillor had been circulated via email. Councillor Bellamy congratulated the new Councillors on their election. County Councillor King confirmed that the Liberal Democrats would be working together with Labour at the County Council, and that this should translate into a good relationship with the new Labour Mayor.
- b. A report from the District Councillor had been circulated via email.

21-22/36 Period of Electors Rights

- a. The Period of Electors Rights will run from Monday 14th June to Friday 23rd July 2021. The notices will be posted on the notice boards and website on Friday 11th June.

21-22/37 Recreation Ground/Pavilion Matters

- a. Councillor Harris reported the following matters:
 - The recreation ground continues to be well used.
 - Arrangements for remedial works to be carried out in the play area are in hand.
 - The trees continue to thrive with the added protection put in place recently.
 - As previously agreed the gate is to be locked 5 days out of 7 on an ad hoc basis.

- The provision of additional adult exercise equipment will be discussed in line with the Council's priorities for the section 106 funds.
- b. Following a request from a parishioner, Councillor Luffman will arrange for the orange netting to be removed from around the edge of the recreation ground.
- c. Councillor Harris was not in favour of allowing the area to the left of the garage to be fenced off as requested by the Scouts. 1. It would make access to the garage difficult, 2. It would make it difficult to carry out tree works along that side of the recreation ground.
It was proposed by Councillor Harris, seconded by Holdom, and resolved that the council do not approve the request.
Action: Councillor Harris will meet with the Scout leader to discuss options.
Action: Clerk to contact those who had enquired about locking the gates.
- d. Quotation: Quite a comprehensive quotation to replace a number of components.
It was proposed by Councillor Bellamy, seconded by Councillor Holdom, and resolved that the final decision on accepting the quotation for play area repairs is delegated to the Clerk in consultation with the recreation ground working group.
Action: Clerk to respond to Scouts.
Action: Clerk and working group to discuss and seek further quotations. Work to be carried out as soon as possible.

21-22/38 Highways Matters

- a. Councillor Harris reported that the course originally booked for 17th May had been cancelled, another date had been arranged with a different company in Corby for 5th July. One of the cameras is still up on London Road and had recorded a speed of 93mph going out of the village towards Newton. The other camera is to be sited initially on Station Road. The cameras will be moved around the village at various intervals over the coming months.
- b. **It was proposed by Councillor Bellamy, seconded by Councillor Carroll, and resolved that Councillor Holdom should attend the traffic management course required to manage the Remembrance Day event.**
- c. A meeting had not been held to discuss the bus shelters, however, the quotation for the survey had been approved at the finance committee meeting this evening.
- d. Councillor Mir had requested that the Council formally record in the minutes that there had been no response from the County Council regarding the broken bollard at the junction of Station Road and Royston Road. This had originally been reported as broken in September 2019. The Clerk had since sent a number of emails regarding this matter, including photos, but with no response so far. A further email will be sent to the County Council copied into the County Councillors.

21-22/39 Transport Matters

- a. Councillor Bellamy updated the council on the progress of the response to the EWR consultation. 271 households representing 656 residents had responded to the consultation sent out by the Parish Council/HRG. The village meeting held via zoom on 15th May had almost 100 attendees. County Councillor King reported that there may be some structured meetings with Parish Councils after the closing date of 9th June.
The meeting was closed briefly so that members of the public and the County Councillor could enter the discussion.
- b. A response to the EWR proposals had been drafted and circulated by Councillor Bellamy prior to the meeting.

It was proposed by Councillor Holdom, seconded by Councillor Luffman, and resolved that the draft consultation document as presented by Councillor Bellamy should be sent to EWR by registered post.

21-22/40 Harston Residents Group

- a. Councillor Holdom had attended the meeting held on 18th May and updated the council on the following points:
- There is a problem with rubbish outside the shop (Councillor Benning reported that two collections per week are already carried out).
 - Bollards are needed on the cycle path near the garage as it is dangerous for children and cyclists.
 - Further discussion is needed on Harston's Buildings of Local Interest. This matter will be taken up by the planning committee when it reconvenes, and members of HRG will be invited to attend committee meetings.
 - A map of the parish boundary is required.
 - Members of the residents group thanked Niall O'Byrne for his role as chairman and congratulated Councillor Bellamy on his election as Chairman.

It was agreed at the last PC meeting that a rota would be set up for councillor attendance at the HRG meetings. Councillor Carroll was added to the list of councillors, and will attend the meeting in June. Councillor Luffman will attend in July.

Action: Clerk to look into SCDC providing additional bins for outside the shop.

Action: Clerk to contact Christian Brady/Heritage Department at SCDC.

21-22/41 Village Green

- a. A quotation had been received from Zion Landscapes for crown lifting the two trees on the village green as the branches are sagging onto the ground. This will allow the trees to get air and prevent them becoming diseased.

It was proposed by Councillor Harris, seconded by Councillor Carroll, and resolved that the quotation for £450 is approved.

21-22/42 Scheme of Delegation for Responding to Planning Matters

- a. Last planning meeting had had to be cancelled as the venue was not suitable. No responses were made to the District Council regarding the applications that had been listed on the agenda.

It was proposed by Councillor Holdom, seconded by Councillor Harris, and resolved that the clerk responds to planning applications on behalf of the Council in consultation with the planning committee.

21-22/43 Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Any business and payments, to be considered at Parish Council meeting must be delivered to the Clerk for inclusion on the agenda at least 7 days prior to the meeting.

- Co-option of Councillors
- Working Groups

21-22/44 Date of Next Meeting

July 1st, 2021 (Parish Church)

September 2nd, 2021 (Parish Church)

Meeting closed at 9.15pm.