

**MINUTES OF HOCKHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 22ND APRIL
AT 7.30PM IN HOCKHAM VILLAGE HALL.**

Attending; Cllrs, Bennett, Thomas, Guppy, Lambert, Leech and Lloyd. NCC Cllr Eagle, Clerk C Garrod and five members of the public.

- 1) Apologies for absence.** Councillor Loft and District Councillor Cowen.
- 2) Declarations of Interest.** Cllr Lambert as owner and licensee of the Eagle pub, Cllr Bennett as an allotment holder, Cllr Leech as a farmer from Little Hockham.
- 3) Requests for dispensation.** None
- 4) Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 18th March 24.** These were unanimously approved.
- 5) Progress Report.**
 - a) A discussion took place over a permanent and temporary wheelchair ramp. After much discussion it was agreed to see if the temporary route at a cost of £980 could be progressed via a hire agreement and if not to go ahead with this solution.
 - b) Info Board. In design stage.
 - c) Councillor Plaques. Completed and needed mounting. Thanks To Harry Stebbing for his help and assistance.
 - d) Website. It was agreed to ask Norfolk ALC to upload the required data at a cost of £144.
 - e) Drainage. This was discussed at length. Cllr Eagle suggested contacting the highways engineer copying him into the message.
- 6) Public Participation.** The meeting was adjourned briefly for public questions.
- 7) District & County Reports.** There was no district report. Cllr Eagle reported for the County. Workshops were being run to find out Norfolk wants. Rural business awards were being judged at present. Discussions were had regards HGV through traffic and restrictions.
- 8) Highways and Road Safety.**

A discussion took place over the lack of speed limit on the A1075. NCC had suggested doing an FOI to find out why the stretch had not been given a speed limit. Chevrons on the A1075 had been repaired, a wildlife warning sign was to be repaired. Wretham Road pothole damage, carriageway damage and verge works had been reported.

Cllr Eagle said that the SAM 2 grant was still yet to go through final approval. It was suggested that the positioning on the Wretham Road should be changed. The clerk would investigate.
- 9) Planning.** A heat pump had been approved at the school. Hedge removal had been approved at a property in Little Hockham Lane. Cllr Suggitt was chasing the FOI response letter to the chief exec and there were no updates on the local plan.
- 10) Playing Field.** It was approved that £3719.25 would be spent from Playing Field finances on 5 benches. These would go on hard standing. The finances may have to come from the parish council account in the short term.

11) Finances.

The AGAR exemption was signed. The VAT reclaim had been actioned. Year-end 23/24 was £22955.89 expenses and £18880.53 income.

We had £6801.07 in the bank with one unrepresented cheque of £151.20.

50% of the precept had been received. the Norfolk ALC annual fee already agreed of £198.90. We have had a npower DD of £149.68.

Payments were approved for the clerk's salary and Pearce & Kemp maintenance for May. The current account has £16869.45 in it, with £515.23 of unrepresented cheques.

The playing field account mandate had yet to be approved. The bottle bank had raised £271.76.

12) Policy Review. The following were approved with no amendments. Pol 001 Complaints; Pol 002 Standing Orders; Pol 003 Persistent complaints and Harassment; Pol 004 social media; POL 006 Bullying; POL 007 Code of Conduct; Pol 010 Health & Safety; Pol 011 GDPR; Pol 012 Privacy; Pol 013 Document Retention; Pol 014 Risk Management; & Pol 015 Responsibilities.

13) Allotments. Maintenance would happen in the future.

14) Footpaths and Rights of Way. SERCO would be doing some work on the trod.

15) Councillor Updates.

- Solar Panels were being considered by the Eagle owners.
- Speeding near the green, was a continuing issue. The police would be contacted.
- Parliament Lane hedging was again becoming overgrown.
- Pavement Parking was on the increase. In Touch article would be raised.
- The Surgery had a new practice manager.
- It was noted that blowing rubbish appeared to come from refuse vehicle actions.
- Dog fouling was still an issue, Naming and shaming of individuals caught would be considered.
- A new litter pick would be actioned.

16) Correspondence. In touch had sent their thanks for their donation. Townlands had some potential money allocated that was potentially available.

17) Next meeting would be on 20th May at 7pm. This was the annual parish meeting followed by the parish council AGM.