The **Monthly Meeting** of the **Hawthorn Parish Council** was held at 7. pm on **Monday 17th October 2016** in the **Community Centre**

**MINUTES**

**Present**

Cllr. Alan Askew (Chairman)

Michael Dowson (Vice Chairman)

Diane Hughes, Sheila Irving, George Vest

DCC Cllr. Angela Surtees

**Officer**: Lesley Swinbank (Parish Clerk)

# Apologies

Cllrs. Norman Hughes, Maxine Smith

# Declarations of Interest

Cllr Alan Askew: Item 9.2 (b) Donation to St. Michael’s Church

# Representative from Durham Wildlife Re Hawthorn Dene

The Chairman welcomed Chris Jones, Eastern Reserves Officer at Durham Wildlife. Mr Jones then gave a brief presentation on Hawthorn Dene and the activities held there by Durham Wildlife Trust.

He also gave details of the need for the grant application for new trail markers which will be discussed later in the meeting.

Mr Jones was thanked for attending and then left the meeting.

# Minutes:

# RESOLVED

# To approve the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held September 19th 2016

# Matters of Information

## Defib Training

## Arranging further training subject to demand in March 2017

## Registering Church

## Application made

## Planning application Wind Turbine

The application has now been withdrawn by the developer.

## Speed Limit Stockton Road

## See below.

# Reports

## Police

The Chairman welcomed PCSO Aimee Guest to the meeting and who then proceeded to give the Police Report.

Since the last meeting there has been: -

* 5 Fuel thefts from the Garage
* 3 Road collisions on the nearby A19
* Rear car window broken – near the Pemberton Arms

Cllr. George Vest asked about dangerous dog legislation and the action which can be taken.

PCSO Guest was thanked by the Chairman and left the meeting.

## Co. Cllr.

The Chairman welcomed DCC Cllr. Angela Surtees to the meeting.

Cllr Surtees then proceeded to report on the following: -

1. **Dog Bin at Pemberton Arms**

This has been reported and is on DCC’s list of works.

1. **Hedges**

Now on DCC’s list of works.

1. **Dementia Conference**

Details have been circulated.

1. **Fly tipping**

Cllr. Surtees encouraged all incidents to be reported to her.

1. **Speeding Stockton Road**

Cllr. Surtees reported that she had been in touch with DCC Cllr David Boyes and subsequently attended a meeting with him and a senior officer from DCC Highways Dept. to discuss the Parish Council requests to reduce the speed limit on Stockton Rd from 60 mph.

They had been advised that the length of road in question is not long enough to pursue the speed change. Cllr Surtees had questioned this and also asked about similar instances in the county where there is a reduced speed limit. DCC had replied that these had been implemented before the current legislation.

DCC agreed however to look at installing large ‘Slow’ signs on the road at both entrances and also moving the Hawthorn signs closer to the properties.

**RESOLVED**

1. **In principle to endorse the new Slow signs on the road and the movement of the entrance signs if DCC feel this will raise awareness.**
2. **Cllr. Surtees to report this back to DCC Highways and ask that their officers look again at the movement of the entrance signs before taking a final decision on this.**

## Community Centre

Cllr. Diane Hughes gave the report.

1. The Community Centre welcome the Trail Run 2017 and will look into ensuring sufficient parking
2. The application for a grant towards garden troughs has been successful.
3. There has been no progress with installing Wi-Fi.
4. The new keep fit group has now started on Tuesday mornings.
5. The Christmas diary of events including: -

* Craft fayre 26th Nov
* Celidh 3rd Dec
* Christmas Lunch 8th Dec
* Pantomime 21st Dec

Has been finalised.

## Any other reports

None

# Public Participation

The Chairman closed the meeting whilst the public gave them views and comments.

There were no comments.

The meeting was then reopened.

# Correspondence / emails

## Stapylton Arms

Information has been received from DCC informing the council that the Stapylton Arms is now listed as an Asset of Community Value under the Community Right to Bid legislation brought in under the Localism Act 2011 and the Assets of Community Value (England) Regulations 2012. However, DCC have now received notification from the owner of the of the Stapylton Arms of their intention to dispose of the Asset. DCC is therefore inviting any eligible community interest group to express an interest to be treated as a potential bidder for the asset during the interim moratorium period which expires on the 3rd November 2016.

During the interim moratorium period Hawthorn Parish Council or another community group may request in writing to be treated as a potential bidder for the Asset. If DCC receives such a request this will invoke the full moratorium period of 6 months (from the date of notification to dispose) and the Council must inform the owner who may not, then dispose of the Asset during this 6-month period unless it is to a community interest group. If no community interest group requests to be treated as a potential bidder during the 6-week interim moratorium period, then the owner may proceed to dispose of the Asset.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information**

## Dog Order

Members have been notified that Durham County Council is carrying out a Public Consultation concerning the Implementation of a countywide Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for dog control. Any introduced PSPO will replace the existing countywide [Dog Control Order](http://www.durham.gov.uk/dogfouling) and enable additional enforcement powers to encourage responsible dog ownership.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information.**

# Financial:

## RESOLVED

## To approve the payments as below

## To approve the bank reconciliation as below.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Opening Balances |  | £10,209.37 |  |
| Receipts to date |  | £9,305.74 |  |
| Payments to date |  | £5,208.34 |  |
| Closing balances |  | £14,306.77 |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Business | £8,327.75 |  |  |
| Current | £7,920.86 |  |  |
| Total | £16,248.61 |  |  |
| Less u/p to date | £2,081.84 | £14,306.77 |  |
| Less u/p income to date | £140.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Expenditure** |  |  | **S137** |
| Church | Donation | £250.00 | £250.00 |
| Income |  |  |  |
| Kimmitt | Sponsorship bulbs | £140.00 |  |

## Donation requests (Section 137)

1. ***Durham Wildlife***

*A grant application has been received from the above.*

***RESOLVED***

1. ***To give a donation (max £192) for new Trail signs for Hawthorn Dene.***
2. ***The Parish Council to purchase the signs and also to promote the Dene through the Wildlife publications and the Hawthorn Round up.***
3. *St Michaels Church*

*A grant application has been received from the above.*

***RESOLVED***

***To give a donation of £250***

1. *Durham Discharged Prisoners ‘Aid*

*A request letter has been received from the above.*

***RESOLVED***

***Not to give a donation at this time.***

## Financial Risk Assessment

The financial risk assessment had been circulated.

**RESOLVED**

**To approve the above.**

## Initial discussions re estimates / precept 2017/2018 / Financial Plan

Drafts of the above had been circulated and were discussed.

**RESOLVED**

1. **To receive the estimates for the ½ year.**
2. **To approve the financial plan 2017 / 2018**
3. **To discuss the estimates / precept for 2017 / 2018 at the next meeting.**

# Training:

None received.

# Current Planning Applications: Re DCC Lists

None received.

# Events / Information

## Bulb planting

This is to be held Saturday 29th October. Three sacks of bulbs have been delivered to the contractor and the Clerk will bring the fourth bag on the morning.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information**

## Remembrance Sunday

The Chairman reported that he would purchase the poppy wreath on behalf of the parish Council and attend the Service.

The Clerk reported she had e mailed two groups of Cadets re attending the Service and had received no responses.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information.**

## Christmas Tree Lights – Switch on (Action Plan)

The action plan had been circulated.

The Clerk reported that she had met with Norman Bambrough from the band and the draft carol sheet had been circulated.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information**

## Snowman Competition

Publicity to be via the electronic letter and the Winter newsletter.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information**

## Newsletter /Roundup

All Christmas activities to be publicised

via the Round Up in November and December and the Winter Newsletter. This will be brought to the November monthly meeting and given to Cllrs for distribution.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information**

# Date of the next meeting: Monday November 21st 2016

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.20 pm.