

FLEMPTON CUM HENGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Of the Flempton cum Hengrave Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 14th March 2022 at 7.30pm at The Stables, Bury Road, IP28 6EG

Present: Councillors Dave Bambury, Andrew Speed, Gill Martin, David Hudson

In attendance: Cllr Susan Glossop, Christine Mason (Clerk), six members of the public.

1. Apologies

Cllr Jean Lindsay, Cllr Tony Tooth, Cllr Janet Davies

2. Declaration of Interest

a) To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda, and their nature. None declared.

b) To declare any other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda, and their nature.

5. Minutes of the meeting

Cllr Bambury asked that it be minuted that he voted against the yellow painted road markings adjacent to the gates of Hengrave Hall being removed.

Proposed by Cllr Andrew Speed, seconded by Cllr David Hudson that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 10th January 2022 were a true record and the Chair authorised to sign them as such on behalf of the Council – agreed.

4. County & District Council Reports

Reports from Cllr Susan Glossop and Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger were previously circulated. Additional matters included the necessity for a meeting with Highways England to express concerns that HGV's are still coming through the village and in general, the way it has been handled. Update on The Links, SCC now chasing Havebury, no reply as yet. The only option to ensure there is no parking on the grass is enforcement. As this is a Flempton matter it was suggested by Cllr Glossop a letter is sent by the Parish Council to Havebury. Results of the speed survey carried out at the Farm Barn entrance and further along towards the new development have been received. Statistics show the average speed does not warrant the necessity to change speed limits in the area. New process now in place whereby the Parish Council can apply for a £150 licence to put signage on the verges. Once obtained, local contractors qualified by SCC to work on Highways, can be used to supply and carry out the work.

5. Public Forum

There were eight members of the public in attendance. Items brought to the attention of the Parish Council included a) the absence of information in the minutes from the District and County Councillors b) minutes not posted on the notice board. It was explained minutes are only legally required to be uploaded to the website. Given that not all residents have access to

a computer, it was proposed by Cllr Andrew Speed, seconded by Cllr David Hudson that Councillor reports be added to the minutes and website and if available space, reports and minutes posted on the noticeboard – all in agreement c) the location of the new bus stop. As not an agenda item, comments will be permitted under item 21 Correspondence d) concerns that the new website is not as user friendly as the previous one e) with vehicles parking on the grass at The Links and reversing out onto the footpath it is becoming very muddy and a potential health & safety risk. Further discussion in agenda item 10 The Links.

6. Finance

Proposed by Cllr Andrew Speed, seconded by Cllr David Hudson that payments listed on the schedule be retrospectively approved – agreed. Current Treasurer Account bank balance as of 22 February 2022 stands at £16601.68. Business Instant Account as of 9th February stands at £2,395.99.

7. Adoption of Standing and Financial Standing Orders

Proposed by Cllr Andrew Speed, seconded by Cllr David Hudson that the Model Standing Orders and Financial Standing Orders are adopted – approved.

8. Church invoice

Proposed by Cllr Dave Bambury, seconded by Cllr Andrew Speed that the invoice for £40 received for the hire of the church be approved – unanimous. Until such time the Parish Council decide to meet elsewhere, the meetings will continue at The Sables, Flempton House. Regarding the relationship with the Church, Andrew Speed to speak with John Sadler.

9. VAS devise and maintenance

The Hengrave VAS devise is not working but might only require new batteries and a service. Total cost approximately £270.00. A decision needs to be made as to whether the PC wants to put the VAS back into function again or purchase a device similar to the one in Flempton. Agreed a quotation be sought for a new VAS. Cllr Tony Tooth to action for the next meeting.

10. The Links

In addition to discussion already taken place, Cllr Andrew Speed offered to take up the matter direct with Havebury. All in agreement additional parking cannot be facilitated on the current square and therefore a need to look at blocking it off, re-grass and investigate alternative parking.

11. A14/A101 diversion and meeting with Highways England.

Discussed earlier in the meeting.

12. ANPR study update

Trial to commence in Flempton June/July. Those caught speeding will be sent a letter, repeat offenders will be prosecuted. Cllr Janet Davies to lead.

13. Queen's Jubilee

As supported nationally, agreed a tree to be planted in Flempton and Hengrave. Cllr Tony Tooth to take the lead for a tree on The Green. Location for Hengrave to be decided. Benches also a possibility.

14. Update on the River Lark and Environmental issues

A group of councillors from various Parish Councils, plus parent landowners have met with senior executives from Anglian Water. In 2020 there were nineteen spills of untreated sewage going into the river. When challenged, management at the Fornham Water Treatment Works were not aware this had happened. They also claimed their monitoring equipment was unreliable. Following on from the meeting, Fornham All Saints has allocated £1200 for an independent laboratory to test and analyse the water at the overflow inlet. With that in mind, it was proposed by Cllr David Hudson, seconded by Cllr Andrew Speed that the sum of £445 from Flempton cum Hengrave PC towards the cost be approved – all in favour. A similar proposal is being made this evening at Lackford PC. Other items: The Under Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Rebecca Pow MP and Jo Churchill MP were due to visit Bury St Edmunds area on 26th March. Half of the day was to be spent looking at matters at the river but due to the unavailability of both Jo Churchill and Cllr Hopfensperger, this may take place in the summer. The river just upstream from Duck's Slice was completely blocked but within a week was cleared by the Environment Agency. Upstream from Duck's Sluice on the Hengrave side of the river, several large willow trees are leaning at 45 degrees. As classed as essential maintenance, Charlie Browne will be allowed to cut them down in the bird nesting season. Slow progress with the footpath between Flempton and Hengrave, main landowner no longer objecting. Further information at the next meeting.

15. Update on new website

Work in progress.

16. Update on speed trackers

Data to be sent to the Parish Council by Cllr Hopfensperger.

17. Flempton bus stop

There is a need for a bus stop in Flempton. A site visit from Highways to be arranged.

18. Notice Board keys

Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Andrew Speed that a new set of keys are cut for the Clerk - approved. Cllr Bambury to action.

19. Parish Council email address

Proposed and seconded that the expenditure required to set up a dedicated email address for the Clerk is approved – agreed. The Chairman to action.

20. Update on the Joint Highways Venture with adjacent Parishes

A mutual meeting date has yet to be agreed. More flexibility is needed as to when Councillors can attend. Ongoing.

21. Correspondence

Three letters of complaint relating to the siting of the new bus stop have been received and replies sent.

Members of the public were now given an opportunity to speak on this matter. Issues raised included lack of consultation with residents, yellow painted road markings and hard standing area adjacent to the gates of Hengrave Hall, planning permission not applied for, safety risks when crossing to the opposite footpath. Points were noted, however, the responsibility of dealing with land permissions, communication, location, safety audits rests with Suffolk County Council Highways. Any concerns must be taken up with them. In order to improve the visual look of the bus stop, it was proposed by Cllr Andrew Speed, seconded Cllr David Hudson that the Parish Council support the removal of the yellow painted road markings. By majority vote the motion was carried.

22. Date of next meeting

Date agreed as Monday 9th May 2022

Annual Parish Meeting 7.00pm followed by the Annual General Meeting at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.30pm.