

HORHAM AND ATHELINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on January 7, 2020 at 7.30pm
in Horham Community Centre

PRESENT	Cllrs Elizabeth Gibson-Harries, Bill Craig, Paul Hambling, Tom Wright, Rod Caird (Clerk) and two members of the public. The County Councillor was unable to attend but District Councillor Matthew Hicks was present.
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1/070120 Apologies and approvals of absence

April Groen, Jacques Groen and Jasen Jeffrey had sent their apologies and their absence was approved.

2/070120 Declarations of Interest and dispensations requested

None

3/070120 Approval of the draft Minutes of the meetings held on November 5, 2019

The Minutes were approved. It was agreed to leave installation of the new noticeboard until the spring.

4/070120 Members of the public are invited to give their views and question the Parish Council on issues on the agenda. Reports may be presented by the District and County Councillors

Cllr Hicks reported that Mid Suffolk's council tax will rise by 1.6%. Funds are available up to maximum of £40,000 for adaptations to allow people to remain in their own home for longer. A new system of penalties is being introduced to combat council tax fraud. Needham Lakes is the most visited free tourist attraction in Suffolk and £600,000 is being spent on a new visitor centre. The County Council highways cabinet member, Andrew Reid, may be looking at HGV routes across Suffolk. It was emphasised however that anyone who pays road tax is entitled to use the highways network.

The Clerk was asked to request that Cllr McGregor attend the next meeting of the Parish Council so that a discussion can be held on HGV use of local roads, especially in relation to the developing chicken production business in the region.

5/070120 To consider updates on current planning applications, including correspondence from a resident concerning the appeal decision for Land Opposite Wheatcroft, The Street

The resident's correspondence was noted and the Clerk was asked to reply.

6/070120 To discuss an update on the proposed purchase of a Speed Indicator device (SID)

Cllr Hicks is contributing 50% of the cost from his Locality budget and the Clerk will contact Cllr McGregor to confirm his contribution. It was agreed to complete the purchase during February.

7/070120 To consider the budget proposal for 2020/21 and the precept requirement for 2020/21

It was agreed after discussion to hold the precept at its current level of £3,000. The spending budget was approved at a level of £4,000, including the cost of the SID which will be covered by the District and County Councillors.

8/070120 To receive a Financial Report from the Clerk, including any payments due

A bank reconciliation was presented showing a balance of £3,662.97, and the figures were confirmed with the published bank statement. Paperwork was completed enabling the NSI savings account arrangements to be updated. It was formally agreed that the signatories would be Paul Hambling and Elizabeth Gibson Harries, and that the address of the account be updated so that all correspondence should go to the Clerk, Rod Caird, at 26, Church Lane, Henley, IP60RQ.

Payments were made to Rod Caird (clerk pay, £203.08) and HMRC (PAYE, £50.80).

Payments were made under sections 111 and 112 of the Local Government Act 1972.

9/070120 Correspondence and urgent matters to be brought to the attention of the Parish Council

None at this time.