

FLEMPTON CUM HENGRATE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Of the Flempton cum Hengrave Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 12th December 2022 At The Stables, Bury Road, IP28 6EG

Present: Councillors Andrew Speed, Dave Bambury, Gill Martin, Janet Davies, and Tony Tooth

In attendance Cllr Susan Glossop, Rev Andy Miller, Mark Prina – Halcyon Ecology and one member of the public.

- 1 Chairman's welcome.
- 2 Apologies: Christine Mason unwell, Jean Lindsay unable to attend, Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger, unable to attend but sent a report.
- 3 In the absences of Christine, Gill Martin offered to take the minutes of the meeting.
- 4 To declare any disclosable pecuniary interests in items on the agenda, and their nature.
None received.
To declare any other disclosable Interests in items on the agenda, and their nature.
None received.
- 5 Andy and Mark were welcomed. The councillors briefly introduced themselves. Mark, who is also a resident of Flempton, then gave a brief introduction on his interest in the churchyard seeing it as a repository for wildlife/reptiles/butterflies and fauna. David H commented that over the last two years there was a marked depreciation of the churchyard and it looked like nobody cared for it anymore. Mark said his proposal was to vastly improve the overall look of the churchyard (and has already started) and would very much welcome a work party from the village under his instruction to improve the look and condition of the churchyard. He was requested to draw up a proposal and wish list with costings which would need to be sent to the Church Council (PCC) firstly then to the Parish Council who could then do either a mailbox leafleting or place an advert in the Lark Valley Parish Magazine for volunteers for the work party. It was proposed to hold a dedicated meeting at the end of February. The FCHPC is very enthusiastic to be involved with this.
- 6 Minutes of the last meeting Monday 3 October 2022 were approved as a true record and the Chair authorised to sign them.

The minutes on the Parish Council website are now up-to-date. It was felt that the agendas also need to be published on the website preferably in chronological order.

- 7 Susan Glossop – District Council report

Susan asked if there were any event ideas for the Coronation that there is £200 in the pot for maybe souvenirs for school children – to be addressed at the next meeting. It was also pointed out that the Nottingham Knockers were in the area and being unpleasant if you refused to purchase; they do not have a licence to do door sales. Susan also reminded that it is coming up for re-election (4 May) for the PC members. Full report is attached to the minutes.

8 Rebecca was unable to attend the meeting. Full report attached to the minutes.

9 Public Forum

It was yet again requested for the West Stow Road speed limit to be reduced to 40 miles per hour between the two villages. We have also had a letter request from a new resident in Hengrave asking for the 30-mile speed limit when approaching Hengrave from Flempton to be moved to include the beginning of the houses at Grange Farm in Hengrave.

It was also requested that the PCC could arrange a sign on the footpath in Flempton to stop dog fouling or if a communication leaflet on the topic could be circulated by hand in the village.

10 Finance

Payment were approved retrospectively of the accounts submitted.

Precept for the coming year to be frozen at the same level as this year.

Anticipated costs are Bench and installation £2000.

Pruning on the green – quote of £864 from Willas – no alternative quote obtained, other companies either not interested or cannot complete the work until the Summer. It was a majority vote to go ahead with the work.

Website cost for uploading files £120 per year, it was agreed to pay this year but to look into being able to do this in-house at a later stage. Agreed by majority decision.

11 Set Meetings

We should hold 6 per year (including the AGM), dates to follow but the starting time to be 6.30pm.

12 VAS Device

It was agreed that DaveB would get the device calibrated and overhauled for use in Flempton. DavidH offered to be responsible for battery recharging, reading the documents and training. The committee approved the funding

13 Speed limits in the Village

Beccy sent the speed survey PCC to restart pushing for signage to change.

It was suggested that we get quotes for entrance gates for both villages from e.g. Clarkes of Walsham.

14 Future of St Catherine's Church

A discussion commenced to encourage community engagement and better use of the Church internal space. Re-arranging pews or maybe removing a few from the back to enable use as coffee mornings etc.

- 15** Commemorative bench for Flempton Green costs are £1291 plus the Queen's cypher plus £4.75 per letter, delivery installation. Approx £2K total. All in favour – Janet Davies to place the order with Harry Stebbings Ltd.
- 16** Pub sign in the village belongs to Green King. There was no interest in having a village sign.
- 17** Slow Signs
Slow signs and posts for the Green have been purchased with just the installation outstanding.
- 18** Carols on the Green
Evening was successful with 30/40 attendees. Next year consideration should be given to buying a tree from Blackthorpe Barns in Rougham as the usual supplier had difficulties supplying the 12' tree originally specified.
- 19** Footpaths River Pollution: David H
a) River pollution monitoring, there were 2 known pollution incidents on the 3rd/4th November, when Anglian Water released un-treated sewage from the Combined Sewage Overflow (CSO) tanks at the AW Water Treatment Works at Fornham All Saints and Pigeon Lane FAS, AW are permitted to do this in "exceptional circumstances" to prevent flooding of homes and roads, there was little or no rain fall recorded in this period.
b) Footpaths, ref the proposed footpath from Flempton Bridge to Hengrave Bridge. SCC Public Rights of Way and Footpaths Manager reports that negotiations with landowners remain ongoing and hopefully will reach a successful conclusion next year, 2023.
- 20** Date of next meeting
Monday 13th February 2023 at the earlier time of 6.30
With further meetings being 20 March and 15 May for the annual General Meeting