

HAWKLEY PARISH COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY MAY 6TH 2020 AT 7.30PM
CONDUCTED USING THE ZOOM PLATFORM

Draft

PRESENT: David Caukill (Chairman); Jo Humphrey; Susan Sinclair; Simon Dixon; Charlie Butcher; Geoff Brighton; Liz Buckle. Also District Councillor Charles Louisson.

No residents were present.

Sue Harwood (Clerk) was in attendance.

20/01 Annual Parish Meeting

The APM, opened and adjourned on Wednesday 8th April was reconvened. The minutes of the 2018/19 APM were approved subject to a mis-spelling of District Councillor Charles Louisson's name. The Chairman signed the approved minutes.

The Chairman confirmed that all relevant reports have been on the parish website for almost a month, this having been advertised by email to all those on the new parish council mailing list, on the noticeboards and in the parish magazine. Those present agreed to take these reports as read. No questions had arisen nor were any arising now and so the APM was declared closed.

20/02 Minutes of previous meeting

It was pointed out that Susan Sinclair had been present at the meeting. The clerk apologised for this error and the minutes were then approved. The Chairman signed the approved minutes.

20/03 Declarations of interest

None declared.

20/04 Public Forum

No residents having opted to participate in the meeting, no points were raised from the floor. The chairman made several points: following the January meeting he has now spoken to the owner of the dogs causing a local nuisance through persistent barking and it is hoped that measures since taken will address the problem; doubt was expressed that these have been effective and the situation will continue to be monitored; regrettably the planned donation was not made to the Petersfield Museum as they were unable to meet Hawkley's criteria; there are now 120 email addresses on the parish council database; he has been liaising with HCC (Highways) and hopes that as result an enlarged drain will be laid which will halt the deep flooding that occurs regularly outside the parish hall; cautionary signs have now been installed around the Watersplash; it is important that all instances of crime are reported to the police in order that the police have complete information when setting policing priorities.

20/05 District Councillor report

All offices and councillors are working hard to meet the changing needs of the current situation. Infrastructure has been put in place to conduct as many meetings as possible online so that all important activity may resume. Welfare benefit applications have risen substantially. Planning Enforcement officers are currently unable to conduct site visits which is very regrettable to the parish council given a number of areas of current concern.

20/06 County Councillor report

Councillor Oppenheimer had given his apologies and his report is attached as an appendix to these minutes,

The Chairman reported that he has complained very strongly about the recent verge cut. He explained that this constituted Hawkley's annual HCC cut and was an utter waste of money.

20/07 Finance

- a) The clerk presented a financial summary, noting the recent payment of a devolved grant of £1000 from County Councillor Oppenheimer towards the work of the

Hawkley Area Support Group and with half going to help fund the Village Magazine. Thanks was expressed to District Councillor Louisson for his grant of £1000 which funded the recent work to several trees on Lower Green. The list of payments was approved. The Chairman confirmed that he had checked the figures against the bank statement. It will be signed at a later date.

- b) The Chairman reported that he had successfully applied for the aforementioned £500 to enable the parish magazine to survive an anticipated dearth of advertising revenue in the current climate.
- c) The Internal Audit has taken place and the parish council has passed this annual process. The auditor's comments were considered: the clerk undertook to place the quarterly financial summary on the website alongside the minutes (in addition to distributing it to all councillors and to including the original in the official minutes); those councillors undertaking the annual audit review will henceforth be known as the Audit Review Working Group; the laptop and the new heritage name signs will be added to the next insurance schedule.
- d) The clerk had previously distributed by email the Annual Governance and Accountability Return pt 2 to the parish council for their examination, in order to comply with the External Audit process. All pages were discussed. The Chairman signed the Certificate of Exemption, the Clerk to counter sign at a later date. He confirmed that he had checked the figures on page 6 so far as he is able and he believed them to be correct; he then signed this page. The Audit Review Working Group declared themselves content with the clauses of the Annual Statement; the Chairman then signed this page, the clerk to counter sign at a later date.

20/08 Lengthsman

The clerk reported that following a tender process a new lengthsman has been appointed and has made his first visit. The work was completed efficiently and to a high standard. As always councillors are requested to convey ideas on any suitable tasks for him to the clerk. It was agreed that he be asked to strim around the new place name signs and to tidy up the area around the phone box on Upper Green.

20/09 Road markings

Concern was expressed at how rapidly the white markings paid for by the parish council as part of the traffic calming measures are wearing away, in particular on Pockocks Lane. Jo Humphreys kindly offered to take photographs of the worst instances which the clerk will then send to HCC with a request that they are repainted.

20/10 Dark Skies Discovery Site

The clerk reported that a suggestion had been made by the SDNPA that Upper Green might wish to receive this designation but the suggestion has been withdrawn as Hawkley's parking facilities are insufficient.

20/11 Hawkley Area Support Group

The Chairman reported on the activities of this group, set up in response to the Coronavirus outbreak. Provisional initial funding had been informally agreed to a limit of £500, this having then been covered by an HCC devolved grant. It was agreed by all present that if necessary spending could be increased to £1000.00.

20/12 Dog waste bin

In view of numerous instances of bagged dog mess having been left on top of the grit bin outside Homefield Cottages, the clerk was tasked to purchase a dog waste bin. EHDC has already indicated that on request they would then empty it.

20/13 'Hawkley' sign on A32

Councillors agreed to a request from East Tisted Parish Council that they support the removal of 'Hawkley' from a road sign in East Tisted.

20/14 Lower Green phone box

Simon Dixon reported on the great local community effort that is being expended on the now adopted K6 kiosk. So far it has been rubbed down very thoroughly prior to painting. The work may be completed on budget but with paint, brushes, signage cork board and shelving to pay for, councillors agreed that if necessary further reasonable expenditure may be incurred. All present agreed too that the kiosk and adjacent post box were looking very smart and Simon Dixon and all local residents involved were thanked for their hard work.

20/15 No HGV sign on Hawkley Road

The clerk reported that there may be a cost of up to £350 to get a sign installed under the Community Finance Initiative and that HCC has no objection in principle if the parish council wishes to go ahead. It was agree that the clerk should contact Liss Parish Council to see their approval before asking HCC to proceed.

20/16 Date of next meeting

August 12th 2020 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 2110hrs.

Chairman

Date