

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Hargrave Parish Council**  
Held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021 on Zoom

Members present:  
Cllr J Gunthorpe in the Chair

Councillors  
J Brotherton C Jones D Farrington N How H West  
Clerk- Ms J Hodgson  
NNC Councillor Howell  
1 member of the public

This meeting was held 'remotely' via an internet platform as permitted by The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

Meeting started at 7.36pm

**20-162 Apologies for Absence**

No apologies were received.

**20-163 Minutes**

**RESOLVED:** that the Minutes for the meeting held 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 be approved and signed by the Chairman

**20-164 Declaration of interests**

No declarations were made.

**20-165 Public Speaking Time**

NNC Cllr Howell noted that vesting day had passed as East Northamptonshire Council had ceased to exist. All East Northamptonshire Council councillors had become North Northamptonshire Councillors until the elections. Due to purdah (the pre-election period), Planning Committee Meetings are not being held. Cllr Howell is continuing to lobby for action against nuisance motorbikes on the B645.

Cllr Howell agreed to find out when the ANPR camera will be installed.

A landowner addressed the Council to express her disappointment with the Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 consultation, especially in dealings with landowners. The landowner is of the opinion that the draft Plan is copy of the 1996 Local District Plan. She requests that the Parish Council reviews the documents and does not recommend the Plan to North Northamptonshire Council.

**20-166 Draft Neighbourhood Plan**

It was noted that the draft Hargrave Neighbourhood Plan as prepared following the Regulation 14 consultation had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting.

The issue of the procedure for green areas was raised and a summary of the considerations made as part of the Regulation 14 consultation was given. The Steering Group had taken

advice from their professional advisors, Kirkwells, about changes made to Draft Neighbourhood Plan regarding green spaces following the consultation.

The steps taken to encourage community engagement in the Regulation 14 were outlined. All of the feedback and comment made as part of the consultation are provided in the supporting documentation.

Councillors who have not been part of the Plan process were asked to provide their views. The consensus was that the Draft Plan had been produced in a robust manner, following correct procedures.

A query was raised about one area of green area near Hargrave Hall between the original version and the revised version.

**RESOLVED** That the Regulation 15 Draft Neighbourhood Plan be approved for submission to the Planning Authority subject to the discrepancy regarding the land identified near Hargrave Hall being satisfactorily explained.

### **20-167 Planning application 20/01463/PDU**

It was noted that permitted development rights application had been approved by East Northamptonshire Council with the following rationale:

Regarding the prior approval application, the Applicant had demonstrated compliance with the permitted development criteria (Q.1) of Class Q. Part 3, Schedule 2 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended). Also, the statutory consultees (Local Highway Authority, Environmental Protection and Environment Agency) had no objection. The Applicant provided further information with this application i.e. appeal decision and other prior approval applications that the Council has approved which were similar to this application. Consideration was also given to a recent appeal decision for a similar application which was allowed. These material considerations overcame the previous reasons for refusal. Therefore, in line with the aforementioned legislation the Council issued a decision notice permitting the prior approval application.

Councillor Farrington commented that this could lead to backdoor developments rather than protect old/historic farm buildings.

Cllr Howell advised that there needed to be a change of planning policy within central Government and she was lobbying to this effect.

It was noted that the only possible course of action in regard to this application would be instigate a judicial review which would be a very costly and would be likely to fail as the application had been deemed to meet current planning policies.

### **20-168 Work by Northants Highways on the surface water drainage infrastructure**

It was reported that the team managed to jet the highway surface water drainage system all the way along Church Street to the outfall in the brook and can confirm that the system is now running fine. They lifted all covers along the length of the system and cleansed all of the highway gullies. They identified some large quantities of silt in the highway gullies and as such will be requesting that the whole of Hargrave is put forward for a shorter cycle on the gully cleansing programme. There is some groundwater seeping from the bank on Church Street – though this will be picked up by the gullies along the road now they have been cleansed and confirmed as operational. The long-term solution here is for resurfacing of the road so any ground water can be channelled and doesn't seep across the road where the levels vary.

In terms of Church Road, the local highways manager spoke with the developers where the new plots are and they confirmed that they have already undertaken some works to improve the drainage in conjunction with their works and have some further minor improvement works planned.

The team also cleansed and jetted the two highway drains on the old section of road with no issues found.

The section where there had issues previously (suspected collapse) was found to be a particularly stubborn blockage that was cleared with the high pressure unit.

They used tracer dye to test the flow of water from Cobblers Cottage right down to the outfall in Brook Street and there was a good, fast flow through the system.

Village drainage will be on a future agenda as correspondence had been received from a resident.

#### **20-169 Wind Farm Trust Meeting held 22 March 2021**

The Minutes, previously circulated to all councillors, were received and noted.

#### **20-170 Latest situation regarding Parish Council meetings**

It was noted that the outcome of a High Court action that would enable meetings to continue of a web platform was outstanding. In the event that the court action is unsuccessful, the next meeting will be an in-person meeting in the Village Hall on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

#### **20-171 Arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting to be held in May**

It was agreed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting ahead of the Annual Council Meeting as there had been little appetite from the usual participants to participate as activities had been curtailed by the corona virus pandemic.

#### **20-172 Cheques for payment**

**RESOLVED** that the following payments be authorised.

100930	J Gunthorpe, cheque to replace 100916 (Neighbourhood Plan exp)	£8.99
100931	Kirkwells Ltd – Neighbourhood Plan professional fees Localism Act 2011	£2940.00
100932	Mr M Clarke – overflow drainage channel – Public Health Act 1936 s259 & s260	£565.00

#### **20-173 Back up of council records**

It was noted that the Clerk requested permission to purchase an external hard drive to back up the Councils records as the 'one drive' cloud system was severely compromising operational functions of the laptop. **RESOLVED** that a budget of £100.00 be set to allowed for the necessary hardware to be purchased. This expenditure is authorised by the Local Government Act 1972 s111.

#### **20-174 Annual Accounts for Hargrave Village Hall**

The Accounts that form Appendix A previously circulated to councillors were received and noted.

## **20-175 Next scheduled meeting**

It was noted that the next scheduled meeting would be on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021. This will be Annual Meeting of Hargrave Parish Council and the first meeting of the newly elected Council.

The Clerk was thanked for Minuting the meeting despite recent difficulties.

Councillor How was thanked for his 10 years' service as a Parish Councillor. The Chairman said he would convey his thanks to Cllr Clarke for his service.

Meeting closed.

**Chairman**

HARGRAVE VILLAGE HALL MANGEMENT COMMITTEEANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2021

1. Balance at CAF bank and cash in hand	20,006
<i>This includes a surprising but welcome sum of £10,000 sent by ENDC (no longer existent) under the heading "Return of Business Rates" *</i>	
2. Receipts for lettings, brief use for bowls and table tennis	79
3. None for Circle dancing, WI, Music Festival Elections etc.	
Received from Windfarm Trust towards cost of new Notice Board	940
and Parish Council for same	100
 4. PAYMENTS	
Coleman Floors	1986
Electricity	157
Water Rates	170
Insurance	465
Fire Equipment	90
Bank fees	69
Cleaning	0

*Daily use payments still apply whether used or not, for electricity (OPUS energy) and water (wave)*

*5. Club 59 Lottery, run by Caroline:- After prize payments, a surplus of £814 was achieved.*

*My detailed accounts are available for perusal by anyone interested. I am happy to continue keeping them, unless some keen volunteer pops up!*

*\* We were informed earlier that our exemption from business rates, as non-domestic occupiers, might be lost in the future.*

*Robin Pearson - Treasurer*