

HILDERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs. PM Harper
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A VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING OF HILDERSHAM PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD ON TUESDAY 9th MARCH 2021 at 7.30pm.

This meeting was held online via the Zoom video conferencing system. The meeting id and password were on the advertised agenda to enable the public to attend.

Present: Mark Logan, Peter C, Rob Clay, Darren Long (lost connection and missed most of meeting). County and District Councillor Henry Batchelor, one member of the public and the Clerk

Meeting started at 7.33pm.

94. Apologies – Billie Chapman and District Councillors John Batchelor.

95. Do any Councillors have interests to declare in the items to be discussed during the meeting? Has the Clerk granted any dispensations under section 33 (1) of the Localism Act and the basis is set out under section 33(2)? No interests declared.

96. Open Forum for Parishioners to make comments or raise items

97. The minutes for the last meeting of 12th January 2021 were approved and would be signed.

98. Report from District Councillor and County Councillor Henry Batchelor – report circulated by email.

A training session about Gypsy and Traveller was available next week for Councillors. The May elections would include elections at the County Council, therefore no major decisions would be taken in the next few weeks. The Highway Dept. had replied about long outstanding Parish Council queries. The electric bus signs were installed at both bus stops. Agreement had been reached with Pampisford Estate about the land required to create a crossing at the A1307. Building work should start soon.

99. Report from District Councillor John Batchelor –report circulated by email. Unable to attend meeting.

100. Feedback on actions from the last meetings

- a) The dead beech trees on the triangular piece of land at the junction of Beech Row/A1307 would be inspected. Trees removed would be replaced by two trees the Parish could decide where to locate them.
- b) Update on moving the 'Slow Down' sign at the brow of the hill before the High St/Balsham Rd crossroads. The Highway Dept explained that warning set are located

according to agreed safety standards, so it may not be allowed to be relocated. They asked how far the Council wanted it moved.

c) Repair to Back Road end of High Street (outside Gerald's house) path requested. The Highway Dept would carry out an inspection to decide what repairs can be done.

d) **Councillors authorised the expenditure to get the village paths swept at a cost of £138.00 by a proposal from Peter Cousins, which was seconded by Rob Clay with the support of Mark Logan**

101. Grass Contractor for growing season 2021.

The existing three year contract to cut the grass in the play area and the village verges continues until the end of the growing season 2021.

102. Covid 19

a) Update on work of local volunteers and any action required to prepare for a second lockdown? Prescriptions and some shopping was being collected for some village residents.

103. Village maintenance/allotments

a) Update on parking problem in Meadowlands. Sean Gentle of SCDC had advised Billie (by email) that 4 car parking spaces could be created in front of the properties 3 to 6 Meadowlands.

b) No footpath gates repairs seem to have been undertaken by Pampisford Estate to the identified gates.

c) Location/need for new light on other side of bridge (to the village hall)? It seems there is a light there and it is now working. There may be a need for a light outside Peter Cousins house as it is in the middle of a long stretch where there is no light. The location to be considered at the next meeting.

d) Picnic bench in play area to be removed by Rob Clay in the next month and he will look at the cost of a replacement bench. The net to be removed.

e) Suggestion that the bridge needs painting. **Action: Clerk** to contact the Highway Dept about getting it painted.

f) Replacement solar panel and battery need to be installed on Abington side of A1307 bus shelter light. A local electrician was assisting with this; Mark Logan confirmed that he had the key to the light.

g) Update Councillors on the number of people on the waiting list for an allotment. Since the start of the pandemic there had been several many emails from people requesting an allotment so there are eight people waiting for a plot. **Action: Clerk** to put up a notice explaining that there were many people waiting for an allotment plot.

104. Tree Warden

a) Update on planting trees on the Recreation Ground. Mark reported that several trees had been planted around the outside of the Recreation Ground and saplings growing on the bridge had been removed and planted elsewhere. Before work on planting a copse started it was agreed that neighbouring residents should be consulted, including Carol Sinclair and the Ricketts family.

b) Select a contractor to supply and install a post and rail fence for the new copse area. Only one quote had been obtained, so no decision could be made.

105. Community Land Trust (CLT)

a) Update on requested amendments to the Trust document for the Allotments & Recreation Ground. The Trust documents would be signed once the Council can meet in person at a public meeting.

106. Neighbourhood Plan

a) Update on the NP. In February a strategic environmental assessment was created, and the Environmental Policy was being discussed with the surveyor. Linton are drafting the NP document and Hildersham has supplied their part. A public consultation of the NP is likely to be in 2023/24.

107. Finance

a) Mark Logan proposed the Council authorise the payments and approve the financial statement dated 09.03.21, which was seconded by Rob Clay, with the support of all Councillors.

b) Adjust the budget to include the fencing of the new copse area? It was agreed that this would be considered at a future meeting

District Councillor Henry Batchelor December 2020.

d) Authorisation to adopt the Data Protection statement. **Action Clerk** to write the statement to be authorised at the May meeting.

e) Can a financial year end meeting be held before the May meeting? This was agreed.

f) The Council authorised the Clerk to pay the circulated insurance policy for the year with a proposal from Mark Logan which was seconded by Rob Clay, with the support of all Councillors.

108. Correspondence

a) Andrew's Archive Material Update – Jean Kelly and Mark Logan have worked through the documents with Mark taking some to Ely, some would be stored in the Village Hall and it was hoped some could be stored in the Garth Collard Archive once it was built in Linton. Some may be stored in Abington Institute. Some items seemed to belong to the Philipps family who were vicars in Hildersham.

b) Correspondence about saplings growing on bridge ; these had been removed by Helen Reynolds and replanted in the Recreation Ground.

c) Update from Parish Nurse scheme on the employment of the new Parish Nurse.

d) Email about improvements made to the Council website. Jean Kelly had forwarded Councillors detailed instructions on how to upload documents to the website, and there were plans to include some of the Archive material on the site.

109. Items for the next meeting's agenda on 11th May 2021- new street light, and the suggestion wild flowers be planted in the autumn.

110. Open Forum for Parishioners to make comments or raise items - No items raised.

Meeting closed at 8.53pm