

Haslington Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 3rd October 2022

Attendance: Cllrs Lee Allen; Howard Blake; Yvonne Bushill; Connie Davis; Martin Deakin; Steve Edgar; Samantha Green; Janet Griffith; Alison Heler; Richard Hovey; Tony Peake; Graham Sawyer. Also in attendance: Gill Ayres, Parish Clerk.

Meeting commenced at 7.15pm

1. Apologies

None received.

2. Declarations of Members Interests

Cllrs. Blake, Davis, Edgar and Heler declared an interest in item 6 and Cllr. Green in item 5.

3. Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 5th September were approved subject to an amendment under Public Participation HPC22/5/04. It will now read “PCSO Jolley provided Members with an updated Beat Report and reported that the Police have obtained funding for an initiative to provide lights for bikes”.

5. Approval of payments

Payment of an invoice for £1361 for environmental maintenance was approved.

6. Community Orchard and Jubilee Tree Planting

Cllr. Edgar reported that picnic tables have been purchased and sponsorship for these and trees is going well. Three quotations have now been received for the purchase of trees to plant and these will be considered by the Jubilee Tree and Orchard Sub-Committee. He will then liaise with the Clerk to get payment approved.

Volunteers will plant the trees in locations still to be agreed. The possibility of planting a conifer on the Village Green to act as a Christmas tree will be further investigated to assess the practicality of this and any cost and environmental advantages. It would, however, be a long term initiative and not impact on the decision in 10a.

7. Memorial to Queen Elizabeth II

It was agreed that up to £5000 will be allocated in the budget for the purchase and installation of a bench and four planters. Two planters in Winterley / Wheelock Heath and Oakhanger will commemorate Queen Elizabeth's life. Two planters and the bench will be installed as a group on the Village Green in Haslington. One will commemorate the Queen and the other the Coronation of King Charles. Cllr. Edgar will liaise with the Clerk to take this forward.

8. Parish Gazette

The Council agreed to the publication of a quarterly Parish Gazette and authorised Cllr. Edgar to make further enquiries about this. It will cost £800 per edition (including distribution costs) but much of this will be recouped through advertising. Two local businesses have offered to sponsor the Gazette in return for free advertising over two years. £5000 will be earmarked in Council Reserves to cover the risk that the Gazette is not published for the full two years.

It was suggested that the Events and Publicity Sub-Committee could help with the preparation of the Gazette which would contain local news and details of what's on together with a summary of Parish Council business. As well as hard copy, it would be available electronically for inclusion on the website. The first edition should be available early next year.

9. Fields Road

Cllrs. Green and Edgar have installed a 20mph banner on Fields Road and other 20mph repeaters. There are now 32 notices in total. The Council wished to thank Mr Ed Whitby for allowing the banner on his land and Mr Barry Cooke who funded and provided it.

10. Christmas Activities and Projects

- a. Christmas tree.** The Council agreed to go ahead with the purchase of a Christmas tree for the green. The cost of this, together with erection and removal will be around £1600 and is already allowed for in the budget.
- b. Lights.** The Council agreed to pay up to £500 for the purchase of solar powered fairy lights. Cllr. Green will investigate potential suppliers.
- c. Carol Service.** The annual carol service and get-together on the Village Green will take place at 6.30pm on 16th December. Cllr. Allen will organise a band.
- d. Tin Collection.** Cllr. Allen will organise this as usual and will liaise with Cllr. Davis to draw up a list of recipients. The hampers will be particularly welcome given the cost of living issues at the present time.
- e. House front decorations.** It was not felt appropriate at this time for the Council to specifically encourage lighting on houses given the cost of energy and possible shortages of supply.

11. Matters related to Winterley Ward

No matters were raised.

12. Matters related to Oakhanger Ward

In response to issues raised it was reported that:

- a. The footpath diversion at Haslington Hall will continue for reasons of safety during building works.
- b. A meeting recently took place between the Police and Community Cohesion Group at Crewe Hall.
- c. There is unlikely to be money available for the erection of “please drive safely” signs. The signs themselves are expensive and application must be made to Cheshire East for permission to install, which is itself a lengthy and expensive process.

13. Matters related to Haslington Ward

- a. **Close Lane.** The application for 55 houses has been refused but may well come back in the future.
- b. **Hazelmere.** The application for 17 flats has been refused.
- c. **Hunters Lodge.** The application was approved after assurances were gained that the land to the north west will remain within the Strategic Green Gap and outside the Crewe Settlement Boundary as a LEAP and play area.
- d. **Streetlights.** Repairs to lights at Gutterscroft and Mount Pleasant have been chased yet again. The Parish Council should receive an invoice shortly and, once paid, Cheshire East will source the requisite parts and do the work.
- e. **Bins.** The dog waste bin on Kents Green Road is damaged and will be replaced.
- f. **General maintenance.** Work is needed to replace a tree at xxx and fill stone at the Gutterscroft main entrance. Quotations will be obtained for this work.
- g. **Grant Application.** Consideration of an application from the Cricket Club for a grant towards repairs to their roller was deferred to the next meeting on the Parish Council.
- h. **Road Marshalls Training.** The Clerk will follow up earlier expressions of interest by Cllrs. Blake and Peake in training offered by Cheshire Police.
- i. **Remembrance Sunday.** Cllr. Peake will once again lead on the organisation of the Parade which will go from Waterloo Road Car Park at 10.45 on Sunday 13th November to the War Memorial for the Remembrance Service, and back to the Car Park. He will supply the Clerk with details of organisations likely to be interested in taking part so she can confirm their attendance. The Council agreed that Amberon will manage the road closure at a cost of £490 +VAT.

14. Urgent business.

No urgent business was raised.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.