

PARISH COUNCIL OF HEMPSTEAD

Minutes of the Meeting of Hempstead Parish Council held on Thursday 4th August 2022

Present: Nick Turkentine (Chair), Diana Frost, Mark Welbourn, District Councillor George Smith, the Clerk.
The Parish Council meeting started at 8:03pm

MINUTES

22/045 **Apologies for Absence** Sean McCarthy, David Drane and Laura Saxel.

22/046 **Public Forum** No members of the public in attendance.

22/047 **Declarations of Interest** None

22/048 **Reports from District and/or County Councillors** District Councillor Smith report:
Kerbside cleaning – no direct contact has been made, but it is understood that the street cleaner has visited the village for a site survey, but no action has yet been taken.
Planning enforcement – Cllr Smith will contact the enforcement team again regarding The Bluebell Inn still being closed and currently only used as a dwelling.
Footpaths – confirmed that it is not only Hempstead where the footpaths have not been cut, and that the contractor has been reporting to Highways that the cutting has been done when it has not.
Uttlesford District Council accounts – delay to these being signed off, after criminal investigation into possible wrongdoing closed, but internal investigation ongoing.

22/049 **Minutes of Previous Meeting of Thursday 23rd June** were approved and signed by the Chair.

22/050 **Finance**

Item 1 – Current Account balance of £1328. Recent income from grants of £2000, but £2800 paid out for the work on the water fountain.

Item 2 – Parish Council's Parish Protect (Community Action Suffolk/CAS) insurance renewal was approved. It was noted that the £50,000 cover for "property" was more than adequate to cover all Hempstead PC's assets. £286.75 for renewal on 8th August 2022.

Item 3 – The following invoices were approved and signed: £2800 to Lawrence Daniels for renovation of water fountain (as approved in Minute 2021), £286.75 to CAS Ltd for insurance renewal and £121 to Diana Frost for railings painting.

Diana Frost requested that going forward an item was added to Finance for budget requests, and suggested the following requests be included: refurbishment of bus shelter window frames, noticeboard refurbishment and greenery maintenance (on PC land). The Clerk to include this item on future agendas.

22/051 **Planning** to review and comment on new planning applications and to note any decisions as at 29/07/22.

Blagden House: UTT/22/1909/FUL. Erection of stables and change of use if land for horse exercise area. NO COMMENTS REQUIRED

Keepers Cottage Farm: UTT/22/1777/FUL. Demolition of outbuilding and barn with Class Q consent and replacement with 1 no. dwelling. NO COMMENTS REQUIRED

Lakehouse Farm: UTT/22/1588/FUL. Amended scheme to previously approved application for conversion of barn to 1 no. three bedroom dwelling. NO COMMENTS REQUIRED

Iswas Cottage: UTT/22/0827/HHF. AWAITING DECISION

Fairview Bungalow: UTT/22/1665/NMA. REFUSED

UTT/22/1872/FUL – full planning application for alterations to building to create 1 no. dwelling (conversion approved under UTT/20/1455/PAQ3). After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would submit a neutral comment as follows: request that conditions in regard to non-intrusive external lighting be made, to reduce excessive light bleed into a dark, rural area, if planning consent is given.

Clays: UTT/1149/HHF. APPROVED

Stack Field House: UTT/22/1411/DFO. APPROVED

Bulls Bridge Farm: UTT/22/1119/FUL. APPROVED

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22/052 **Correspondence** Nothing for discussion.

22/053 **Parish Council Elections in May 2023** District Councillor Smith will investigate if there is any documentation/advice on what it entails to be a Parish councillor. Diana Frost to draft something specific to Hempstead on Parish councillor requirements/job description.

22/054 **Defibrillator and Volunteer Emergency Telephone System (VETS)** After discussion the Council approved to set up VETS for a one-year trial period, at a cost of £45. By the end of this period the Parish Council would then make a decision whether to continue, at a cost of £100 per year going forward. Training has been provided for 6 volunteers who are happy to be signed up for the first year.

22/055 **Reports from Councillors**
Policing/Neighbourhood Watch No update
Health and Wellbeing No update
Highways and Rights of Way

County Broadband pavement reinstatement – Clerk to send out email drafted by Mark Welbourn.

Footpath cutting – David Drane in contact with rights of way officer.

Kerb cleaning – covered in District Councillor's report.

Environment

Refurbishment of water fountain – this has been completed. The tap is still dripping, but will be looked at by a volunteer resident (David Cox). Diana Frost confirmed she has also painted the horse trough and railings, for which the Chair gave thanks.

Dog waste bins – still awaiting a bin to be replaced on Boytons Lane. District Councillor Smith to chase.

Village clean-up in October – this will take place on Sunday 2nd October at 10am. The main area of work will be the greenery by the water fountain and pond at the bottom of Church Hill. Volunteers will be requested closer to the time.

Triangle of land at bottom of Hill Road – the current lack of maintenance of this area was discussed, and it was agreed that Diana Frost would find out how it is currently being managed.

Communications The website administrator Brian Kitchen to look into moving to a Wordpress website.

Village Hall The car park resurfacing is delayed due to lack of availability of materials.

Flooding The Chair reported on his recent, very useful site visit with a Highways representative, Daniel Jackson, to look at problem areas, specifically Anso Road. An interim report will be provided on what Highways intend to do and they will be contacting relevant landowners. It was noted that the Highways representative has been very cooperative and has also been sent videos of previous flooding.

22/056 **Matters Arising requiring decisions, to be included on the next Agenda** None

22/057 **Future Meeting Dates:** 15th September, 20th October and 24th November, all starting at 8pm in the village hall.

The meeting ended at 9:58pm