The **December Monthly Meeting** of the **Hawthorn Parish Council** was held on **Monday 9th December 2019 at 7pm** in the **Community Centre.**

**MINUTES**

**Present**

Cllr. Alan Askew (Chairman)

Cllr. George Vest (Vice Chairman)

Cllrs Diane Hughes, Sheila Irving, Sheila Wilson

DCC Cllr. Angela Surtees,

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

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

# Apologies

# Cllr. Carolyn Winter

# Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Maxine Smith Item 8.1 Payments

# Minutes:

**RESOLVED**

**To approve the Minutes of the November Monthly Meeting held 18th November 2019**

# Matters of Information

## New notice Boards etc

Clerk to bring designs/ suggestions to January / February meetings.

## Flag and flagpole

Cllr. George Vest reported that the Church is awaiting information / permissions from the Diocese. It was suggested that the Parish Council have a contingency plan in the event that permissions have not been received. It was agreed that the Parish Council should go ahead and purchase the flagpole as agreed previously and that the fall-back position would be the flagpole being sited in the same place as the Christmas Tree.

In addition, it was agreed that the condolence book should now be placed in the Church.

**RESOLVED**

* + 1. **To buy a flagpole immediately – with delivery to Cllr. Sheila Irving.**
    2. **The Chairman to take the condolence book to the Church**

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# Reports

## Police

The Chairman welcomed PC Dylan Middlemiss to the meeting. PC Middlemis then proceeded to give his report.

Concerns were expressed re-recording incidents and the need to re-establish the Neighbourhood Watch in the village.

**RESOLVED**

1. **PC Middlemiss to provide information and liaise with the Parish Clerk re-establishing the Neighbourhood Watch.**
2. **To launch the new scheme at the Annual Parish Meeting in March**

He was thanked for attending by the Chairman.

## Co. Cllr.

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

Issues included: -

1. Footpath on Glencot
   * 1. Flooding Eagle Hall – this has been referred to DCC
     2. Cllr. Sheila Wilson said she had reported a problem on a local road and this had been attended to immediately.
     3. Cllr. Maxine Smith asked about DCC emptying the two bins – one in the play area and the other near the Rectory. The Clerk to forward the letter previously sent to Steve Foster to herself and she will look into this.

Cllr. Surtees was thanked for attending by the Chairman.

## Community Centre

The Chairman gave the report including: -

1. The Craft Fair had been very good.
2. 5th December people went for Christmas Lunch at the Stapylton Arms
3. 14th December the Snow Queen will be staged.

## Smaller Council Committee

The Chairman, Cllr. Alan Askew reported on the recent meeting.

## Any other reports

None

**RESOLVED**

**To accept the reports and recommendation contained therein.**

# Public Participation

The Public were invited to give their views and comments to the Parish Council on issues on this agenda.

There were no comments.

# Correspondence / emails

## Complaint re the successful grant application for new noticeboards

A letter has been received from a local resident requesting the complaints procedure be activated in respect of the council’s successful application for £8,600 for the new solar noticeboards etc.

Members discussed the request but felt it did not meet the criteria within the complaints policy.

**RESOLVED**

**To respond that the complaint did not fall within the criteria for making a formal complaint and to close the matter.**

## Christmas Event: Dalton Le Dale

The Chairman informed members that he had attended the recent Carol Event at Dalton Le Dale.

# Financial:

## RESOLVED

**To endorse the monies to be paid by the Clerk since the last meeting**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 101022 | 09/12/2019 | Tesco | Christmas event | £65.20 |
| 101023 | 10/12/2019 | Pittington Brass Band | Christmas event | £150.00 |
| 101024 | 11/12/2019 | Horns | Christmas Tree | £170.00 |
| 101025 | 11/12/2019 | Winter | Plants | £32.00 |
| 101026 | 11/12/2019 | Hawthorn Landscaping | Community Plant | £670.00 |
| 101027 | 11/12/2019 | Hawthorn Landscaping | Grasscutting etc | £1,750.00 |
| 101028 | 11/12/2019 | Lesley Swinbank | Flagpole | £29.99 |
| 101029 | 11/12/2019 | M&S | Fruit Krazy Kev | £25.00 |

## 3rd Quarter Estimates / Budget for 2020 / 2021

These had been circulated and were discussed in detail.

**RESOLVED**

**To approve the 3rd quarter estimates**

## Draft agreement of the precept for 2020 / 2021: To be approved January 2020

The estimates for 2020/2021 were discussed in detail.

## RESOLVED

**To set the precept for 2020 / 2021 at £8,500. This is a reduction of £172 from the previous year. However due to the decrease in the tax base this will result in a .75% increase in the Band D Council Tax.**

# Financial / Action Plan 2020 / 2021

This had been circulated.

Members discussed the plan.

**RESOLVED**

**To approve the Financial / Action Plan**

# Pre-planning application protocol

The draft had been circulated.

**RESOLVED**

**To approve the pre-application protocol.**

# Training Events

The Clerk informed members that there are a number of training events being held in 2020. Further details will be given as and when these are received.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information.**

# Current Planning Applications

Outline dwelling at land to north of West farm, Cold Heseldon

**Resolved**

**No objections**

# Policies

**RESOLVED**

**Cllrs. Alan Askew, Diane Hughes, George Vest to serve on the Complaints Committee**

**And**

**Cllrs. Sheila Irving, Sheila Wilson and Maxine Smith to serve on the Appeals Committee.**

# Events / Information

## Christmas Turn on Lights

Members agreed the event had been very successful and expressed their thanks to Krazy Kev who came along as Santa.

**RESOLVED**

* 1. **To send a fruit basket to Krazy Kev as a token of thanks.**
  2. **The tree and lights to be taken down on January 6th**
  3. **The event to be held next year on Saturday 5th December**
  4. **To thank Ian Smith and Cllr. Sheila Irving for their work with the Christmas Tree**

## Snowman competition

Details of the snowman competition have been advertised.

The Chairman and Cllr. Sheila Irving to carry out the judging on Saturday 21st.

**RESOLVED**

1. **To purchase Amazon Vouchers for £25, £20 and £10 for the best 3 entries as decided by the judges**
2. **These to be presented at the January meeting**
3. **To consider extending this competition in 2020 to the best decorated house.**

## Norman Hughes Award

Details have been circulated. The closing date of 31st January.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information**

## VE Day Celebrations

The Clerk informed members that she had applied for a grant from the Lottery for £950 to provide various activities

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information**

# Keeping You in the Know project

This will commence in January / February 2020.

# Date of the next meeting: Monthly Meeting: Monday January 20th, 2020

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.30pm