

23LHPC07b

Little Horkesley Parish Council

MINUTES

of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 17th July 2023

Present: Jonathan Eddis (Chair)
Hannah Taylor
Susie Goldring
Tracy Le Grys
Jo Morris
Jo Petersen (Clerk)

Apologies

Lewis Barber

Darius Laws

There were no declarations of Pecuniary or Non-pecuniary interest.

1. Minutes

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 15th May 2023 were agreed as an accurate record.

2. Public Questions

There were no members of the public present

David Burns joined the meeting via phone for item 3 on the agenda

3. National Grid “GREEN” Pylons Scheme

David Burns from the Essex Suffolk Norfolk Pylons action group joined the meeting by phone. He updated Councillors on the current non-statutory consultation that has been launched by National Grid.

He has drafted a response on behalf of the Parish Council which the clerk will submit to National Grid.

4. Playground

a) The fence at the rear of Orchard Cottages was again discussed at length.

The owner of 7 Orchard Cottages has not responded to the letter sent by Chair Eddis asking if they would be happy to enter into a license agreement with Colchester City Council giving them permission to have access to the playground through the gate they have installed. It was agreed that the Parish Council would ask Colchester City Council to issue the license anyway and send to the owner of the property, as this is the simplest and most cost-effective option for the Parish Council.

If there is no response from the owner to the license, then the Parish Council will look into reinstalling the fence.

- b) It was noted that the rubbish has been removed from the hardstanding at the playground and the Parish Council is grateful to Caroline Law at CCC for overseeing the clear up. There is still a small pile of sand which the clerk will endeavour to remove. The clerk will ask the contractor employed by the Parish Council if he would be happy to cut the hedge back along the entrance to the playground.
- c) The clerk confirmed that she has currently received 2 quotes for new equipment and is working on obtaining a 3rd as the Parish Council requires 3 quotes to proceed with the application for a grant.
- d) It was agreed that the clerk would recirculate the email from Pearl Willcox (EALC) about the Routine Playground Inspection Course & Exam

5. Roads, Verges and Footpaths

- a) The clerk contacted both Cllr Lewis Barber and Cllr Darius Laws about the process for speed limit reviews in the village.
Cllr Barber explained that it is very difficult to change speed limits on rural roads although there is a current review of the speed policies which may make it easier in the future. In the meantime, he confirmed that he will put in a request for a change of speed limits on Water Lane, School Road and Fishponds Hill. He also noted that we still have a pending application for improved signage in the village.
Cllr Laws confirmed that he recently raised concerns about the speed limit on Water Lane amongst others with the Cabinet Member at Essex Highways. He made it clear that he would like reduced speed limits and more green "quiet lane" signs.
- b) The clerk applied for litter picking equipment from the "Litter Warriors" but is yet to hear back from them. She will chase them to find out if the scheme is still in place.

6. Planning

- a) There were no planning issues to discuss.

7. War Memorial

- a) Two quotes were discussed for the work required to the railings at the War Memorial.

After discussion it was agreed that the R Griggs would be asked to carry out the work at a cost of £1,070. Cllr Eddis will inform him of the Parish Council's decision.

8. Bus Shelter

- a) It was agreed that R Griggs would be asked to renovate the bus shelter at a cost of £575 to include replacing of broken boards and two coats of wood preservative inside and out.

9. Emergency Assistance Plan

- a) It was agreed that the Emergency Assistance Plan would be reviewed at the next meeting

10. Finance

- a) The clerk confirmed that the AGAR submission was completed and audited, and has now been submitted.

11. Correspondence

None

19. Items for the Next Agenda

- Emergency Assistance Plan

..... (Jonathan Eddis - Chair)

21.08.23

..... (Date)

Date of the next Parish Council Meeting Monday 18th September 2023 (Little Horkesley Village Hall)