

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 5th MARCH AT 5.00PM AT HUXLEY VILLAGE HALL**

In Attendance – Cllr J Windsor - Chairman

Cllr S Martin

Cllr M Roscoe

Cllr S Ratledge

Cllr M Pilkington

Cllr O de Braekeleer

Cllr R Bird

Cllr S Hyden

Cllr L Sackett

Members of the Public: 7

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr M Jones (Ward Councillor), PCSO Rachael McKevitt.

DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS & DISPENSATION REQUESTS – No declarations of interests were received.

PUBLIC SESSION

A resident asked if the Parish Council had contacted the Moulson Trust and/or the Church Hall with regards to the Kings Coronation. Cllr Windsor reported that she believed Happy Days were planning an event on the 21st May for the village to celebrate the coronation. Discussion would take place further on in the agenda.

A resident asked if the Parish Council was aware of the proposal to store the beacon on the church field and had the agreement of the Church Council and Moulson Trust been sought. It had been agreed and that two locations could be created for the Beacon. The beacon was the property of the Parish Council and was covered with its insurance notwithstanding it would be situated on land not owned by the Parish Council.

A resident reported that a large amount of manure had been deposited on the highway by their house on Huxley Lane in December. This had been reported to Highways but no further action had been undertaken by highways .. Mike Foster, the prospective labour candidate had attended the site and removed the manure.

ACTION: Resident to provide report number to Clerk and Clerk to chase what action Highways took in relation to this.

A resident provided an update to the Parish Council since the last meeting with regards to the speeding issues along Huxley Lane. It was confirmed that the following had taken place since the last Parish Council Meeting:-

- The damaged repeater sign opposite the Inn at Huxley had now been replaced by CWaC Highways.
- A speed assessment in the 60mph zone had been undertaken by Highways.
- 5 Community Speedwatch sessions had been undertaken by residents.
- Further conversations and meetings had been undertaken with both Mike Jones and Mike Foster. The Chairman commented that our ward councillor Mike Jones should be encouraged to help influence highways with the speeding initiative.
- Communication with the organisers of Cars and Coffee had been undertaken.
- Two further speed assessments have been agreed.
- SID activity has been undertaken along Huxley Lane by Cllr Sackett and the resident. The Chairman thanked Councillor Sackett for her contribution to speeding monitoring in the village.

It was believed that an incident had taken place recently where a vehicle had overshoot the junction at the

intersection of Huxley Lane and Red Lane and ended up in the hedgerow.

The resident provided a summary of data following the recent speed assessment undertaken by CWaC to the meeting.

The resident showed a video of traffic experienced along Huxley Lane during the Cars and Coffee meeting and undertook to also attend Tattenhall Parish Council to report the experience to them.

The resident asked Parish Council consider the following :-

- A residents action group be organised and lead by the Parish Council.
- The Ward Council be included in the above process.
- Apply to lower the speed limit to 30mph along the entirety of Huxley Lane to the Gowy Bridge and to include Hoofield Lane and Church Lane.
- Plan a Community Speed Watch programme to include regular speed gun activity.
- Invest in more and clearer signage.
- Investigate the feasibility of traffic calming on Huxley Lane and Church Lane.

The Parish Council agreed the following actions:

ACTION: ask the PCSO about the accident outside the school

ACTION: to ask Highways to quote for an extension to the 40mph to the Gowy Bridge at the bottom of Huxley Lane – more repeaters and moving the signs. This had been discussed at our last meeting but the result of the speed assessment had to be taken into consideration before this action was taken.

ACTION: Ask Mike Jones/Mike Foster for a commitment from the ward councillor to financially support the extension to the 40 mph boundary.

ACTION: Contact Police Crime Commissioner to see if there are any grants available.

A resident raised concern following a planning application submitted by a neighbour a number of years ago. The original planning application was rejected due to the size of the garage block applied for and the application was amended and subsequently approved. The resident reported that following building to the agreed planning application an extension had then later been built, they believe without the appropriate planning. The resident is intending to report this to Planning Enforcement. The Chairman advised the resident that enforcements were taking an inordinate time to be addressed and that it was unlikely that any result would happen in the near future.

ACTION: Clerk to report to Planning Enforcement - Meadow Cottage, Old Hall Lane, CH3 7RT

Huxley Primary School – The Chair of Huxley Primary School reported that the school was in similar position to January. They are still looking for a sponsor (Academy) and no further updated orders had been issued by the directorate office. The school has maintained its 35 pupils, however they are not able to plan for how many pupils will be coming into the school in September (six pupils will be leaving to move into year 7) which causes a problem with their planning and budgeting for the future.

School is on a good improvement journey, they have established a good communication system with the parents, parents are able to add to the Showbe system that they have in place. The school has completed its work assessing the students, and identifying the gaps that need addressing. Special Educational Needs staff are working with students that require SEN support.

IEB have been asked if they will continue with their role past May and OFSTED has not come back yet, it was due to return in December 2022.

One member of the public left the meeting.

MINUTES

RESOLVED 22/046 that the Chairman signs, as a true and correct record, the minutes of the meeting held on 8th

January 2023 proposed by Cllr Bird and seconded by Cllr Ratledge.

ACTIONS

All actions were already covering within the agenda.

BUSINESS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Huxley Primary School – This item had been reported under Public Participation.

Footpaths – Cllr Pilkington reported that she had identified two further stiles that required attention.

1. A broken step is at Huxley en route to 50p shop from Hargrave – (co - ordinates on the map are: Huxley 53.15879° N 2.73790° W.)
2. Also an uneven stile is uneven located in front of the farmhouse on the path between Hargrave Mill and Brereton Park farm Huxley. It is on land belonging to Geoff Cooke of Brereton Park Farm CH3 9BY.

ACTION: Cllr Pilkington to report to PROW at CWaC

Review of Condition and Safety of Assets – Cllr Martin reported that the action required to be undertaken by himself to make another sleeve for the beacon was still on-going but would be completed before the King's Coronation.

Highways - It was reported that the following work seemed to have been carried out since the last meeting:-

- Ditch has been dug out on Red Lane, and water seems to have stopped running down road for now.
- Potholes on Guy Lane have been repaired.
- Ditch opposite the school had been dug out.
- Gullies have been sucked out in Hoofield and Huxley Lane.

ACTION: It was requested that the potholes outside Elm Tree Cottages and school be reported to CWaC – Cllr Ratledge to provide photographs for Clerk to report.

Community Litter Picking – The meeting was reminded that the Community Litter Picking Event was scheduled to take place on 25th March 2023 at Huxley and 18th March 2023 at Hargrave between 10.00am - 12.00 noon. This had been advertised in the parish newsletter.

Huxley Lane Speed Assessment – This item had been reported under Public Participation.

Kings Coronation – it was reported that Happy Days were organising a celebration of the King's Coronation on Sunday 21st May as reported in the parish newsletter.

ACTION: Ask Tattenhall what events they are planning for the Kings Coronation.

ACTION: It was suggested that the Jubilee Committee be re-established and Cllr Bird undertook to contact committee members to see if any celebration could be organised for the actual date of the coronation on 6th May. The parish council would support this financially and the beacon could be used.

Tattenhall Parish Council – Designated Neighbourhood Plan Area Update – it was reported that Tattenhall Parish Council had requested this parish council, as a neighbouring parish council, to consider supporting their request to amend their Neighbourhood Plan area to match the Parish Area, this does not impact on Hargrave and Huxley parish Council's Neighbourhood Development Plan Area and therefore the Parish Council **RESOLVED 22/047** to support this amendment.

ACTION: Ask Tattenhall Parish Council the process of how to update a neighbourhood plan without going to Referendum.

CWaC Standardising School Year Consultation – it was reported that CWaC were running a consultation from 15th February until 3rd May 2023 to receive feedback on formalising the school year. The Parish Council agreed to leave commenting on this to the general public but it was felt that standardising was a good policy.

Farndon, Malpas and Tattenhall Newsletter – it was reported that the local PCSO had circulated for the Parish Council's information their newsletter for February & March.

ACTION: Ask the Police and Crime Commissioner to attending the next Parish Council re speeding issues etc.

PLANNING

The Planning Register dated 22-02-2023 was accepted and changes to the planning register from last meeting were noted.

It was reported that the following applications had been received since the last meeting:-

22/04688/PDQ – Bridge Cottage, Whitchurch Road, Saughton CH3 9AU – Existing brickwork stables and byre converted into 3 bedroom dwelling – The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

22/04677/FUL – 21 Huxley Lane, Huxley CH3 9BG – Single Storey Rear Extension – The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

23/00151/FUL – Brook Cottage, Old Hall Lane, Foulk Stapleford CH3 7RT – Application to change position of all weather arena – Retrospective - The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

It was reported that the following applications had been decided since the last meeting:-

22/03443/S73 – Stapleford House, Guy Lane, Foulk Stapleford – Demolition of detached garages and erection of single storey detached garage and swimming pool – variation of condition 2 - **Approved**

22/032674/FUL – Old Hall Barn, Church Lane, Hargrave CH3 7RH – Single storey side extensions with raised patio area – **Approved**

22/04677/FUL – 21 Huxley Lane, Huxley CH3 9BG – Single Storey Rear Extension - **Approved**

Planning Enforcement

20/02055/FUL – Removal of mobile home and septic tank from land at Hargrave – CWaC had confirmed that they intend to undertake a site visit and reissue the enforcement notice. The Chairman had written to enforcement again to enquire what progress had been made since our last meeting. No reply had been received.

Willow Bank – residents have raised concerns about the fence erected on the roadside at Willow Bank – fence protrudes onto the grass verge and does not allow pedestrians to walk safely along the verge where there is no footpath.

ACTION: Report to Enforcement

FINANCIAL ITEMS

Cashbook and Out-turn Forecast YTD

RESOLVED 22/048 Year to date cashbook and out-turn report dated 22-02-2023 was approved as a true and correct record.

Bank Reconciliation against Cashbook YTD – **RESOLVED 22/049** – that Cllr Pilkington signed the Bank Reconciliation and Bank Statements.

Insurance Renewal

RESOLVED 22/050 to pay the annual renewal premium of £449.51 to Gallaghers Insurance Company as per the 3 year binding Long Term Agreement (LTA) which runs until 31/03/2025.

Payments Made & Received since the last meeting:-

Income received since the last meeting:-

£5.91, £7.05 & £6.52 in Bank Interest

Payments made since last meeting:-

Clerk Pay	Tax Point 11	£265.20
Clerk Pay	Tax Point 12	£265.20
Clerk's Expenses		£34.85
Hargrave PCC	Hire of St Peters Church Hall	£28.00
Ashton Hayes and Horton-cum-Peel PC	Bitdefender Subscription for 2023	£17.49
Linux	Website Hosting Plan 2023	£57.46
Gallaghers Insurance	Parish Council Insurance for 2023-24	£449.51
Mrs T Ryall-Harvey	Wordpress Subscription Renewal 2023	£16.00
Huxley Village Hall	Hire of Huxley Village Hall for July, Nov & Mar	£60.00

RESOLVED 22/051 to accept the income and payments since the last meeting for approval.

VAT Reclaim for 2022-23

RESOLVED 22/052 to submit the VAT Rebate Application for 2022-23 in March to allow for payment to be reviewed within the same financial year.

PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

The Clerk reported that there would be an election on Thursday 4th May 2023 for all those parish councillors and or residents wishing to stand for the next four year term of office.

All those interested in becoming a Parish Councillor will need to apply or re-apply for a position. The Notice of Election will be published on Thursday 16th March, this information will need to be posted on the Parish Council's website and noticeboards.

All nominations will need to be completed and taken to either Chester, Ellesmere Port Library or Wyvern House Winsford by appointment only before 4pm on Tuesday 4th April.

Risk Assessment for 2023

RESOLVED 22/053 that the Risk Assessment be approved as circulated prior to the meeting and signed outside of the meeting in preparation for the Internal Audit. Proposed - Cllr Roscoe, seconded by Cllr Bird.

Asset Register for 2023

RESOLVED 22/054 that the Asset Register be approved as circulated prior to the meeting. This was unanimously approved. Proposed - Cllr De Braekeleer, seconded by Cllr Hyden

Internal Auditor

RESOLVED 22/055 to instruct Mrs Sue Irlam to undertake the Internal Auditor for 2022-23.

NEXT MEETING

Sunday 14th May 2023 at 5pm at Hargrave Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 18:33

Signed:.....

Dated:.....