

# HACHESTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Meeting of Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023

### 1. Present

Cllr. Lucy Lavender (Vice Chair)  
Cllr. Chris Hurlock

Cllr. Graeme Hall  
Cllr. Andy Markham

Cllr. James Hardy  
Cllr. Terry Mee

### In Attendance

Lydia Kirk (clerk)

2. There were no declarations of interest.

3. The minutes of the Council meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023 were approved as a true record of the meeting.

4. There were no matters arising.

### PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of public present.

5. **Cllr. Lavender called for nominations for a Chair.** After some discussion, Cllr. Hardy agreed to be Chair but warned that if the workload became too high he would have to step down. Cllr. Hurlock nominated Cllr. Hardy as Chair. This was seconded by Cllr. Lavender and carried unanimously. Cllr. Hardy signed the Chair's Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

### 6. Clerk's Report

The clerk was sorry to report the resignation of Cllr. Nikki Markham due to increasing work commitments and thanked her for all she has done for the Council. Her energy, enthusiasm and ideas will be very much missed.

The dog waste bin should be installed within the next week. It has to be located on the village side of the bridge for easier access for emptying.

The four traffic surveys have been requested, alongside a location plan and they should be installed later this month.

The clerk's Community Self-Help training scheduled for October has been postponed until January.

There is no availability for SALC's Councillor training sessions until March 2024. The clerk suggested Councillors might want to wait until the remaining vacancy is filled before signing up to the training.

The clerk is looking forward to attending SALC's annual Conference at end of the month. The Council's insurance premium was negotiated down to £406.76 and the cover commenced on 1st October.

The presentation from the Sizewell C Community Relations Team will be held on Tuesday 16th January at Parham Village Hall.

The clerk has collected 500 narcissi bulbs under East Suffolk in Bloom scheme and these will need planting promptly along verges in the village.

**ACTION** Clerk to ask residents if they are able to help plant these on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 11am via website and digital mailing list.

### 7. Financial Officer's Report

a) The following payments were approved:

Reference Number	Amount	Payee	Details
P23	£46.98	L. Kirk	40 x 30mph bin roundels stickers £20.00

			Open Meeting refreshments £16.98
P24	£156.00	L. Kirk	Office allowance from March-September
P25	£70.00	G. Whiting	Cut and strim 17 <sup>th</sup> October Ref 7114
P26	Invoice awaited	East Suffolk Services	Supply and install dog waste bin near foot bridge <i>It was agreed to pay this invoice upon receipt</i>

- b) Payments made since the last meeting:  
02/10/23 £500 Hacheston Village Hall Standing order
- c) Funds received since the last meeting:  
24.10.2023 £10,379.15 CIL
- d) The bank balances as at 30.10.2023 were:  
Community Account: £12,482.46  
Premium Account: £27,693.28  
It was noted that £31,542.44 of this was reserved funding.
- e) The bank reconciliation as at 30.10.2023 was reviewed and signed by the Examining Councillor.
- f) The year-to-date report on payments and receipts was noted.
- g) Cllr Mee reported that Cllr. Hardy has now been added to the banking mandate. He will obtain the necessary forms to remove a mandate who is no longer a Councillor.
- h) NALC's pay claim, agreed earlier this month, was noted and as per the clerk's terms of contract, this will be backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023
- i) Following a year's service, the clerk's scale point will be increase by one from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023.
8. **Flooding in the village on 20<sup>th</sup> October from Storm Babet was discussed.** Cllr. Lavender has reported several blocked drains in the village to Suffolk County Council since the floods. The Environment Agency has spoken to some residents affected by the flooding and SCC is preparing a Flood Investigation Report.
9. **The multi-agency village open-evening event held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September was discussed.** Cllr. Lavender was thanked for chairing it unexpectedly, and dealing with many interjections from residents during the meeting. Sadly there was not much time at the meeting to discuss solutions to the many problems raised. It was agreed to resurrect the Community Speedwatch Scheme as six residents have volunteered to join. It was also agreed to ask if the speed limit through the village could be reduced to 20mph during the construction stage of Sizewell C.
10. **Cllr. Hardy has extracted recent data from the SID which shows that speeding is a significant problem in the village.** One vehicle was logged travelling 85mph in the 30mph zone and 214 vehicles were going 55mph. He will continue to download the data to get accurate averages. This data can then be passed to Suffolk Police to request a visit from the Automatic Number Plate Recognition camera. Cllr. Hardy has altered the settings on the SID and it is hoped that this will preserve the battery life. Moving forwards, Cllr. Hardy has volunteered to charge and move the two Speed Indicator Devices in the village. Cllr Markham and Malcolm Robinson were thanked for their years of doing this task for the benefit of the village.
11. **The accounts forecast for 2023-2024 was noted and figures for the for 2024-2025 budget were discussed and agreed.**
12. **Cllr. Mee proposed requesting a precept of £8,995 for 2024-2025.** This was seconded by Cllr. Hardy and carried unanimously.  
**ACTION** Clerk to contact ESC in this regard

- 13. **The Council now holds significant CIL funding which is to be used for the benefit of the community within 5 years of receipt.** It was agreed that the clerk will collate the various ideas suggested by residents and Councillors. She will produce a flyer for Councillors to circulate to all residents for their comments. The Parish Council can then consider which projects to consider further.
- 14. **The Village Hall Committee will now be obtaining quotations for repair works to grids at the entrance to Village Hall car park.**
- 15. **Consider correspondence received**  
 20's Plenty Speed Campaign – after discussion it was agreed to support this.  
 Slow Walks campaign- it was agreed not to support this scheme presently.  
 Survey from East Suffolk Planning Alliance- Councillors will help the clerk to provide estimated figures to respond to this survey.  
 East Suffolk Council's notice of a Councillor vacancy  
 Consultation on Draft Healthy Environments and Draft Rural Development Supplementary Planning Documents- These documents were only received today and Councillors have not had sufficient time to read them. Councillors were encouraged to send responses as residents as this consultation ends before the Council next meets.
- 16. **Updates from Councillors and reports on actions**  
 Cllr. Hardy has continued looking into work needed on the village sign.
- 17. **Matters to be raised at the next meeting:**  
 Consider purchasing solar-powered Speed Indicator Device  
 Village sign remedial works  
 Receive an update on Community Speed Watch project
- 18. **The date of the next meeting was confirmed as being on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024.** There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.25pm.

**Signed:** .....  
**Chair**
.....  
**Date**