

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

held at Haversham Social and Community Centre

on Wednesday 13 April 2022 at 7.30pm

Present - Councillors Williams (in the Chair), Turnbull (Vice Chair), Burgess, Clift, English, Langham and Parish Clerk

Ward Councillor – Councillor Geary

Apologies – Councillor Swannell

	Item	Action
1	<p>Introduction</p> <p>Cllr Williams welcomed the Members of the Public to the Annual Public Parish Meeting for 2021/2 and introduced the Councillors and Clerk. Residents had been given the opportunity prior to the meeting to peruse information in relation to the Neighbourhood Plan and it was hoped that this had been informative.</p> <p>Cllr Williams said thank you to Cllr Geary on behalf of the Parish Council and the Parishioners for all his work in the time he had been in post.</p>	
2	<p>Approval of the Minutes from the previous meeting</p> <p>The Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.</p>	
3	<p>Police Report by PCSO David Huckle</p> <p>David Huckle introduced himself and reported that he had returned to neighbourhood policing and was now looking after the rural areas. He reminded Parishioners that he produced a monthly police report which included crime figures and also thematic preventative measures for residents to consider. These reports were added to the Haversham-cum-Little Linford website. A 'Have Your Say' meeting was arranged for 21 May 2022 and all Parishioners were welcome to voice their concerns.</p> <p>David Huckle reported on the crime figures for the previous year and noted that the statistics for assault were inflated due to domestic incidents.</p> <p>David reported that although PCSOs were unable to participate in Community Speedwatch initiatives officially, he was aware that the Parish Council intended on starting a scheme. Once training had taken place and the Parish Council had purchased a speed gun, he was happy to support and show partnership with the initiative.</p>	

Questions from residents:

- 1. Is Speedwatch only a short-term deterrent?** It can have a real impact in the longer term, but it needs a consistent effort.
- 2. We have a continuing problem past Mill Lane on the unnamed road with increased numbers of individuals on quad bikes and dirt bikes all hours of the day, grass getting damaged, fly-tipping into the ditches, noise heard from afar. We genuinely feel as though someone is going to get very seriously hurt and potentially end up in the water. The road needs to be closed to vehicles.** David Huckle said there could potentially be a s.57 for antisocial behaviour and any repeat offending vehicles seized. Cllr Williams reported that a formal request had been made to the Interim Head of Highways to close the road and The Parks Trust and police were in support of doing this. David Huckle noted that any vehicle registration details should be reported back to him – colour, registration and make.
- 3. It was noted that cars were obstructing the pavement in the village, particularly on the High Street.** David Huckle said that he would look into this further and residents could contact him via the email address on the monthly report.

4 Finance Report

The Clerk presented the preliminary figures from 2021/2:

Budgeted Income vs Actual Income

Item	Budgeted Income	Actual Income	Variance
Precept	£22,848.00	£22,848.00	£0.00
Interest received	£0.00	£2.06	£2.06
VAT reclaim	£1,846.95	£637.80	-£1,209.15
Magazine Advertising	£322.50	£1,447.00	£1,124.50
Allotments	£601.50	£325.00	-£276.50
Neighbourhood plan	£0.00	£6,875.00	£6,875.00
Defibrillator donations	£0.00	£11,410.41	£11,410.41
Section 106 inc donations	£6,142.32	£6,492.32	£350.00
Total Income	£31,761.27	£50,037.59	

Total Variance	£18,276.32
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Budgeted Expenditure vs Actual Expenditure

Item	Budgeted Expenditure	Actual Expenditure	Variance
Clerk Salary	£6,850.00	£4,663.14	£2,186.86
Office and Admin	£650.00	£551.27	£98.73
Incidental	£1,000.00	£1,360.32	-£360.32
Website	£250.00	£357.94	-£107.94
Parish Magazine	£3,500.00	£2,487.50	£1,012.50
Hall Hire	£68.95	£0.00	£68.95
Audit Fees	£600.00	£394.20	£205.80
Subscriptions	£420.00	£573.81	-£153.81
Chairs Report	£85.00	£0.00	£85.00
Insurance	£800.00	£623.18	£176.82
Training	£260.00	£174.00	£86.00
Allotments	£1,930.00	£1,096.10	£833.90
Rec and Crescent cutting	£4,040.00	£3,636.76	£403.24
Planters	£505.00	£435.00	£70.00
Dog bin emptying	£605.00	£841.74	-£236.74
Grant expenditure	£525.00	£0.00	£525.00
Neighbourhood plan	£2,100.00	£8,250.00	-£6,150.00
Defibrillators	£1,430.00	£4,356.00	-£2,926.00
Section 106	£6,142.32	£7,248.32	-£1,106.00
Total Expenditure	£31,761.27	£37,049.28	

Total Variance	-£5,288.01
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Residents had no questions on the finance figures.

5 Chairs Report

Queen's Canopy Tree: Cllr Williams reported on the planting of the trees in the Recreation Ground, Crescent Green and Allotments. There was a plan in place to ensure they would be watered.

Devolved landscaping services: Cllr Turnbull set out the proposed plan to join forces with Castlethorpe and Hanslope to take back some of the control in relation to landscaping, and not have to rely on MKCC to manage matters. There would be extra costs for taking on these services, but precise figures were unknown at this stage – the best case based on a Band D property would be an extra £1.00p/m, and worst case £1.30p/m. The tender process was due to start around June.

Questions from residents:

1. **Would the contractor be a local company?** It would be our preference for a local contractor and currently Castlethorpe and Hanslope were happy with their provider. The critical point is that we would have control over the choice of contractor and be able to change if the service was not satisfactory.
2. **This seems like we would be receiving like-for-like services for more money. What extra are we getting?** It is true that we are not likely to be compensated for the full amount it would cost, however we would know that the job was done properly. We also do not know what deal we may be able to secure with the three Parishes joining forces. Cllr Geary noted that Hanslope had taken on their own landscaping and found added value in having a better level of service and contractors coming back at the right time to get the job done properly rather than doing so when it suited them.
3. **Is there an exit strategy if we are not satisfied with the way it is working?** We can change contractor but we cannot pass back to MKCC within 3-5 years. We do have confidence from the fact that Castlethorpe have been an early adopter and they are very pleased with the service received. The question posed by the Parish Council was what the current service provision would look like in 3-5 years' time if we stayed with MKCC; costs were being cut and the service minimized. Given that a lot of the work was not mandatory potentially MKCC could scale it back.
4. **How would the contract be monitored and inspected? It would be an increased workload for the Clerk.** It would operate the same as is the case currently, and we don't envisage that the change would represent an increased workload.

Dogs in Recreation Ground: Cllr Williams reported that members of the Parish Council were due to meet David Huckle as at present dog owners let their dogs on the Recreation Ground even though they were only permitted on the footpath running through it. Although fences around the playground had been considered, it was believed that this would mean an increase in dog fouling on the remainder of the Recreation Ground. It was really frustrating and the Parish Council would review how it could strengthen its position.

Traffic initiatives: Cllr Williams explained that the Parish Council was due to meet the Interim Head of Highways in May. This would include discussion of new double yellow lines outside of the School.

Questions from residents:

1. **The roundabout on Brookfield Road needs more signage because there is nothing to show it coming up ahead. Is this something that**

	<p>could be looked at please. Yes, this will be included in the discussions with MKCC.</p> <p>2. In support of the introduction of a 20mph speed restriction, there have been four accidents recently and these were only reported once the police were involved. Please could you send the detail of these accidents across to the Clerk email address.</p> <p>Allotments: Cllr English reported that for the first time this year the allotment plots were fully let and there was a waiting list in place. There was now a new Facebook community group for allotment users. The costs would increase slightly in April as the plan was to make the running of the allotments self-sufficient and not reliant on Parish Council funding.</p> <p>Litter-picking: it was asked that anyone interested in joining the regular litter-picking group should contact the Clerk by email.</p> <p>Community Speedwatch: it was reported that the Parish Council would soon purchase a speed gun and other equipment required for the running of this initiative in the village.</p>	
6	<p>Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>Cllr Williams reported that the Regulation 14 consultation would close on 22 April 2022 and urged anyone who had not yet responded to consider doing so. All responses would be reviewed by the Steering Group, and changes made to the plan where appropriate. The finalised Neighbourhood Plan document, once approved by the Parish Council C at a normal monthly meeting, will then be submitted to MKCC.</p> <p>Once MKCC has undertaken a further statutory consultation and is satisfied with the Neighbourhood Plan document, an independent examiner will be appointed. The examiner is responsible for confirming the Neighbourhood Plan is a valid planning document. The HcLL Neighbourhood Plan will then be put to voters in the parish in a Yes/No referendum.</p> <p><i>The following questions, comments and responses were recorded during the subsequent discussion:</i></p> <p>Comment: Why was a site in the old village the only site put forward? There are no services to the site.</p> <p>Response: The site put forward was the only one made available by landowners that met the criteria. This included the stimulation expressed by most residents who engaged in various consultation opportunities that only a small site with a small number of houses would be acceptable.</p>	

	<p>The new transport service introduced by MKCC – Direct Response Transport (MK Connect) – does now provide a public transport connection to the Old Village.</p> <p>Comment: Travel to the village school is also a problem. Response: This is often the case with schools in rural areas. There are pavements and public footpaths from the proposed High Street site to the Primary School.</p> <p>Comment: There is little interest from the new village as residents are not affected. In my view this is bad for the High Street and a site in the new village should have been chosen. Response: The landowner of the only site put forward in the new village during the process, made it clear via their agent that they were not prepared to only offer approx. 25 houses on 1 ha and wanted to develop approx. 4 ha as a start. The correct process has been followed throughout this exercise with a great deal of care. Hearing comments about the separation of interests between old and new Haversham is disappointing.</p> <p>Comment: (P Furniss) – The NP process we are required to adopt is flawed but has been followed. It is not just about housing; there are a lot of good policies in the plan about what the village values and should protect. Look at the entire proposal. On the development, there will be very many steps before houses get built.</p> <p>Comment: Two individuals believed that by putting a site into the plan meant it would automatically be approved. Response (A Geary) – There is nothing to stop any developer putting in planning application for more houses in the parish. But this would almost certainly that would be refused if it was not in line with a valid NP.</p> <p>Comment: Don't Neighbourhood Plans need to be updated every two years? Response: There is a requirement to review an adopted NP every two years. Hanslope have just refreshed their plan but not added any further sites.</p> <p>Question: Who appoints the examiner? How is that an independent decision? Response: Three Examiners will be suggested by the Neighbourhood Planning Independent Examiners Service for MKCC and the PC to choose from. The Examiners put forward will available to undertake the Examination and have the skills and experience needed. It is the Examiners role to ensure the proposed NP is a valid planning document.</p>	
7	<p>Defibrillator Project</p> <p>ClIr Burgess provided an update on the project and started by thanking all the residents for their contributions towards it, as well as the unending tenacity of Jane Dawes seeing the project through to such a successful outcome.</p>	

	<p>There were three defibrillator locations, as follows, with their current status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upper Haversham – on the railings next to the gate of the entrance to the school car park. Conversations with the school are ongoing to find an electrical solution for the installation. • Lower Haversham – in the BT kiosk on the High Street. Now the payphone was removed, installation of the defibrillator machine was expected in the next few weeks. • Little Linford – close to the post box on Little Linford Lane. We are exploring new options to find a solution for power at this location. <p>Once installations start to take place, demonstrations and talks with local experts will be arranged on how to use the defibrillator machines.</p>	
8	<p>Book Exchange Proposal</p> <p>Cllr Williams reported that the Parish Council were considering implementing a Community Book Exchange, similar to other Parishes in the area. It would possibly be situated just inside the Recreation Ground and openly accessible.</p> <p>Residents attending agreed that this was a good idea for the community.</p>	
9	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>A resident noted that a couple of street-lights were not working on the High Street. Residents were asked to email the Clerk with details and if residents had reported it to MKCC on the Report It function already, to please provide the reference number so it could be chased.</p>	Clerk

Meeting closed at 21:11hrs.