

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HINXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL HELD
IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 2022 AT 7.00 PM.**

Present:

Mr R. Cobb (Chairman)
Mr N. Tiffin (Vice-Chairman)
Mr A. Lloyd
Mr A. Dawson
Mr B. Higgins
Mrs W. Kitchener (Clerk)

Other Councillors present: Steve Jarvis, County Councillor, Tom Tyson, District Councillor.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the meeting of 6th January 2022 were agreed by the Parish Councillors. Proposed by Nick Tiffin and seconded by Brian Higgins.

2. Matters arising not elsewhere on the Agenda: Nothing to report.

3. Correspondence:

Community Development Agency:- The Parish Council has been contacted by this organisation with regard to the possible building of social housing in the Village. It appears this could be a lengthy drawn out process taking years during which time demographic changes may have taken place. Therefore having discussed the matter the Councillors agreed not pursue this further at this point in time.

4. Finance:

Current Parish Council Funds: The Councillors agreed to the expenditure for the current month. Proposed by Richard Cobb and seconded by Tony Dawson.

The Precept: This has been agreed at £10370.00 for 22/23. This is the sixteenth year without an increase.

5. Planning:- North Hertfordshire District Council Planning Application 22/0224/FPH.

The Paddocks Extension, High Street, Hinxworth. The Councillors agreed unanimously to “no objection” to this application.

North Hertfordshire District Council Planning Application 21/03222/PQN: Prior Approval Class Agric to Dwelling Q: Change of use of two agricultural barns into two 4-residential dwellings(Class C3 Use) including the creation of amenity space and parking.

The following additional comments were forwarded to North Hertfordshire District Council regarding the drainage on the site subsequent to the decision notice:-

“Whilst Hinxworth Parish Council provided a “neutral response” to the Planning Application, as forwarded to you on December 13th 2021, HPC would want to see a condition applied (see item 2 therein) regarding a full drainage review and works to remove the water generated by the new dwellings as there is no mains drainage. I refer you to Anthony Smyth's comments on the planning website along with the concerns HPC has included in their response. This land area and the surrounding dwellings, ditches and roads are subject to flooding and are water logged on a near permanent basis”.

The response from NHDC is as follows:-

“Drainage is an issue for building control.

Whilst flooding is an issue considered as part of the assessment of a Class Q barn conversion, the application site is situated within Flood Zone 1, which is an area with the lowest risk of flooding”.

Richard Cobb attended a general site meeting at Place Farm with Hertfordshire County Council Planning Committee on January 21st 2022.

6. Highways:

Flooding: Steve Jarvis and Richard Cobb “Walked the Village” and identified the problem areas. These have now been rectified. But it is likely the problems will reoccur on a regular basis.

.7. Village Hall: Royston Ramblers have requested the use of the Village Hall Car Park on a Tuesday in March (the date yet to be confirmed). The Parish Councillors agreed to this request.

Water Heaters:- Due to a problem with the system it appears the water heaters in the Hall, which could have led to flood, require the need to be checked and possibly replaced where necessary.

Grant to the Village Hall: The VHMC have obtained a grant of £2000.00 from NHDC to cover the “lockdown period” of the pandemic. The Parish Councillors congratulate the VHMC on their successful application in obtaining the grant.

.8. Recreation Ground: David Granger’s quote for the 2022/23 season has been agreed by the Parish Councillors. Proposed by Richard Cobb and seconded by Nick Tiffin.

The Archery Club: Richard Cobb is to meet with David Osmond to discuss the 22/23 season agreement.

Caravan Club: A booking for 15th-17th September 2023 has been agreed.

9. The Tennis Court: Nothing to report.

10. Allotments: Nothing to report.

11. Any Other Urgent Business:

The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee:

Plans for the Street Party in the Close on June 5th are underway. Sylvia Scales is taking bookings. The Parish Councillors are organising events, such as the children’s entertainment. Other input will be from organisations in the Village. The “Unknown Tommy” figurine is to be purchased. Further details will be published in the Village Voice.

Parish Council Elections:- Subsequent to the meeting the Parish Council has been notified there may be a possible change to the procedure for local elections. This would allow for the alignment of the dates/years for all local elections to take place in the same year from 2024. The Clerk has confirmed the next date for Parish Council Elections will therefore remain in May 2023.

Ashwell and Bassingbourn Patients Group: Wendy Kitchener attended a ZOOM meeting on 2nd February of the Committee. Katie Prince the Practice Manager reported the new telephone system is to be installed in the near future. This should be a more “user friendly” system for patients. There have been some staff changes with additional staff being employed. The minutes of the meeting will be available on the Ashwell Surgery website. www.ashwellsurgery.co.uk.

12: Date of the Next Meeting: Thursday 3rd March 2022 in the Village Hall at 7.00pm. The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

The above minutes were approved and signed at the Parish Council Meeting of March 3d.

Wendy Kitchener

Clerk on and behalf of Hinxworth Parish Council.