

**The January Monthly Meeting of the Hawthorn Parish Council was held at 7pm on  
Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022 in the Community Centre.**

**MINUTES**

**Present**

Cllr Diane Hughes (Chairman)

Cllr. Sheila Irving (Vice – Chairman)

Cllrs Alan Askew, Sheila Wilson, Maxine Smith, Carolyn Winter

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

2 Members of the Public

**1 Notice of Meeting**

Public Notice of the Meeting has been given in accordance with Sch 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 December 13<sup>th</sup> 2021**

**5 Matters of Information**

**5.1 Trees on village green**

Tree officer to be invited to site meeting

**5.2 Wildflowers on verges**

Request made to DCC

**5.3 Police commissioner**

A meeting of all parish and town councils has been in Spennymoor. In addition, a comprehensive response has been received from the Police Inspector explaining why officers are not present at Council meetings but that an officer will attend the Annual Parish Meeting in March.

**5.4 Damaged fence at Glencot**

Awaiting a response.

### 5.5 New Solar Noticeboards

DCC have confirmed planning permission is not necessary. However, the cheque for 2nd installment has been stopped by Barclays due to mandate issues. Mandate changes will be confirmed at the February meeting. In addition, there are ongoing discussions with the supplier re fitters.

## 6 Reports

### 6.1 Police

None given.

### 6.2 DCC

DCC Cllr Angela Surtees had emailed to say she was unable to attend but had forwarded the following information.

B1432 - met with highways team regarding speeding and speed surveys.

These were completed in February 2020 and the details and results will be forwarded to her to share with the Parish Council.

Early information advised that no significant speeding had been identified. The team have also indicated that they are happy to come and attend a working group of the parish to discuss why this road would not qualify for reduction in speed.

#### **RESOLVED**

- a. To thank Cllr. Surtees for the information and her offer of arranging a working group meeting.
- b. The Clerk to circulate details.

### 6.3 Community Centre

Cllr. Sheila Wilson gave the report.

The pantomime had been very successful, and the classes are about to start again.

Cllr. Wilson was thanked by the Chairman.

### 6.4 Any other reports

The Clerk referred members to the information and on-line petition re holding remote meetings.

## 7 Public Participation

### 7.1 Accounts and precept

Mr. Eric Hubbuck commented on the council's balances and the precept setting process.

## 8 Correspondence

### 8.1 Information from CDALC

Cdalc had forwarded information confirming that **there are no** referendum principles for parish and town councils, in that the sector will **not** be constrained by any cap on precept increases for 2022/23.

#### **RESOLVED**

**To receive the information.**

### 8.2 Double Taxation

Information has now been received from CDALC re the above. CDALC had asked DCC to consider the issue and any options for dealing with it, in consultation with the LCWG. Further information is expected in the next few months.

**RESOLVED**

**To receive the information.**

**8.3 Tree Grant**

The Clerk had circulated information about the annual tree grants from DCC.

**RESOLVED**

**To apply for a grant for 2 / 3 trees – on the north road access and by the Rectory – and as part of the Platinum Celebrations.**

**9 Financial:**

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

None had been paid.

**9.2 Bank Mandate: Information**

The Clerk said she had spoken at length to Barclays who have now forwarded the change of mandate forms.

**RESOLVED**

- a. **All members to be able to sign the cheques.**
- b. **Those members who don't have Barclays accounts to take the mandate form into a local branch in order that Barclays can confirm their identify.**
- c. **These forms to be given to Cllr. Sheila Irving – and the Clerk will pick these up and forward to Barclays.**

**9.3 Estimates for 2022/2023**

The revised estimates for 2022 / 2023 had been circulated. These had been amended to include the election costs from May 2021 – approx. £1,000 and expected by-election costs – estimated at £1,500. These were discussed in detail before members agreed the precept for 2022 / 2023

**10 To set the precept for 2022 / 2023**

**RESOLVED**

- a. **To set the precept at £8,516 which represents a Band D Council Tax of £42.50.**
- b. **The LCTRS grant will be £318 resulting in a total payment of £8,834 from DCC**

**11 Policies: Public Participation**

The public participation policy and details had been circulated.

**RESOLVED**

**To retain the existing with a slight amendment to include 'short' questions /comments as shown.**

**'At this point the Chair will ask if there are any *short* points/ comments that you would like to raise. Please note that this is not a question and answer or a debating time, rather an opportunity for you to make your views known to Council members or to bring forward new ideas which you would like members to discuss.'**

**12 Training**

The Clerk had circulated details of the following training and asked members to contact her if they wished to attend.

- a. **Member Interests – Declaring them and dealing with them at Meetings**  
Tues 18 Jan 2022, online, 6-8pm FREE

- b. Neighbourhood Planning Information Session  
Tues 1 Feb 2022 online - 6-7.30pm FREE

### **13 Current Planning Applications**

#### **13.1 Application No: DM/21/04227/FPA**

**Proposal: Single storey side, rear and front extension including a porch**

**Address: 16 West Lane Hawthorn Seaham SR7 8SB**

**RESOLVED**

**No objections**

### **14 Events & Information**

#### **14.1 Snowman Competition**

No entries had been received.

It was suggested that members consider an alternative to this – scarecrow / ‘treasure trail’ / quiz etc.

#### **14.2 Queens Platinum Jubilee**

RESOLVED

To discuss in more detail at the February meeting.

#### **14.3 Newsletter**

A hard copy newsletter to be produced for end of February / March to give details of the precept and also the Jubilee celebrations.

#### **14.4 The Norman Hughes Award**

The Clerk informed members that she has received some entries.

**RESOLVED**

**To discuss these after the February Monthly Meeting.**

### **15 Date of the next meeting: Monthly Meeting: Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022**

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7.58 pm