**The November Monthly Meeting of the Hawthorn Parish Council was held at 7pm on Monday 15th November 2021 in the Community Centre.**

**MINUTES**

**Present**

Cllr Diane Hughes (Chairman)

Cllrs Alan Askew, Sheila Wilson, Sheila Irving, Maxine Smith

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

# Notice of Meeting

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

# Resignation of Cllr. George Vest

The Clerk informed members that Cllr. George Vest has resigned as Chairman and also as a Cllr. due to family commitments. The vacancy has been declared and unless 10 electors of the parish come forward to request an election then the Council can coopt a new member – probably at the January meeting.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information.**

# Election of Chairman

**RESOLVED**

**To elect Councillor Diane Hughes as Chairman of the Parish Council.**

# Acceptance of Office

Cllr. Diane Hughes then signed her acceptance of Office.

# Election of Vice Chairman

**RESOLVED**

**Cllr. Sheila Irvine was elected as Vice - Chairman.**

# Apologies:

Cllr Carolyn Winter

# Declarations of Interest

None

# Minutes:

**RESOLVED**

**To approve the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held October 18th 2021**

# Matters of Information

## Wild Flowers on verges

Request made to DCC

## Police Commissioner

The Clerk had circulated information in respect of the meeting for Parish and Town Councillors at Spennymoor with the Crime Commissioner and encouraged all interested to attend. Details as below.

## Damaged fence at Glencot

This has now been reported again.

# Reports

## Police

The written Police report had been circulated.

Members expressed their disappointment at the lack of information.

DCC Cllr. Angela Surtees said she would pass on the comments to the Police Inspector and ask her to contact the Clerk.

## DCC

The Chairman welcomed Cllr Angela Surtees to the meeting who then proceeded to give her report

### B1432

Awaiting information from DCC Highways dept.

### Grit Bin

This has now been reported.

## Community Centre

Cllr. Sheila Wilson gave the report including details of ongoing events in the Centre and in particular the Christmas pantomime.

# Public Participation

The Chairman invited members of the public to speak.

## Litter Pick

Mr. Eric Hubbuck asked about the frequency of litter picks by DCC on Stockton Road. This was answered by DCC Cllr. Angela Surtees.

## Vacancy on the Parish Council

Mr. Eric Hubbuck asked about the vacancy on the Parish Council. The Clerk explained that the vacancy has now been called and the notice of vacancy has been published. If 10 electors from Hawthorn come forward and request an election then the election process will begin and nominations invited etc. for the vacant place on the Parish Council. If more than one nomination is received DCC will the organise a by-election – in the same way as the elections in May.

If the 10 electors don’t request an election, then the Parish Council must coopt someone to fill the vacancy – and this would probably be done at the January meeting.

# Correspondence

## Police Commissioner

Joy Allen, the PCC, has organised a meeting of representatives of parish and town councils on Tues 30 Nov at 6.15pm at Spennymoor Town Hall. She is very keen to work collaboratively with all councils, identifying specific local issues and exploring if there may be ways to work together, such as funding initiatives with her office and other partners.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information**

# Financial:

## RESOLVED

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

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 101094 | 18/10/2021 | A I Engraving | New dog sign | £10.50 |
| 101095 | 18/10/2021 | National gardens | Voucher Sunflowers | £27.00 |
| 101096 | 01/11/2021 | C Winter | Plants for tubs | £54.99 |
| 101097 | 01/11/2021 | CDALC | Training | £10.00 |
| 101098 | 01/11/2021 | Signscape | Solar noticeboards | £4,435.13 |
| 101099 | 15/11/2021 | British Legion | Poppy Wreath | £25.00 |
| 101100 | 16/11/2021 | Brother | Printer | £124.99 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Business | £10,749.03 |  |
| Current | £11,793.86 |  |
| Total | £22,542.89 |  |
| Less u/p to date |  | **£22,542.89** |
|  |  |  |
| **Receipts To date** |  | **£8,779.52** |
| **Payments to date** |  | £12,286.24 |
| **Closing balances** |  | **£19,036.17** |
|  |  |  |
| Business | £11,047.55 |  |
| Current | £12,676.23 |  |
| Total | £23,723.78 |  |
| Less u/p to date | £4,687.61 | **£19,036.17** |

## Draft estimates for 2022/2023

These had been circulated and included the information re the Tax base from DCC

**RESOLVED**

**To set the precept at the December meeting.**

## Review of the effectiveness of the Internal Audit ( As circulated)

**RESOLVED**

**To approve the above**

## Financial Risk Assessment (As circulated)

**RESOLVED**

**To approve the above**

## Santa’s Gifts

The Clerk had circulated details of gifts for the children from Santa.

**RESOLVED**

**To approve details etc.**

# Trees on Village Green

It was suggested that the tree officer from DCC be asked to come and inspect the tree on the village green with the purpose of providing recommendations etc on necessary works.

**RESOLVED**

**To invite the tree officer to visit within next couple of months**

# Training

None to date.

# Current Planning Applications

## Application No:  DM/21/03585/VOC Proposal:  Variation of Condition Numbers: 1, 3, 10, 13, 17, 19, 23, and 24 pursuant to planning permission DM/20/02692/VOC  Address:  Land South Of A182 Cold Hesledon

It was pointed out that this refers to the new Garden Village

**RESOLVED**

**No comments**

# Events & Information

## Tub Planting

The Clerk reported that Cllr. Carolyn Winter had planted up the tubs.

## Queens Jubilee

The Clerk reported that ex Cllr George Vest is booking the entertainer and it was agreed to ask Robinson’s of Wingate to provide the catering.

The Clerk also suggested looking into the possibility of a canopy on the exterior wall of the Centre – to allow under cover entertainment.

**RESOLVED**

**To agree to the above**

## Christmas – Lights Switch on

Details and the action plan were discussed and finalized.

## Snowman Competition

**Resolved**

**This to be as 2020 – photos to be forwarded to the Clerk**

# Dates of meetings 2022

**RESOLVED**

**To approve the proposed list of dates for Jan – June which had been circulated – including dates for the Annual Parish meeting on March 21st and the Annual Meeting of the Council / May monthly meeting on May 9th**

# Date of the next meeting: Monthly Meeting : Monday 13th December 2021

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