

HACHESTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting
of Wednesday 26th July 2023

1. Present

Cllr. Nikki Markham (Chair) Cllr. Graeme Hall Cllr. Terry Mee Cllr. Chris Hurlock
County Councillor Burroughes and District Councillor Noble sent their apologies as they were both attending other meetings.

Three new Parish Councillors were co-opted: James Hardy, Lucy Lavender and Andy Markham, filling all the Councillor vacancies. They each signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office **ACTION** Clerk to notify ESC of the new Councillors and to send them an introductory letter with important information and policies.

Cllr. A. Markham nominated Cllr. Lavender to be the Vice Chair. After discussion, she accepted and then signed her Vice Chair's Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

In Attendance

Lydia Kirk (clerk)

2. There were no declarations of interest.

3. The minutes of the Council meeting on 12th May 2023 were approved as a true record of the meeting.

4. There were no matters arising.

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of public present.

5. Chair's Report

The Chair was pleased to welcome the new Councillors and to have a full cohort of Councillors. She then provided a detailed report on updates on recent Council news including changes to Councillors, emails regarding traffic and pavement issues and suggested projects for the CIL funds. She spoke more about the purpose of, and aims for, the open village meeting. She also informed the Council that the village now has a new Minister, who was being formally appointed this evening.

This report will be published in full on the village website for residents' benefit.

6. Clerk's Report

The clerk welcomed the new Councillors and thanked them for joining the Council.

The clerk attended the latest Greenprint Forum event, which was an interesting visit to Campsea Ash's communal garden.

There is a new Community Partnership Officer for our area and he is trying hard to generate extra interest in the scheme. The clerk attended the Community Partnership meeting at Melton last night and will try to attend future meetings. The next two meetings should be in Framlingham and then Hacheston.

The external auditor has raised several queries which the clerk has answered and our file is now subject to a review and sign off by an engagement lead. The public rights period has now finished and no requests were received.

The admin access to the online account has still not been granted and as the clerk is not a mandate they won't discuss this with her.

ACTION Cllr. Mee will contact the bank for an update.

SALC has released two Councillor Basics training modules which are good refreshers for longer-standing councillors and very useful for new Councillors.

Councillors are encouraged to set up separate email accounts for PC business to help with data protection compliance and FOI requests. Cllr. N. Markham has now taken over the previous Chair's email account, which will also help with continuity.

7. Financial Officer's Report

The following payments were approved:

Reference Number	Amount	Payee	Details
P11 23-24	£205.80	HMRC	PAYE to 5 th July 2023
P12 23-24	£150.00	G. Whiting	Grass mowing on 10 th May & 7 th June
P13 23-24	£824.14	L. Kirk	Pay to 30 th June 2023
P14 23-24	£56.10	East Suffolk Council	Uncontested election fees

- 8. The Chair updated Councillors on recent correspondence regarding the multi-agency open evening.** Sadly, Suffolk County Council Highways Officers will not attend the event. However, Cllr. Burroughes has offered to fund a traffic survey in the village and to order more painted 'SLOW' and '30' road markings.

There was discussion on traffic issues in the village and possible initiatives to help reduce them. Cllr. Mee suggested more SIDs are purchased and they are kept in situ permanently. The clerk will establish if this is allowed. The Chair and clerk will try to extract speeding data from the SID.

Cllr. Lavender volunteered to research changes in road usage over the past few years and report back.

The clerk will report issues with an overgrown hedge forcing lorries over the central road markings south of the Church when photos are received from the Chair.

It was agreed to hold the open evening on Friday 22nd September and to try and encourage as many residents as possible to attend. It will be advertised in the Parish Magazine, noticeboards, A-frame boards, website, Mailchimp emails, and flyers with an accompanying letter will go to residents.

ACTION Chair and clerk to draft a letter and flyer for Councillors consideration.

- 9.** Councillors considered a request from the Village Hall for the Parish Council to reimburse costs for purchasing a new battery and pads for the community defibrillator. Councillors agreed to this (P15 23-24 £407.79) and also to be responsible for future costs incurred in keeping the defibrillator in active service for the benefit of the village.

- 10. Other correspondence was then considered.**

Katch on-demand bus leaflets – Councillors divided these up to be delivered around the village

Letter suggesting pedestrian crossing and commenting on the state of village sign – Cllr. Hardy will check the sign and test the post and report back. The pedestrian crossing idea will be added to the list of possible CIL projects for the residents' consultation in due course.

Communi-tea Chinwags – this will be advertised on the website and Councillors will spread the word to those who might enjoy attending.

East Suffolk Planning Alliance- Councillors agreed to affiliate with this group.

A new resident has volunteered to join a Community Speedwatch team and is keen to address traffic issues in the village. The clerk will respond to him and invite him to the open evening where this will be discussed in more detail.

11. Councillor Reports

Councillor Hurlock passed on a report provided by Malcolm Robinson on updates from the Village Hall Committee. The solar battery storage and outside gym equipment and a table tennis ideas will be added to the list of possible village CIL projects for consideration by residents.

Cllr. Hurlock is still trying to get quotations for the building maintenance works near the car park entrance.

12. Matters to be raised at the next meeting

Adding additional banking mandates

Finalise plans for residents' open-evening

13. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as being on Wednesday 20th

September. There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

Signed:

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**N. Markham
Chair**

Date