

HOCKWOLD-CUM-WILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall, Main Street, Hockwold
on Tuesday 23rd July 2024 at 7.30pm

Councillors of Hockwold cum Wilton Parish Council

Present: Cllr Randall, Cllr Newman, Cllr Sismey, Cllr Royal, Cllr Morgan, Cllr Green

Hilary R Cox, Clerk

Seven members of the public

15 minute open forum

Parishioners reported the bushes are still overgrown and verge is getting destroyed as vehicles are avoiding it on Church Lane.

Vehicles parking along Church Lane/ bridleway have blocked access for residents and over ten campers and motor homes were on the Lode Common the previous weeks.

Members of Press and Public are invited to voice their comments and concerns in the Open Forum. However, the law does not permit members of the public and press to take part in the debates. Hilary R Cox, Parish Clerk & RFO

419. **To receive and approve apologies for absence.** Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Williams.

420. **To receive any declarations of interest from Members & consider requests for dispensation** Councillor Royal wrote to the clerk asking for dispensation to speak during the discussions on Lode Common. Cllr Royal declared a conflict of interest. The Clerk granted the dispensation, allowing Councillor Royal to participate in the discussions without voting rights. *Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Hockwold cum Wilton Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.*

421. **To approve minutes of the Council meeting held 14th May 2024**

a. **To approve minutes of the Council meeting held 11th June 2024**

b. **To approve minutes of the EXORD Council meeting held 4th June 2024**

All minutes will be approved by the council at the next meeting due to problems with emailing attachments.

422. **Reports from:**

a. **RAF Lakenheath** Squadron Leader's written report was shared with the council.

b. **Norfolk County Council & Borough WNKL Council, Cllr Martin Storey** As for the QEH, the local government is looking for confirmation that they intend to keep to the schedule agreed. Cranswick planning probably will come before the board in December. It will then come back to the PC to make comments again if they wish to. For more information look on the NCC website or contact NCC Storey directly. <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/> OR martin.storey@norfolk.gov.uk

c. **Chairman** The Chair reported he attended training for Chairmanship, and also sat in on a Weeting PC meeting.

d. **Clerk (APL)** The action point log was distributed and discussed. All queries answered.

423. **Matters arising (for information only)**

To report progress on matters arising from previous minutes (not elsewhere on agenda)

NONE

424. **To confirm receipt of NALC, CAN, POLICE and other correspondence** All Councillors present received their updates and correspondence. No queries.

HOCKWOLD-CUM-WILTON PARISH COUNCIL

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425. **To review the Risk Management Policy and Risk Review** All documents distributed. Proposed to adopt by Cllr Green. Seconded by Cllr Morgan. Agreed by all present. NOTE: The number of noticeboards needs to be changed from 5 to 2.
426. **Village Hall Conveyance request**
a. **To hear the final outcome of the NPLAW advice, receive the updated draft from the Village Hall Committee and discuss**
Item to be put on a future agenda to allow a Village Hall representative to attend.
427. **To discuss taking part in celebrations for VE80 anniversary on 8th May 2025** Cllr Randall explained the VE80 Anniversary and queried if the PC would like to discuss planning something. There was overall interest. Cllr Randall to come back to the PC at a date closer to planning stages.
428. **To hear an updated report on the Community Speedwatch initiative** Cllr Randall gave an update on the initiative and its plans.
429. **LAC**
a. **To agree the new council member for the committee** Cllr Green volunteered to sit on the LAC.
b. **To discuss and approve Hockwold Land Risk Reduction measures, specifically**
The risk assessment, additional documents and management plan could not be considered or discussed at the time of the meeting due to its confidential nature. This was conveyed prior to the meeting and upon question of that advice, confirmation advice sought from the County Officer. The advice on this item was read out in meeting, which was that the Council emphasizes the importance of transparency in its operations, ensuring that most council business is accessible to the parishioners it represents, with exceptions for confidential matters such as employment and contractual issues during the tendering stage. All Council activities must be conducted independently, adhering to Orders and Financial Regulations. It is crucial that the Council's actions, duties, and powers are executed correctly, avoiding any involvement from individuals with vested interests in decision-making processes. To maintain integrity, the Council will conduct risk assessments through independent parties with no vested interests, ensuring the best possible outcomes for the parishioners who have entrusted the Council to act in their best interests.
- Cllr Morgan left the meeting.
- i. **measures the PC can take to deal with increasing level of illegal activity on The Lode** – was not discussed or considered. To be put on a future agenda.
 - ii. **the location and number of temporary signs** – Temporary signage was proposed to be put in place until November where the council can reassess. Proposed by Cllr Green. Seconded by Cllr Randall. 3 votes YES. 1 vote NO. Proposal passed with majority vote.
 - iii. **the budget for signs** - £300.00 maximum budget was proposed by Cllr Randall. Seconded by Cllr Green. 3 votes YES. 1 vote NO. Proposal passed with majority vote.
 - iv. **the final draft of sign for Lode notice board** – It was proposed to agree the welcome blue sign (as shown in the 'CROWN' example) and to postpone the information sign until a final draft can be submitted. Proposed by Cllr Green. Seconded by Cllr Randall. 3 votes YES. 1 vote NO. Proposal passed with majority vote.
 - d. **To approve final version of the Risk Assessment** - The risk assessment, additional documents and management plan could not be considered or discussed at the time of the meeting due to its confidential nature. This was conveyed prior to the meeting and upon question of that advice, confirmation advice sought from the County Officer. Advice listed

HOCKWOLD-CUM-WILTON PARISH COUNCIL

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above. The clerk also read out her advice stating that it is best practice that any proposed changes to historical/current uses on common land undergo a thorough public consultation process.

- e. **To approve application to Woodland Trust for further hedging (if required)** – The initiative was discussed. It was proposed to pursue by Cllr Newman. Seconded by Cllr Green. Agreed.

338. Planning Matters

- a. **To receive results & updates of outstanding applications**
 - i. **24/00030/CU Hockwold cum Wilton Land S of 77 South Street And N of Moor Drove Hockwold cum Wilton Norfolk - Small scale horse livery business, to share land with existing smallholder sheep breeding activity. Change of use is required for the horse livery business. Application Permitted 11 July 2024 Delegated Decision**
 - ii. **24/00886/F Hockwold cum Wilton 28 College Road Hockwold cum Wilton Thetford Norfolk IP26 4LL - Extension, alterations and re-roofing of existing dwelling and extension of existing detached garage Application Permitted 8 July 2024 Delegated Decision**
 - iii. **24/00924/F Hockwold cum Wilton Faulkners 132 Main Street Hockwold cum Wilton Thetford Norfolk IP26 4NB - Construction of a new garage in association with 132 Main Street Application Permitted 9 July 2024 Delegated Decision**
- b. **To receive new planning applications relevant to the village and make comment**
 - i. **24/01195/F | Single storey extensions to existing dwelling and outbuilding, construction of detached garden store/greenhouse and new wall and access gates | The New Rectory 25 South Street Hockwold cum Wilton Thetford Norfolk IP26 4JG**
The application was discussed. No comments
 - ii. **24/00124/TREECA | T1 - Norway Spruce - Fell T2 - Yew - Fell & Replace T3 - Holly - Fell & Replace T4 - Lilac(white) - Fell & Replace T5 - Dogwood - Fell & Replace T6 - Lilac (purple) - Prune/pollard - T7 Fig -Fell & Replace T8 - Lilac (white) - Fell & Replace T9 - Plum - Thin stems & pollard T10 - Bay - Thin stems & pollard**
The application was discussed. No comments

430. Finance

- a. **To agree payment of July's invoices** Proposed to approve BOA by Cllr Sismey. Seconded by Cllr Newman. Agreed by all.
- b. **To consider additional donation for the repair of St James church clock repair fund** – The request was discussed. It was proposed to a one time donation of £500.00 to the church clock fund by Cllr Randall. Seconded by Cllr Sismey. Agreed by all present.
- c. **To discuss and approve payment for Clerk's additional hours** – Proposed to approve by Cllr Randall. Seconded by Cllr Green. Agreed by all present.
- d. **To adopt the new Financial Regulations Policy 2024** – Due to the length of the meeting this is to be put in a future agenda.

431. Items for the next agenda

- **Financial Regulations**
- **Village Hall Conveyance**
- **New Councillors**

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- LAC Items not considered or discussed

432. To confirm date and times of the next Parish Council Meeting on 10th September 2024
starting at 7.30 pm. Meetings take place in Hockwold Village Hall, Main Street IP264LW

Distribution:

One copy to each Councillor. Copies to Mr M Storey Norfolk County Councillor, & Cllr Lawrence District Councillors, Squadron Leader Geary RAF Lakenheath and one copy for the website.