

HICKLING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the parish council held on Tuesday 8th September 2015 in the Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

Councillors: Greenwood (Chair) Oldham Smith
McOuat Parkes

Also in attendance, Borough Councillor Tina Combellack, The Clerk – Jo Cartmell and 5 members of the public.

1. Apologies: Cllr's. Brazener and Salt and NC Cllr. Cottee.
2. Declarations of Interest: None.
3. Acceptance of minutes of the meeting held 15th July 2015: Cllr. Oldham proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting; this was seconded by Cllr. McOuat and passed.

Standing orders suspended: 7.33pm

4. Open session for the public **limited to 15 minutes.**

Mr Richard Page requested an update regarding the warning sign on Bridegate Lane which was due to be removed and a children's crossing warning sign sited in its place. The Clerk confirmed she had made enquires with Notts. County Council and had been told that the job was on a list and that they were unable to give an exact date but did say that the signage would be changed before the end of the financial year.

Mr Robertson attended the meeting and gave the parish council an update on the correspondence he had received from the Borough Council in relation to the complaint regarding the Helicopter Port at Broughton Lodge. Mr Robertson said that after six weeks he had received a letter from Allen Graham saying he was satisfied with the conduct of his officers in dealing with the complaint that had been registered. Mr Robertson felt his concern that the consent for the planning application was given based on a fraudulent document had not been addressed. The Clerk said she had been in touch with the Borough Council who had requested that they be given more time to complete the necessary review of the case but so as not to prejudice the case, they wished not to say anything further at this point. Cllr. Greenwood asked if the action group had been established as talked about at the last parish council meeting. Mr Robertson confirmed that as far as he was aware the group had been formed but he wasn't an active member of it. As the Borough Council was yet to report back, Cllr. Greenwood suggested that the parish council forward the report Mr Robertson had produced to the environmental health officer and ask them to reconsider the information it contained.

Action: Clerk to forward noise assessment report to the Environmental Health department.

Standing orders re-instated: 7.43pm

5. Planning Matters.

Applications:

15/01349/FUL

Mr Platt

Little Acre, Melton Rd, Hickling Pastures

Single storey extension to existing single storey annex.

Members voted to object to the proposed increase in the number of residents to be housed at this facility as there had been concerns raised from neighbours that the staff were not managing the residents they had and the increase in the number of residents to 8 would result in the problems becoming worse. When the planning officer had written his report for the Change of Use application in 2012 he noted that the number of residents should be limited to 7 and members agreed that this limit should remain in place. The facility was considered to be operating at full capacity already by councillors.

Action: Clerk to forward response to RBC.

Applications considered between meetings:

15/01359/FUL Mr Grayson, Sycamore House, Pudding Lane, Hickling. New stables, tack room and hay store.

15/01446/FUL Mr E Parkes, Church Farm, Main Street, Hickling. Change of use of existing barn approved under 12/01354/AGRIC to include housing of cattle.

No objection submitted.

Decisions:

15/01018/FUL

Mr C Pepper

Single storey ground extension and first floor extensions to dwelling.

Garden Cottage, the Green, Hickling.

Other: The Bungalow, Main St. Hickling: Cllr. Greenwood updated the meeting regarding the correspondence he had received from Mr Pegram. Cllr. Greenwood had raised concerns on behalf of the parish council regarding the consultation process and the dimensions of the build in relation to the plan specifications. Cllr. Greenwood was yet to receive a response to the latest correspondence. It was noted that the property had now sold and the question arose as to whether the agent should be made aware that there were outstanding issues relating to the property. Cllr. Combellack suggested that the parish council speak to Dan Swaine at the Borough Council before taking any further action.

Action: Clerk to speak to Mr Swaine.

Church Farm: Cllr. Greenwood noted that a parishioner had contacted him about the ongoing building works at Church Farm. The concerns raised had been investigated further by the Borough Council. Cllr. Parkes responded that he was aware of the issues and that an environmental health officer had already attended the site. The environmental health officer was satisfied that the conditions of the planning application were being met. Cllr. Parkes noted that a neighbouring resident had not been notified

of the planning application by the Borough Council at the consultation stage and he believed this was the initial cause of the issues that had arisen.

6. Correspondence:
NALC: AGM Wednesday 18th November at Epperstone Village Hall: No-one available to attend.
7. Neighbourhood plan: Borough Cllr. Combellack and Cllr. Oldham had requested that the parish council consider setting up a sub-committee to produce a Neighbourhood Plan. The plan would enable the parish council to have a greater say on what local factors should be considered by the Borough Council when determining planning applications. Cllr. Combellack offered to speak to a member of the Borough Council with a view to holding a meeting about Neighbourhood Planning, she suggested combining efforts with the parish of Upper Broughton to produce a plan as the two parishes were affected by similar issues, shared borders and it would help keep costs down. The Clerk was asked to put an advert in the parish magazine asking for volunteers to come forward to form the committee. The committee would need 4 or 5 volunteers who weren't on the parish council.
Action: Clerk to put a notice in the parish magazine.
8. Highways and Footpaths: The decision regarding the formalisation of the footpath on Mill Lane had not yet been received from the Planning Inspectorate.
9. Local Bus Service:
New service: Cllr. Oldham confirmed that the new service was now up and running and that the Service No 832 and 853 were now in operation with low entry buses on some of the runs. Cllr. Oldham proposed that the services be advertised in the parish magazine. The Clerk was asked to forward the information to the parish magazine. Cllr. Greenwood forwarded thanks to Cllr. Oldham for his continued hard work in relation to the bus service.
Bus stops: The decision by the parish council to support Notts. County Councils proposal to retain the Bus Shelter and move the Walkers' Green bus stop was forwarded to NCC and they were currently looking into alternative locations for the bus stop at the northern end of the village.
Action: Clerk to forward bus timetable to the Hickling Standard.
10. Environmental Matters:
Helicopter traffic: This item covered in the open session but Cllr. McOuat added that she had received correspondence from neighbours of the helicopter port and although they conceded that the helicopters had been noisy at times, they wished to note that they no longer notice the noise and that the operators of the site had done a good landscaping job around the perimeter which involved the siting of a raised bank which helped block the noise.
Tree Planting: Cllr. Combellack informed the council that the Borough Council were obliged to produce a conservation survey and had established a Conservation Development Group which would be responsible for producing guidance notes for landowners and farmers about that grants that are available to assist with conservation projects. The parish council should be hearing from the Borough Council in due course regarding this.
11. Community matters.
 - Hickling Village Hall: Cllr. McOuat attended the last village hall committee meeting and gave members an update from that meeting. The main points were that the extension to the hall was almost finished with just a small amount of roofing and some interior jobs to be completed. The committee were currently looking into applying for a grant from Awards for All which could possibly be used to go towards new tables, spot lights or a new boiler as the oil fired boiler was fairly old and inefficient. The question of a gas boiler being installed as an alternative was raised but a member of the Village Hall Committee who was present at the meeting said this was not a viable option as the quote for the gas connection had been in the region of £15,000.
 - Telephone Kiosk/Defibrillator(s) – The Clerk had received one quote for completing the painting of the kiosk. The quote was a maximum of £200 for completely stripping, priming and painting all accessible part of the exterior of the telephone kiosk and repainting the interior. The painter would not be able to provide an exact quote until the work was started and would not be able to start until October. Cllr. Oldham proposed that the quote of up to £200 be accepted; this was seconded by Cllr. McOuat and passed.
Action: Clerk to notify the painter that his quote had been accepted.
12. Friendship with Farmington: Cllr. Greenwood briefed the parish council that the relevant authority in Farmington, USA had resolved to form a formal friendship with Hickling and he proposed that this Hickling accepted the friendship with thanks and reciprocated the formal friendship agreement with them. There were no costs or legal obligation associated with this proposal. Cllr. Smith seconded this proposal and it was unanimously passed. The Clerk was asked to notify Maggy Jordan of the resolution and ask her if she would communicate this to relevant body in Farmington.
Action: Clerk to speak to Maggy Jordan.
13. Local policing: None.
14. Grantham Canal: Lengthman's Hut – nothing to report at present as Cllr. Combellack was still waiting for the work to start.
15. Walker's Green:
Jubilee Oak sign: Cllr. Combellack had asked the parish council to consider having a sign placed at the base of the newly planted Jubilee Oak. The sign was to read Jubilee Oak 2012 from Her Majesty The Queen's Sandringham Estate. The Clerk was asked to contact Adam from AR Signs to see if he would be willing to assist with this project.
Action: Clerk to contact AR Signs.

Weekly inspections: The Clerk informed members that the Parish Council were responsible for carrying out weekly checks of the play equipment on Walker's Green and for insurance purposes a log should be kept. Cllr. Smith volunteered to take on the responsibility of checking the play equipment. The Clerk confirmed she had the necessary information for carrying out these inspections and would forward it to Cllr. Smith.

Action: Clerk to forward information to Cllr. Smith.

16. Finance: Balance – Current account: £15,582.22 and Reserve Account: £3,811.11.

Grant Thornton: Notice of closure of accounts: The Clerk had received notification from the external auditors that the audit had been completed and the accounts closed.

Payments due:

Cheque No	Payee	Description	Amount
614	All Seasons Gardening	Re-issued cheque – cheque 604 cancelled.	£300.00
615	Garry Watts	Cemetery maintenance	£720.00

Cllr. Parkes proposed that the above payments be made; this was seconded by Cllr Smith and passed.

17. Items from members for the next agenda: to be forwarded to the Clerk.

18. Late items and Chairman's matters: The Chair raised the issue of the planting of shrubs within the cemetery and on one grave in particular where a number of hardy shrubs had been sited. The Clerk was asked to speak to the family regarding the removal of the shrubs.

Action: Clerk to speak to family.

19. Date of next meetings: 27th Oct & 8th Dec.

No further business: meeting closed 8.50pm