

FLEMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Of the Flempton cum Hengrave Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 13th February 2023
At The Stables, Bury Road, IP28 6EG

Present: Councillors Andrew Speed, Dave Bambury, Gill Martin, Janet Davies, David Hudson,
Tony Tooth, Jean Lindsay

In attendance: Councillors Susan Glossop, Rebecca Hopfensperger, Christine Mason (Clerk)

1. Chairman's Welcome

An agreement how to proceed as a Council when planning applications are received was discussed and unanimously agreed for future reference that 'the Parish Council are setting a proposal that when a meeting is called by a councillor, then it will be decided whether the meeting goes ahead by majority vote. Time frame within seven days of the meeting being called'.

2. Apologies

All present.

3. Declarations of Interest

a) To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in the items on the agenda and their nature - none.

b) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature - none

4. Minutes

With two amendments and the addition of the attendance of Cllr Hudson at the meeting, the revised minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

To brief councillors on the work he is proposing on ground care and wilding issues, the Chairman to invite Mark Prina to the next meeting; going forward a dialogue with the vicar to be continued.

5. To receive reports from Cllr Susan Glossop and Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger

Cllr Glossop reported WSC will be looking at the council tax bill next Tuesday, it is proposed a Band D property will be increased by less than 10p per week; brown bin charges to rise from £45 to £47; planning permission has been granted to rebuild the cottages like for like in Hengrave, work to commence in Spring; a plan for those living there to be put in place for vehicles, storing of material, no evening or Saturday working after 12.00pm. Cllr Glossop to be informed if these are not adhered to; in relation to the fire at the cottages on the corner of Mill Road, Cllr Glossop is currently in discussion with the residents; an enforcement matter with a fence at Hengrave has been resolved and has been lowered to the correct height; locality budget funding of £200 is available for the King's Coronation Celebrations.

6. Public Forum

There were no members of the public present. Suffolk Cloud to be contacted regarding the absence of the agenda on the website.

7. Finance

a) Payments as per the submitted list were approved. Balances to date stand at £19,202.66. Costs for the Flempton bus stop in the region of £7000 and the Queen's Commemorative bench at £2478 are yet to be deducted. In relation to the bus stop, no additional dropped kerb will be required.

b) The quotation for £327.92 received from WSC to cut the grass triangle on 8 occasions was approved. To be revisited in July for a progress report.

8. King's Coronation Celebrations

With little support from the Parish Council for the Queen's Jubilee, it was considered unfeasible to hold an event on the Village Green. Cllr Davies offered to research alternative commemoration items i.e. tin of biscuits, mugs. Number of children in both villages to be ascertained. An application for £200 locality budget funding from both Cllr Glossop and Cllr Hopfensperger to be submitted.

9. Planning Application DC/22/2208/FUL

Proposed by Cllr Bambury, seconded by Cllr Tooth and unanimously agreed that Flempton cum Hengrave would like to modify their original response to Planning Application DC/22/2208/FUL Change of use to cemetery/burial grounds Hengrave Hall, Bury Road, Hengrave, IP28 6LZ from Support to Object on the following grounds:

a) The entrance/exit to Hengrave Hall is already extensively used, therefore, adding funeral hearses and associated guests would only impact on the already busy entrance gates creating safety issues for both traffic and pedestrians.

b) There is at present an open churchyard facility for burials at nearby St Catherine's Church, Flempton.

c) The Parish Council does not support the use of private land for this purpose when a long-term maintenance and Care plan cannot be guaranteed. At worst, care of the site could become a liability for the Local Authority, as was the case in West Norwood cemetery in London – the reported cost to Lambeth Council 2.1 million pounds with the total cost of repair at 6.7 million (difference being met by the National Heritage Lottery Fund Lottery).

10. Speed limits in the village

With earlier gathered data showing considerable speeding activity in the 30-50mph zone, it was agreed the parish council need to reapply to have the 30mph moved out to the curtilage past the new development. Previously, three specific points had been raised a) residents of Grange Farm want to be included in the 30mph b) speed limit between Flempton and Hengrave reduced to 40mph c) some active compliance from the Police.

With data supporting consistent speeding, an email to be compiled and forwarded to Cllr Hopfensperger for resubmission to the Safety Road Team. If possible, support from neighbours to be included. Cllr Speed and the Clerk to liaise. With reference to the recent ANPR data, RH to chase Highways.

Furthermore, Cllr Bambury advised councillors the cost to refurbish the old VAS device will be in the region of £900 + vat. It was agreed no further action to be taken, the manufacturer to be informed of the decision.

11. To receive an update for the planned pruning of trees on The Green

An application has been submitted to planning but as yet is not showing on the portal. If longer than six weeks, pruning will not be allowed during the nesting season and work will be delayed until Autumn.

12. Recent fire in Hengrave

Covered earlier in the meeting.

13. Vacancy at Kytson Cottages, Hengrave

The email received from the Guildhall Feoffment Trust in relation to the vacant cottage was noted.

14. Entrance gates at both villages

A drawing of the proposed four gates and quotation to be circulated prior to an application being submitted for approval to the licencing department. Cost of gates in the region of £3000, licence fee £150. Cllr Speed to action.

15. Footpaths & River Pollution

No immediate movement on footpaths; data regarding river pollution incidents from Fornham Water Treatment Works has significantly decreased, Anglian Water are aware of the testing being carried out.

16. Date of next meeting

Agreed as 20th March 2023 at 6.30pm.

Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger's report

17. SCC budget was approved last week with a 1.99% increase in General Council Tax and 2% Adult Social Care ringfenced. Total ASC budget is £342 million being 55% of the total corporate spend. This equates to a £36 million increase with £28 million of that being an inflationary increase.

Cllr Tooth advised the meeting the slow signs have now been put up on The Green.

With no further business the meeting closed at 7.45pm.