

## Minutes...Helpston Parish Council meeting held 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018 in the Village Hall

**Present:** Cllrs J Dobson (chair), R Morton, J Mead, L Newitt, A Bradley, T Thompson; the Clerk S Smith; City Cllr D Over; and 11 members of the public. The meeting opened at 8.56pm.

- 009/18-19     **1. Apologies:** Cllrs A Driver, D Dykes and G Jolly
- 010/18-19     **2. Declarations of interest:** Cllr Bradley took no part in the debate on item 7.3
- 011/18-19     **3. Public Participation:** Kate Hinchliff pointed out the poor state of the 'grasscrete' area outside no. 3A West Street. To be highlighted during the Highways Inspection.
- 012/18-19     **4. Minutes of 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018:** Agreed and signed.
- 013/18-19     **5. Actions Arising:**  
5.1 New computer: see 8.2.  
5.2 Neighbourhood Plan: see 9.1  
5.3 Council responses to other correspondence were read out
- 014/18-19     **6. Planning – City Council correspondence:**  
6.1 17/01448/OUT for 45 dwellings - goes to Committee on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018. The Clerk and Chairman will attend and speak if necessary.  
6.2 18/00094/FUL: Garage reorientation at 15 Woodgate... refused.  
6.3 17/02433/HHFUL: Extensions at 1 Maxey Road... permitted  
6.4 18/00345/HHFUL: Extension at 33 Temples Court... permitted
- 015/18-19     **7. Planning – Helpston Parish Council comments:**  
7.1 18/00391/OUT: Bungalow in garden of 33 West Street. Council felt that this would impose a double entrance across the path to the School entrance and that it was a tandem development against City Policies.  
7.2 18/00434/HHFUL: Extension at 139 West Street. No objections.  
7.3 18/00537/HHFUL: Annex at 22 Maxey Road. No objections.
- 016/18-19     **8. Finance and Audit:**  
8.1 Payments approved: Clerk (April salary), Clerk (P01 expenses), HMRC (April PAYE) Groundsman (April), Wave (Cemetery rates), The Bluebell Inn, John Clare Cottage, Willow Brook Farm (Litter Pick refreshments).  
8.2 The resolution: **“To request Yorkshire Bank to issue a Debit Card for use by the Clerk”** was carried.  
8.3 Annual Audit for 2017/2018: The Clerk presented the Year End bank balances and the prepared Annual Returns for approval as minutes below.....  
8.4 Annual Governance Statement approval 2017/2018: All were presented and Council agreed to sign-off by the Chairman.  
8.5 Annual Accounting Statement certification 2017/2018: The Receipts and Payments Account Book and Accounting Statements were presented and Council agreed to sign-off by the Chairman.  
8.6 All of the New Year 2018/2019 Governance and Control Documents (Insurance Policy, Assets, Churchyard and Cemetery Fees, Risk Assessment, Code of Conduct, Financial Regulations, Standing Orders) were reviewed for effectiveness and signed off. Changes were made to some of the Burial Fee rates with immediate effect.
- 017/18-19     **9. Reports:**  
9.1 Neighbourhood Plan: The whole Parish had been formally designated.  
9.2 Fallen tree near Cemetery: Examined by Cllrs Newitt and Dobson who concluded that it was not within the Cemetery boundary and hence not Council's responsibility for clearance.  
9.3 Cllr Morton gave a brief report on the Maxey Quarries liaison meeting.  
9.4 Cllr Mead had circulated the Parish Council's Liaison Meeting minutes.

- 018/18-19      **10. The Local Plan:**  
10.1 The City Council's new Draft Local Plan had been submitted to the Secretary of State via. the Planning Inspectorate.
- 019/18-19      **11. Correspondence:**  
11.1 Celia Glover (nee Montague) re. land behind the Village Hall. The Clerk advised the meeting on....  
a) the formation of a sub-committee at short notice to deal with consultations with Milton Estates and the Montague family re. potential use of the land behind the Village Hall,  
b) the Clerk's obtaining an independent professional valuation on the land (£30,000),  
c) the sub-committee's resolve to attempt, therefore, to have the land declared an Asset of Community Value, and  
d) the Glover latest e-mail valuing the land at £600,000 to £960,000.  
Council resolved to make no immediate response to this but to await the outcome of the ACV application (due 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018).  
The Clerk took the opportunity to inform all present of this Parish Council's long standing interest in this land over the past 25 years and of the numerous yearly approaches that Council had made to the Montague family. The Chairman noted that the correspondence from Celia Glover was at odds with the family's earlier assertions that it wished to "help the local Community / Council" in its Village Hall project.  
11.2 Parking:  
a) P Browse...White Lines: The Clerk read out correspondence covering the closure of the white and yellow Lines issues.  
b) J Stanton...was concerned about pavement obstruction by poorly parked vehicles at the Shop. Council agreed to consult City on improved white line markings.  
c) City Council...will introduce on-the-spot penalties for inconsiderate parking on pavements, white lines and drop kerbs across the whole City area.  
11.3 Martin Benn: Village Inspection to be arranged.  
11.4 See 007/18-19 item 7.2 from the Annual Parish Meeting minutes:  
Following the Annual Parish Meeting, the Parish Council considered the letter that Mr. Hinchliff had pre-prepared (for signature by the PC Chairman and Vice-Chairman) which elaborated on the degree and extent of support from the Parish Council for the ACV application re. the Exeter Arms and on the reasons for the application. Council agreed to write its own letter of support for the ACV but in briefer and more direct terms.  
Council recognised that it would need to fully consider the financial impacts should the ACV application be successful. There would likely be expectations of the Parish Council (and its powers in the application of the Council Tax precept), which might be particularly onerous on parishioners / householders and not ultimately be either justifiable or sustainable.
- 020/18-19      **12. Items for consideration:**  
12.1 Cllr Mead: Bus shelter near level crossing still overgrown with ivy.  
12.2 Cllr Mead: "Helpston" Sign not yet replaced on Kings Street  
12.3 City Cllr. Over: White posts on Kings Street are broken and surplus to requirements.
- 021/18-19      **13. Date of ANNUAL Parish Council Meeting and of May ordinary meeting: 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018**

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.45pm**