

SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION AT THE 15<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2021 VIRTUAL MEETING

Minutes of the virtual meeting of Hawton Parish Council held on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021

**Present:**        **Councillor T Pykett, in the Chair**  
                      **Councillor D Adams**  
                      **Councillor Mrs K Adams**  
                      **Councillor K Sutton**  
                      **Councillor Mrs H Tyrer**

**Also present County Councillor Mrs Saddington (arr 8.10pm).**

**HPC20-039** Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from District Councillor Walker.

**HPC20-040** Declarations of Interest

It was AGREED that any declarations of interest would be stated by Members as required during the meeting.

**HPC20-041** Minutes of the Parish Council held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021 were accepted as a true and correct record.

**HPC20-042** **County Councillor Session**

This item would be taken if and when Councillor Mrs Saddington was able to attend.

**HPC20-043** **Nottinghamshire County Council**

The Clerk updated Members on the reasons given by Via on why the whole of Hawton Lane wasn't resurfaced recently. Officers had confirmed to Councillor Mrs Saddington that it had been originally considered for inclusion, however, when scoping the work the proposed treatment applied to the rest of the road, a recycled foam mix overlay, was not suitable for the section of Hawton Lane from the bridge to the junction with Cotham Lane.

Members noted that the potholes had been filled in recently but it remained a very uneven surface.

Councillor Mrs Tyrer reported that there were a lot of potholes between The Grange and the Solar Farm entrance. The Clerk to report on the highways portal, and to draw attention to the recent works and the regular washing of the road due to mud from the site. This may have contributed to the surface degradation.

**HPC20-044** **District Councillor Session**

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(a) Public Space Protection Order Reviews

The Clerk referred to correspondence received from Newark & Sherwood District Council regarding a review of the Public Space Protection Orders in the district. While there were none specifically relating to Hawton, there were two district wide orders which related to dog fouling requirements and one that gave officers the authority to require dogs to be put on a lead when requested. The review included a questionnaire for completion.

After discussion it was AGREED that the Chair liaise with the Clerk to complete the questionnaire given concerns around dog thefts and hare coursing. It was noted that the Rural Crimes Team could also be engaged to investigate hare coursing.

**HPC20-045 Public 10 Minute Session**

There were no members of the public present.

**HPC20-046 Parish Council Matters**

(a) Village Survey

Members noted the responses to the village survey that had been circulated by the Clerk.

A detailed discussion took place on what the next steps were to establish the views of parishioners on how the community benefit fund from Lightsource BP could be used.

It was noted that all those that had responded to the village survey needed to be thanked for their input and advised the next steps the Parish Council would take.

One area that had been raised was to make improvements to the area of land next to the Church. Members noted that this land was in private ownership and usage was permitted as 'grace and favour'. It was understood the owners were Urban & Civic and enquiries would be made to confirm if this was correct.

It was AGREED that the Clerk would collate all the responses into a table, outlining against each one whether the Parish Council had powers to undertake the project or, if not, where responsibility lay and circulate to Members.

It was further AGREED that a separate meeting would be arranged after 12<sup>th</sup> April so Members could discuss the areas raised in person.

**HPC20-042 County Councillor Session**

**(cont)**

The Chair welcomed Councillor Mrs Saddington and suspended the meeting to allow her to present her report.

Councillor Mrs Saddington confirmed that a payment for a post-COVID celebration should be received shortly. The Chair extended thanks for the funding which would be put to good use when it was possible to arrange an event.

The only other item to report was a meeting recently held with Network Rail regarding the ongoing problems with the barriers on the Nottingham to Lincoln line, and the impact failure of the Castle crossing had on the town. Cllr Mrs Saddington would continue to monitor and apply pressure until the problems were sorted.

(b) Confirmation from Lightsource BP re The Grange Solar Farm

The Clerk referred to correspondence received from Lightsource BP confirming that the solar farm was now live and had been providing power to the network from 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

Lightsource BP had outlined that a sum of £47,496.20 was now due to the Parish Council as community benefit.

The Chair commended Lightsource BP on completing the solar farm given the very difficult conditions over winter.

Councillor Sutton asked if receipt of funds would affect the requirement for the Parish Council to have an external audit of the 2020-21 financial year. It was AGREED that the Clerk seek advice from PKF Littlejohn and, depending on the response, enquiries to be made on whether payment could be deferred until after 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021.

It was AGREED that once the funds were received by the Parish Council a letter of thanks would be sent. A press release would also be prepared by the Clerk, in conjunction with the Chair, which could be issued in the event of any media enquiry. The Clerk advised that a request had been made to Lightsource BP for a meeting with the Parish Council. However, there had been some staffing changes and a date had not been confirmed.

After discussion, it was AGREED that the Clerk ask if Members could visit the site for a tour in late April or early May.

**HPC20-047 Planning**

(a) Decision Notice - 20/02422/CPRIOR – Outlying Workshop Adjacent, The Grange, Cotham Lane, Hawton - Application to determine if prior approval required for proposed Change of Use of Agricultural Building to one dwellinghouse (Class C3) and for building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion.

Members noted the decision notice advising that prior approval was required and had been granted.

The Clerk confirmed that an explanation around the application had been requested from the Planning Officer and circulated to Members for information.

**HPC20-048 Financial Matters**

(a) To consider accounts for payments

- £130.96 – contribution to Floodlighting

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

- Clerk's Wages – £332 (to end January 2021)
- HMRC – PAYE - £83

These items were AGREED for payment.

Councillor Sutton asked if the Clerk could establish what time the floodlights are programmed to be on.

The Clerk also outlined that a request had been received from the Church Wardens asking if the Parish Council could contribute to the care of the Church yard. The annual costs were £1,134.

Members noted that the Church yard was an important space for the village and they were happy to contribute to its maintenance. Members were aware that the costs for running the Church (a Grade 1 Historic Building) was substantial and the opportunities for fundraising events had not been available during the pandemic. The Chair proposed that £200 be donated, as in previous years. This was unanimously AGREED.

Councillor D Adams asked for the maintenance of the Church yard to be added as an item to the village survey responses for discussion.

(b) To note any receipts

The Clerk confirmed that the £522.16 CIL fund had been credited to the Council's account on 19<sup>th</sup> January.

As at 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 the balance of the account was £3,883.81.

The Clerk confirmed that online banking was now up and running.

**HPC20-49 Correspondence**

There was none to report.

**HPC20-50 Items for Notification**

(a) Land Ownership

Councillor Sutton asked if confirmation could be sought from Urban & Civic on whether or not the land at the side of the Church was in their ownership.

**FPC20-051 Date of Next Meeting**

The next dates were confirmed as:

Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021 – 7.30pm – specific meeting with presentation from Urban & Civic. The Clerk to advertise in the WhatsApp group and ask people to email for the link to join the meeting.

Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021 – meeting to discuss responses to the Village Survey.

Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021 – Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of the Parish

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Council via Zoom

Lightsource BP to be approached regarding a site meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_