

## MINUTES OF HUNSTON PARISH MEETING

19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023

- Apologies – Backs, Hillary W, Liffy R, Christine D, Merle C, Gilly M, Bob W
- There were 15 members of the Parish in attendance and Richard Winch (District Councillor)
- Approval of Minutes  
The Minutes of the AGM 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023 *were approved unanimously (Proposed Jake W Secoded Colin M)*  
The Minutes of the EGM 19<sup>th</sup> June were *approved unanimously (Proposed Colin M Secoded David C)*
- Matters arising

Cottage – Lease updated and renewed. Planning application for retrospective permission for shed now submitted with letter in support from village. Application includes electricity supply to shed and 2 quotes have been obtained for the work to be done if permission granted.

Oil tank – This has ‘failed’ for not having a base that complies with OFTEC requirements and a quote for remedial works of approx. £915, to include fire precautions, has been received. A second quote is being obtained.

Defibrillator – This is up and running and will have a box with scissors, razor etc added. A Defib location sign will go on the notice board at the church. The defib is logged on the suggested Government website and it was agreed that we would check whether a 999 call (which would be needed to get the code to the defibrillator) would also direct the caller to the location of the Defib box in the village. Depending on what information is given signs will then be placed outside the cottage and near/in the bus shelter. A Defib location sign will also be put outside the cottage and on the notice board at the church.

- Chairman’s approved spending  
After some discussion it was agreed that the chairman should have authority to spend up to £750 for ‘one off’ payments (i.e. outside regular annual expenditure) up to a total of £2.5k per annum.  
*Proposed JW Secoded AC. Approved unanimously.*

## **6 .Report from Richard Winch – new District Councillor**

See his circular (on village website) for full details but the following points should be noted.

- **Pride in Your Place funding – RW will check whether Hunston eligible for any funding to help with any ‘tidying up’ costs**
- **Rural Business fund £800K. Grants up to 50% to max of £10k. RW will send link for this**
- **Grants for biodiversity projects, tree planting etc. He commented that the council will be looking at past and future contracts with developers with a view to tightening up, where possible, rules on care of trees etc that are planted as part of development conditions as many are dying after being planted and the contracts mostly do not have any means of enforcing care of planted areas to avoid this.**
- **Cost of Living fund of £750k will be repeated this winter for those in need**
- **There had been a 30% uplift in funding for Citizens Advice.**
- **CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) payments were being used for, amongst other things, footpaths, cycleways etc and he would see whether we might be able to access funds for traffic calming measures.**
- **Planning application in Stanton for large car scrappage business together with second warehouse development. This is a West Suffolk application (Decision about 15/10/23) but has potentially significant implications for Hunston because of predicted 4.5 to 5k increase in traffic movements. Council are trying to ensure that lorries are directed down the A143 and that increased car traffic be directed that way too and not down through Walsham etc. Council is asking for a traffic liaison body to be set up. RW will keep us advised on this group.**
- **The bridge repairs on the A1088 are scheduled for next summer.**
- **Home insulation – The council will be setting up a single access point for the many grants that are available to simplify the system and make it easier for people to access the right information on potential grants for their circumstances. RW will send link once the system is in place.**
- **Buses – This is a difficult issue as usage is often low. The council is trialling a new scheme for using additional smaller buses (school minibuses etc) in the times not used for principal purpose to see if this could provide an economically viable and useable system.**

## 7. Traffic Report

- See report on website for full report. In addition the following points were raised.
- DC confirmed waiting for Stefan Henriksen (Community liaison officer) to help with final stages of setting up the system and training .
- The question of what painting should be undertaken was discussed in detail and the final decision was that  
*All the existing road markings be repainted as well as two 30mph roundels in the middle of the village (site to be agreed). The question of painting the gates at the entrance to the village to be postponed until it is seen what effect the newly painted road signs have on traffic speed etc.*  
*Proposed DoR Secoded VC – approved unanimously*
- Tube Survey – This will happen for 2 weeks during term time and after the traffic monitoring exercise. It records Number, type, time of day, speed and weight of vehicle. The data collected together with the data from the Speed Watch exercise will inform further measures needed.  
*It was proposed that £615 be approved for the cost of the tube survey. Proposed MW Secoded Dave S Approved unanimously*
- DC confirmed that not much could be done about kerbing as the advice was that this was generally for urban areas unless to solve a flooding problem e.g in directing water flow into drainage channels.
- Pot holes have been referred and should be actioned relatively soon.
- Future measures might include SIDS, but this has not been researched yet and there was some discussion about having 1 way priority notices at the entrance to the village. CM was supportive of these being put in place at the Badwell Ash end of the village. DJ raised the question of noise and pollution caused by waiting traffic and there was further general discussion with the conclusion that enquiries would be made that could then be considered at a future date.
- DoR proposed a vote of thanks to DC and the Traffic Team for their hardwork and impressive results to date.

## 8. Environment Group

MWT explained that there were a number of matters which fell generally under the heading of the village 'environment'. This includes things like trees, footpaths, dog fouling, litter picks, Parish land and verge

management. As it is often difficult to get individuals to take on responsibility e.g. as tree officer etc it is suggested that a group of people with an interest in maintaining the environment of the village have responsibility for these areas. Explained that there were different views on things like verge management and that perhaps a spring survey (poss in conjunction with Suffolk Wildlife Trust input) to establish the biodiversity of the verges etc might be a good starting point. All those interested in participating in the group and/or helping with working parties are asked to contact MWT by 15 October.

#### **AOB**

Colin Myram previously raised the question of approaching the present owners of Ash House with an offer to help with clearing the 'Long Pond' and drainage channels to help mitigate the flooding problems.

CM also said that he and DC will be straightening up the village sign.

MWT said that it might be a good idea to get a quote for the Parish Minute Book (dating back to 1894) to be conserved by rebinding and possibly having a slip cover made for added protection. The book was made available for people to look at after the meeting.

JWT congratulated Merle and Dave C on rescuing and nursing 2 of the ducklings back to health. Generally agreed that the story of the ducklings had been an uplifting event for the village (even in France!). JWT then invited anyone who felt like it to go the pub for a drink.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.20pm