

**MINUTES OF THE HILTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4th MARCH 2019 7.30PM
IN THE VILLAGE HALL, HILTON**

Present: Cllr P. Balicki (Chair) Cllr G. Barradell, L. Chorlton, Cllr K. Dunk, Cllr A. Goodridge, Cllr S. Partridge, Cllr S. Walker,

In Attendance: The Clerk (Nicola Webster), County Cllr I. Bates and 6 Parishioners

1. To receive any apologies for absence and declarations of interest and welcome new Clerk to Parish Council

Apologies received from Cllr R. Collard (business) and Cllr I. Stott (holiday).

No declarations of interest were received

The Chair welcomed the new Clerk to the Parish Council.

Close meeting 19:31

Parishioners Open Session

Parishioners were invited to participate stating to which item on the agenda they wish to comment.

5.4 A parishioner asked whether the Chair would read his email aloud, particularly the first 4 points. He also asked whether the council had written a letter to the A14 and whether that would also be read aloud or put on the website.

3.1 At the previous meeting Cllr S. Partridge had mentioned discussing alternative locations for the playground with local farmers; a parishioner asked whether this will be put on the agenda.

5.4 A parishioner commented that when Mike Evans (Highways England delivery team) was present at a previous council meeting he was questioned regarding the gantries on the A14 to which he responded that gantries would only be put up when a decision is made. The parishioner advised that a gantry arrived today on the section of the A14 intersecting with the B1040. The parishioner asked whether we were misled or is there something that we don't know. The parishioner advised that he intended to write to Mike Evans and ask how many gantries there will be.

County Cllr I. Bates advised that the County Council has set their budget and the District Council has also set theirs. The County Council budget increase was 4.99% so a referendum will not be necessary. The Chair asked if there were any questions for County Cllr I. Bates and a parishioner asked if the budget would be on the website. County Cllr I. Bates replied that it would.

Reopen meeting 19:44

2. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4th February 2019

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4th February 2019 were approved as a true record. **Prop Cllr P.B., 2nd Cllr S.W. 5 Cllrs in favour, 2 Cllrs abstained.**

3. Matters arising or carried forward from the last meeting for discussion and decision

3.1 (3.1) Play Park – discuss and vote on preferred contractor for play park equipment if grant application successful.

Cllr L. Chorlton has submitted the funding application to Amey prior to the deadline and Amey have advised that they consider us “not ready to proceed” as we have not selected our preferred contractor. The working group recommend Kompan as the preferred contractor as they provide the best after care service and spare part availability. This recommendation is also supported by Jo Walthamstow from HDC. Councillors had concerns that we would be selecting a preferred contractor without having a final costing and that maintenance costs had not been assessed. The working group advised that we are not committed to a contractor with the funding application and we would be able to change or cancel at a future date. **Cllr S. Partridge proposed that the Parish Council should vote that the provider of our Hilton Playground is Kompan for the purpose of the funding application. Cllr L. Chorlton 2nd, all Cllrs were in favour.**

3.2 (3.6) NMU – Update regarding feasibility study

Cllr A. Goodridge advised that the design of the feasibility study has now been determined and Mike Davies (Cambridgeshire County Council) has advised that the first draft of the report will be available in July, at which point payment will be required. The final study will be available in November. Ron Stanley, who is overseeing the study, has reviewed this information and approved. Cllr A. Goodridge advised that the study had no constraints and would not be limited to Parish Council recommendations. The Clerk will be the point of contact and Cllr A. Goodridge will update her.

Close 20:24

The Chair asked County Cllr I. Bates whether there was any update regarding the NMU between Graveley and Hilton (as indicated in the latest A14 newsletter). County Cllr I. Bates advised that the proposal was to take a section of highway land at the junction of Graveley Way and the A1198 and develop it to make the crossing of the A1198 easier for experienced cyclists. The cost will be £138k. Cllr S. Partridge asked whether this was still in discussion and County Cllr I. Bates advised that it was. He also advised that Fenstanton have now secured funding for their NMU project.

Reopen 20:29

4. Committee, Working Groups and Members items.

4.1. (4.1) Update on Easement at Pecks Coppice – further information.

The Chair advised that we do not have any further update at this time as the only correspondence has been a request for payment. The Clerk will be handling this correspondence from this point.

4.2. (4.2) Green Open Spaces – existing maintenance contract finishes April 2019. Discuss and decide whether to extend by 1 or 2 years. Benches to be discussed with consideration to repair and reinstallation.

Cllr K. Dunk advised that the tree work had commenced on 18th February 2019 and will continue through March. He also advised that the volunteer group would be meeting on 8th March 2019

with the intention of taking down the Hornbeam by the ford and replacing it with a stand of Birch. Cllr S. Partridge will be leading the work in the Grove, clearing shrubs and marking the woodland path. There will be a call for volunteers to remove the ivy. The work of the volunteer groups has saved the Parish Council approximately £1.4k to date. Cllr K. Dunk advised that the roping off of the green by the pavilion has prevented the issues with cars on the Green and that this will continue until Easter, as will the roping off of the Maze. Cllr K. Dunk advised that the WI bench and the bench by the pavilion will be temporarily removed, the concrete slabs underneath removed and the grass reconditioned. The benches will be replaced in 5-6 weeks when the grass has recovered. The bench by the home oak will be repositioned in line with the other benches. Cllr S. Walker would like to discuss an additional picnic bench which will be added to a future agenda when supporting documents are available. Cllr K. Dunk advised that the maintenance contract is due for renewal in April and our current contractor has offered to roll the current contract over two years with no changes. Cllr L. Chorlton asked that we clarify what is included in the maintenance contract for the playground, for which we require the final plans of the playground.

Close 20:48

A parishioner asked how the Parish Council envisages dealing with the ivy, particularly in the ground. Cllr S. Partridge advised that the working group had taken advice from Cllr K. Dunk and Cllr I. Stott. Concerns were also raised about the visibility of the playground and the need to remove tree stumps. Cllr K. Dunk advised that part of the work was to assess the area.

Reopen 20:51

Cllr K. Dunk proposed that we roll the maintenance contract over 2 years with our current contractor. Cllr P. Balicki 2nd, all Cllrs were in favour. Cllr S. Partridge would like to discuss the second football net at a future meeting.

4.3. Bus Survey – discussion around findings of bus survey data.

Cllr A. Goodridge advised that the survey was done on Survey Monkey.. 266 parishioners responded and most respondents were below pension age, which is different to previous surveys. Common reasons for travel were shopping, entertainment and social and connecting with others. Cllr A. Goodridge has responded to St Ives to request a meeting to review the data, to which Cambridgeshire County Council were to be invited. Cllr A. Goodridge will continue to pursue this. Cllr L. Chorlton asked if these results would be published and Cllr A. Goodridge advised that they would be once the analysis was finalised.

4.4. Speedwatch – update on progress and consider request that another councillor takes over running this.

Cllr L. Chorlton advised that 5 people are now trained on Speedwatch and Mike Brooks from the Police has agreed locations and ordered equipment, for which Cllr L. Chorlton has organised storage. She also advised that Mike Brooks would need to be present for the first session which she is in the process of organising. Councillors asked with what frequency the sessions should be run and whether it required a councillor to organise or if it could be run through the Clerk. Cllr L.

Chorlton and Cllr S. Partridge will talk to the Police to obtain advice. The Chair advised that we have received correspondence from RATS (Residents Against Traffic Speeding) with data that shows that 30% of vehicles at the crossroads were speeding. They recommend that the Parish Council install pedestrian crossing signs at The Paddocks. The Clerk will investigate costings and this will be added to a future agenda once the supporting documents are available.

5. To consider any correspondence/communications received requiring decision or action and any other agenda items

5.1. Precept - Notification received that precept has been agreed at £28,620 for year 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020.

The Chair advised that the precept has been approved and that the Parish Council can expect one payment on 30th April 2019.

5.2. Request to erect Easter Cross on the Green from 18/4/19 to 23/4/19.

The Chair advised that the Parish Council has received a request to erect the Easter Cross on the Green from 18th April to 23rd April 2019. **Cllr P. Balicki proposed that the Parish Council approved this request, Cllr G. Barradell 2nd, all cllrs were in favour.** The Clerk will write to the Common Rights Holders to ask if they have any objections.

5.3. Request from Cambs CC for information on local initiatives that support older people to socialise with others. Response required by 22 March 2019.

The Chair advised that the Parish Council has received correspondence from Cambridgeshire County Council requesting information on local initiatives that support older people. The Clerk will reply, linking to Spectrum, Village Hall, Community Website and the Churches.

5.4. A14 - discuss information provided by Parishioner.

The Chair read the letter from Alan James of CPRE (Campaign for the Protection of Rural England) and the letter that Hilton Parish Council sent in response to the proposal to upgrade the new A14 to motorway status. A councillor asked whether we could send a letter regarding the gantries even though the consultation deadline has passed. The Chair invited comments from the floor. Concerns were raised relating to light pollution from the gantries, changes to air quality levels and increase in noise pollution levels resulting from the increase in average speed. The Chair will send a letter supporting the correspondence from CPRE and to ask for mitigation for the village. A parishioner also requested that the Parish Council send a letter to Alan James to thank him for all of his hard work thus far.

5.5. HAT – update from group.

Cllr L. Chorlton advised that she had been unavailable for the last HAT meeting but has a report. HAT did a leaflet drop regarding the impact of HGVs in the village and received a large number of responses, both verbal and written. Concerns were raised regarding noise and pollution and were not localised to Potton Road. There is a covenant endorsed by CCC asking hauliers to adhere to strategic trade routes which would bypass the village. Many companies have signed up to this covenant but few are adhering to it. HAT has been writing to these companies asking them to sign up to the covenant and then adhere to it but feel that this correspondence should come from the Parish Council in the future. The Chair will look into the covenant in further detail

and liaise with the parishioner involved. The Clerk will write to Mick George to thank him for voluntarily reducing the speed of his vehicles to 20mph and also for the loan of his data logger.

5.6. Scotts Close – Discuss any action that can be taken regarding residents complaints of buses passing each other on the road.

Cllr A. Goodridge advised that she had received a report from a parishioner to advise that buses have been using Scotts Crescent as a short cut rather than the crossroads. The Chair advised that the Parish Council's responsibility is to write to the law enforcement agency and the Cambridgeshire County Council's Highways Department and ask them to investigate. Cllr A. Goodridge is going to find out which bus companies are involved.

5.7. Feast week – consider and decide on request for a donation of £40 to Easter egg hunt.

Cllr S. Partridge advised that the Feast Week committee had requested that the Parish Council donate £40 to fund Easter eggs for their upcoming Easter Egg Hunt. Councillors had concerns regarding the precedent set. The Chair offered to personally donate £40 to Feast Week for the eggs and asked that Feast Week announce that the eggs were donated by a parishioner.

5.8. Course for new Clerk, agree spend.

The Chair read the course description and advised that the cost was £250. Councillors had concerns regarding a training agreement but agreed that this course was mandatory. **Cllr P. Balicki proposed that Hilton Parish Council pay for the training course, Cllr L. Chorlton 2nd, all cllrs were in favour.**

6. To consider and decide upon matters relating to Finance and Risk Assessment

6.1. Authorise payment of any bills

6a. John Carter (JSC)	S/O February 2019	£660.00	s/o
6b. Ecotricity	Energy Supply 25/12/18-24/01/19	£8.54	DD
6c. Kieron Dunk*	Website Hosting	£85.00	
	Domain Name	£15.00	

*This payment was presented and approved at the February 2019 meeting. However, the date of the invoice was later noted to be after that meeting date and therefore the payment was re-presented at the March 2019 meeting. Following approval, the original cheque was amended to record the March meeting date, 4th March 2019.

Cllr P. Balicki proposed, Cllr S. Partridge 2nd, 6 cllrs in favour, 1 cllr abstained

6.2. Monies received

Refund relating to Clerk's course £125.00

7. Councillors items – information only. No discussion and no decisions can be made.

Cllr S. Walker would like to thank Craig Sutherland and Dave Ruddy for their assistance in removing the fallen tree from Graveley Way.

8. Closure of Meeting.

22:11