

HAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK: Mrs. S. Atkins.

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MINUTES.

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 25th February, 2019 at 7.00 p.m. at Haughton Village Hall.

Attendees: Chairman Cllr. M. Allen, Cllr. G. Anslow. Cllr. T. Grattage.

Cllr. I Forrester. Cllr. I. Sunley. Cllr. S. Taylor. Cllr. D. Warbrick. Clerk Susan Atkins.

Public: Seven.

Public Open Forum.

Issues Raised.

Members of Haughton Village Hall Committee wanted to understand why the Parish Council had decided not to award a £500 donation to the Village Hall. They were concerned as to the reason for this decision as they felt that it had shown a vote of “no confidence” in the Committee itself. Council and Councillors were asked for an explanation for the reasons for this decision. One Councillor said that following guidance from the previous Clerk that the Council needed a letter or document of application for a donation together with three years sets of accounts in order to be able to give a donation or grant to any organisation that requested financial help. A letter had not been received from the Village Hall Committee at the time of considering the donation. This was the only explanation given. Other Councillors who had voted against the donation declined to comment.

The Village Hall Committee pointed out that they had not raised their prices for booking the Village Hall since 2012/2013. The fact that this £500 was not forthcoming and that in addition they had received a bill from the Parish Council for £375 for grass cutting at the Village Hall meant that they would have to find £875 which meant that they would have to revisit their budget because of the shortfall and this may involve having to raise the cost of hiring the village hall to local groups who use it on a regular basis.

It was confirmed that if the Parish Council received a written application for a grant from the Village Hall Committee this would be given due consideration at the next Parish Council Meeting.

1. To receive apologies and accept and record any reasons for absences.
None required.
2. To receive any Declarations of interest in the following agenda.
None declared.
3. To receive and confirm the minutes of the meetings held on 28th January, 2019.
Resolved that with the correction of the application of a donation to the Parish Council be recorded as taking place during the Public Forum the minutes be accepted as a true record.

4. To receive any reports from Borough, County Councillors and PCSO.
 Cllr. M. Winnington arrived at 8.55 p.m. and was welcomed to the meeting.
 He reported that superfast broadband is now available to 96% of properties and that work is continuing to increase the speed for the remaining 4%.
 Despite the fact that the County Council had made £35 million pounds worth of savings, Council Tax would increase as Government was cutting revenue to the Councils.
 Parish Council were reminded about the meeting on 4th March at the Grosvenor Centre in Gnosall to discuss the issues relating to the A518.
 It was also reported that the County Council were now catching up with reported pothole repairs.
5. To consider planning matters, including planning decisions, notifications of appeals.
 18/29512/HOU – 3, Prince Avenue, Haughton. Small Porch Canopy.
 Resolved that there was no comment on this application.
6. To discuss Highways, footpaths issues including those requiring reporting
- a). Highways
 Reported that a temporary emergency repair had been effected in Long Compton Lane which suffers from flooding.
 Reported that pot holes along the Newport Road were being repaired.
 Reported that Highways had been informed about a faulty grid inspection cover on the A518 by the entrance to the shops.
- b). Grassy Lane.
 Reported that a footpath working party met three weeks ago and cleared out debris from the ditch improving the flow of water.
 Resolved that another footpath working party would take place to clear the remaining debris.
- c). Footpaths
 Reported that once footpath numbers had been identified where broken or decaying footpath signs were Clerk would report the matter to Highways.
 Reported that the “walks leaflets” were almost used up. The cost of printing further copies were £150 per thousand with a thousand to be printed of Walk 1 and a thousand to be printed of Walk 2 making a total of £300. Resolved to put this on next month’s Agenda.
7. To consider matters of finance including
- a). Accounts for approval

DESCRIPTION	NET	VAT	GROSS
Salaries and Expenses.	499.60		499.60
Petty Cash Top-Up	4.96	1.24	6.20
Ricoh	249.44	49.89	299.33

Resolved to approve these payments.

- b). To receive financial statements
Resolved that the financial statements for the month be accepted and to sign off the Accounts for Approval.
8. To receive the Clerk's Report.
The Clerk distributed notes covering:
Election information
Collaboration Meeting.
9. To receive report from Councillors on:
- a). Park
Reported that planting of the hedge on the park alongside Grassy Lane will take place on Thursday, 28th March with children from St. Giles Academy starting at 9.45 am. Members of the Parish Council were invited to attend.
Reported that over the period 28th January to 22nd February there were 5 pieces of dog faeces – 4 on the football pitch and 1 in other areas of the park. It was noted that whilst this had decreased over the last month, there had been reports that dog excrement had now started to appear outside St. Giles Academy, along Rectory Lane and in the alleyway between Brazenhill Lane and St. Giles Close. In addition it was reported that the school caretaker has to spend time cleaning up dog excrement outside the school prior to children arriving. This information has been passed on to the Enforcement Officer who has scheduled a visit to the site this week.
Reported that on a visit to the park that all the internal gates were open.
 - b). Football Pitch
Reported that the pitch was in good condition.
10. To receive reports from Councillors on
- a). Dale Common/Allimore Green.
Reported that Dale Common is very wet. It was noted that previous work to clear out the ditches had not improved the condition of the Common.
Reported that one tender had been received for Dale Common with the closing date for all tenders to be received is 22nd March.
 - b). Village Hall
Reported that the Annual General Meeting will be held on 13th May, 2019 at 7.30 pm.
"Great Get Together" will be held on Saturday 1st June.
Reported that some damage had been done to the surface of the car park by unauthorised users and that the Village Hall committee were looking at only allowing authorised access to the car park.
 - c). Best Kept Village.
Resolved to wait for a decision to be made as to whether Haughton enters this competition until after the Parish Meeting.
 - d). Haughton Charity.
Nothing to report.

11. To consider the use of S106 monies.
Resolved to move this item until the election of a new Parish Council in May.
12. To receive a report on Defibrillator Training held on 20th February, 2019.
Reported that between 20 and 22 people attended this training with the majority being from Haughton. The training was very useful and the trainers were excellent.
Resolved to write to the trainers and thank them for their time and expertise in delivering this training.
AEDdonate recommended that it would be useful to have a defibrillator on the playing field but it was noted that an electrical supply to the defibrillator would be problematic.
Reported that batteries for the defibrillators had been received free of charge from AEDdonate and that a quote for defibrillator pads had been received amounting to £119.82 and for three external AEDdonate Cabinets it would cost £1,575.00. It was also noted that some of the boxes did not open first time. Cllr. I. Sunley offered to check the boxes regularly to ensure that they did open first time.
Cllr. Sunley reported that he had been approached by the West Midlands Ambulance Database to ask if we would volunteer information specifying where defibrillators are located in Haughton. This would be included in a National Database.
It was also noted that there were no signs as to the location of defibrillators in Haughton.
13. To discuss the provision and number of Civic Amenity Visits in 2019.
Resolved to arrange for two Civic Amenity Visits preferably in April and September depending on availability at a cost of £196.
14. To consider the provision of refreshments for meeting of the Parish on Wednesday, 27th February, 2019.
Reported that two parishioners would donate the refreshments for the meeting of the Parish on Wednesday, 27th February.
15. To consider the attendance of two members of Haughton Parish Council at a meeting on Monday, 4th March at 10.00 am. at the Grosvenor Centre to air their concerns to the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport.
Resolved that two members of Haughton Parish Council would attend a meeting on Monday, 4th March at 10.00 am at the Grosvenor Centre to air their concerns regarding the A518.
16. To review the Parish Council Meeting date of 22nd April, 2019 as this falls on Easter Monday.
Resolved to move the Parish Council Meeting date to 24th April, 2019 at 8.00.

To exclude members of the press and public from items below whilst confidential information is discussed.

17. To consider the increase in the minimum wage from 1st April, 2019.
Resolved to implement this increase and noted that this had already been included in the budget.

18. To consider the proposed increase in hourly wage for Clerk on Scale 14.
Resolved to implement this increase and noted that this had already been included in the budget.
19. To receive Chairman's Announcements.
To consider what the visitors said in the Public Forum. If additional information is received there is a mechanism for Council to review its decision.
20. Correspondence
None
21. To receive any future agenda items.
Any agenda items to be forwarded to Clerk.
22. To confirm the date of the next meeting on 25th March, 2019 at 7.00 p.m. at Haughton Village Hall.
23. Meeting Close.
Meeting Closed at 10.10 pm