

The April Monthly Meeting of the Hawthorn Parish Council was held remotely using ZOOM on Monday 19th April 2021 following the Annual Parish Meeting.

MINUTES

Present

Cllr. Alan Askew (Chairman)

Cllr. George Vest (Vice - Chairman)

Cllrs Diane Hughes, Sheila Wilson, Carolyn Winter, Sheila Irving, Maxine Smith

Officer: Lesley Swinbank (Parish Clerk)

Residents

Mr. E. Hubbuck, Mr. & Mrs. G Thompson

1 Notice of Meeting

Public Notice of the Meeting has been given in accordance with Schedule 12 paragraph 10(2) of the LGA 1972

2 Apologies

DCC Cllr. Angela Surtees

3 Declarations of Interest

None

4 Minutes:

RESOLVED

To approve the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held Monday March 15th 2021

5 Matters of Information

5.1 Fence at Glencot Grove

Cllr. George Vest reported that the broken fence at Glencot Grove has now been removed.

5.2 Flooding at north end of the village

It was agreed to invite Mr. Brian Weatherall to the June meeting rather than the May meeting.

6 Reports

All reports were given at the Annual Meeting of the Parish.

7 Public Participation

The Chairman welcomed M. Eric Hubbuck to the meeting who proceeded to give the following questions / comments.

7.1 New sign : Dog Waste Bin :

Mr. Hubbuck asked about progress.

It was explained that A1 Engraving has been closed but is opening shortly and it is hoped the new sign will then be arranged. Cllr. Sheila Irving said she would arrange this.

7.2 Additional dog bin near the entrance to the Dene.

It was explained that the contractor has visited the site on a couple of occasions but had been unable to carry out the necessary works due to the number of parked cars.

7.3 Authorized works near Glencot Grove

The Parish Council has not authorized any strimming on land near Glencot Grove. This land is not owned by HPC.

7.4 Graffiti on Bus Stop on Stockton Road

Mr. Hubbuck said he had reported this to DCC

8 Correspondence

8.1 Cars parked near the Dene

An email has been received from a local resident who rides a horse on Coach Road and has found difficulties due to the number of parked cars.

It was pointed out that this is a Police matter – and the problem has been referred to them.

9 Financial:

9.1 To endorse the monies paid by the Clerk since the last meeting / Bank reconciliation

The Clerk informed members that the only expenditure has been £100 to the Internal Auditor.

RESOLVED

To approve the payment.

10 AGAR

The Clerk had circulated all of the required accounts and information and the accounts have now been audited by the Internal Auditor.

In addition the Clerk pointed out that as the Parish Council's turnover is less than £25,000 an external audit is not required but that the Council must comply with the Transparency Code – and as such everything will be available on the website following approval tonight.

RESOLVED

To approve the following:-

- a. **Audit Dispensation / Exemption**
- b. **Internal Audit report**
- c. **Annual Governance Statement**
- d. **Annual Accounts including balance sheet, income / expenditure etc.**
- e. **Annual Statement**

11 Remote meetings from May 7th

The Clerk informed members that the situation regarding remote meetings is not clear after May 7th.

The Clerk suggested that the Council prepare for returning to normal meetings – but that a decision on the May meetings should be taken once information / clarification is received from central government.

RESOLVED

To assume the May meetings will be held in the Community Centre – covid restrictions and limitations will need to be in place.

12 Induction Training for new HPC Councillors

The Clerk informed members that Induction Training for all newly elected Cllrs will take place at 6.15 in the Community Centre – before the Annual Meeting of the Council.

13 Current Planning Applications

13.1 Crown reduction and removal of lower branches of 1 no. Sycamore tree : St Michael And All Angels Church The Village Hawthorn

RESOLVED

No objections

13.2 Detached timber summerhouse : The Old Rectory The Village Hawthorn Seaham

RESOLVED

No objections

14 Events & Information : Sunflower Competition

Cllr. Carolyn Winter said several envelopes with the sunflower seeds have been taken by residents.

15 Date of the next meeting:

15.1 Annual Meeting of the Council Monday 17th May 2021 at 7pm

15.2 Monthly Meeting : Monday May 17th 2021 – following the Annual Meeting of the Council

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.05 pm