

Little Horkesley Parish Council

meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 8 May 2019

Apologies:were received from Chris Jacobs.

Present: Maria Oats (Chair)
Chris Exley
Hannah Taylor
Susie Goldring
Roger Drury (Clerk/RFO)

No Pecuniary or Non-pecuniary Interests were declared in relation to agenda items.

1. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 April were agreed as an accurate record.

2. Management of the Council

a. The following officers were elected to serve for 2019/20:

Maris Oats (Chair);

Chris Exley (Vice Chair);

Roger Drury (Clerk/RFO).

b. The Acceptance of Office and Register of Registerable Interests Forms were signed/returned – the Register of Registerable Interests Forms are forwarded to Andrew Weavers in his capacity as CBC Monitoring Officer.

c. The Risks faced by the Parish Council were amended and approved.

3. Affordable housing

Chris Exley reported that no response had been received from CBC to the Hastoe HA list of possible sites within the heart of the village.

4. Emergency Assistance Plan

In the absence of Chris Jacobs, consideration of this item was deferred to the June meeting. It was agreed that attendance at the Clerk's Forum on 3rd July would be useful and helpful in understanding how local plans fit into the overall Borough plan.

5. Clerk's Report

a. It had been agreed that the playing field should be cut three weekly but looking at the recent growth it was agreed to cut fortnightly to maintain the grass at a reasonable level – this would impact the budget adversely.

The Clerk had not yet contacted Paul Cutler to instruct him to trim back the oak tree.

RoSPA are scheduled to complete the annual inspection in May – Clerk to confirm the date.

b. Roads and Verges

The Clerk had reported the following to ECC Highways:

- The potentially weak culvert on Water Lane at Brook House Job No: 261 4756;
- Need to clean out the drainage channels on School and Holts Road Job No: 261 4758;
- Beehive signpost Job No: 261 4762

c. Superfast Essex

Maria Oats outlined her conversations with Superfast Essex in which they had claimed a superfast service was available to 91 homes in the village and the remaining 9 would benefit from the Gigaclear fibre network. However, they had failed to respond to the request for more definite information. There was also a need to learn more about the County Broadband fibre service being promoted.

Susie Goldring agreed to consider becoming the Parish Broadband Champion which would involve some meetings (usually evening) and liaising with Superfast Essex.

6. Planning

a. Application No:190994 Joscelyns, Water Lane, Little Horkesley

This application is to improve the current dilapidated horticultural building in the dip behind Joscelyns well hidden from Water Lane and there is no indication in the application that further works e.g. a garage are planned.

b. Application No: 190983 Priory Farm Cottage, School Road, Little Horkesley

This is Chris Topple's Priory Farm Cottage and the plan is to remove the current garage and build a study to the same foothold. There is a comment in from neighbours that there are no objections provided the new building is of the same size and height and no windows are installed overlooking other properties.

The only possible objection is that storage space for vehicles may be reduced leading to more being parked on the roadside.

c. Application No: 190791 Beehive Cottage, Water Lane Little Horkesley

The approval of this application for a single storey was noted.

7. Finance

a. It was noted that the Certificate of Exemption had been lodged with the Auditors and the internal audit completed.

The next step was the posting of the Public Rights to inspect the Accounts on 17 June and thereafter the full accounts would be placed on the Parish Council website.

b. It was agreed that the Parish Council bank account should be converted to an online banking account and the Clerk was requested to liaise with EALC on the processes necessary to achieve this.

The Standing Orders would require amendment when the transfer to online banking was achieved.

c. Expenditure to J R Drury of £110 for repairs/maintenance was approved.

8. Correspondence

The following correspondence was noted:

- Invitation to the DVS Summer Party 13 June;
- DV&SV Newspaper – circulated.

9. Items for the Next Agenda

- Data Protection;
- Date of the October Meeting.

..... (Maria Oats – Chair)

..... (Date)