## Horringer-cum-lckworth Parish Council Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2019 In Horringer Community Centre

**Present:** Cllr Crofts (Vice - Chair), Cllr White, Cllr Hammill, Cllr Fuller and Cllr Walker No members of the public were in attendance

Mrs. Michelle Thompson (Parish Clerk) took the minutes.

Cllr Crofts welcomed everyone to the meeting.

- 1. **Record Councillors' Apologies for Absence:** Apologies received and accepted from Cllr. Knight
- 2. **Declarations of Interest:** Nil
- 3. County Councillors' Report: Cllr. Soons updated the Parish Council on SCC transport changes within Suffolk County Council and reported that Horringer was in an area unaffected. The Councillors questioned Karen on the criteria surrounding SCC transport facilities for school children. The Parish Council reported that there were concerned parents due to the lack of funding available for free bus passes. Cllr. Soons understood the villager's concerns, but stressed that the problem lies with the fact that a lot of the schools are over-subscribed, so depending on where the children live and what school they end up attending is whether they obtain free bus passes. Also, it can be that they are eligible one month, but then circumstances change and they are not.

She suggested that if we could send her the emails of dissatisfied parents, she would follow this up, stating we have more sway if they see the emails.

Cllr. Crofts informed Karen Soons that enquires had been made to try and register the Parish Council under the Self-Help Scheme, but it seems that you are only able to do so, if you have a particular project in mind. Unfortunately, this was not made clear in any of the documentation received from Highways and therefore, it was decided to wait until Horringer cum Ickworth have a particular project in mind to register; Cllr. Soons agreed. Six weeks ago, Cllr. Soons arranged a meeting

Cllr. Soons agreed. Six weeks ago, Cllr. Soons arranged a meeting with Cllr. Crofts and Highways Representative, Matthew Fox about the lack of visibility due to the quality of the grass cutting at Gypsy Lane. As there have been several accidents, this has highlighted the severity of the situation and with the 30mph signs constantly being ignored, speeding is a constant problem. Unfortunately, this is still an on-going concern to the Parish Council who have asked for it to be reviewed once again, as the grass can only be cut down to a certain level due to the uneven ground; but it looks like it's had a "bad hair day". Cllr. Soons agreed and said that Mary Evans is very supportive on this subject, although Highways needs to be convinced. The Clerk is to chase this up

once again and email highways to stress the Parish's continuous concern.

Michelle Thompson

**Borough Councillors Report:** Cllr Clements did not attend and no report was provided

**Community Council Report:** The last month has been dominated by the new roof. Thanks to Bryan Stokes, we have been able to obtain grants to cover the entire cost of re-roofing the main hall and at the same time we have had this extended to the attached shed. The total cost of this was approximately £30,500.

There was a problem with vandalism to the scout hut site after a party (outside hirers) but they were very apologetic and will pay for the damage.

The 'Horringer Singers' concert proved a great success.

**Public Forum:** No members of the public in attendance.

4. **To consider the approval of the minutes of the last meetings:** Cllr. Hammill proposed the signing of the minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019 and this was seconded by Cllr. Walker. All, were approved and signed as a true record.

## 5. **Reports:**

i Play Area Report: Cllr. Hammill reported that unfortunately there had been some graffiti found on the play equipment but it looks like it might be chalk so hopefully it can be removed.

A report from the Council Health and Safety Department highlighted some loose shackles (fixed to metal spike) which could prove to be hazardous for any children. Also, the foam – black tarmac wet pool is looking a little bit tired. The edges of the Play Area are beginning to lift up and are in need of some "tender loving care" and therefore, we are thinking of replacing the play area flooring. The Clerk was asked to acquire some quotes.

Michelle Thompson

At the last Parish Meeting Cllr. Hammill reported that, after local residents complained about balls from the Play Area falling into their gardens, fencing was to be considered; the clerk was asked to obtain some quotes. Cllr Hammill went on to say that he met with one of the fencing contractors, from whom we requested a quote from and taking into consideration the purpose of the fence, they suggested a mesh, four- meter high fence leaving the bottom two metres open as it was observed

that the residents already have an existing fence that would stop balls. All were in agreeance. The Councils' concerns were, if any damage was done within the Villages Play Area it would be the responsibility of the Parish Council. CIIr Hammill It may be necessary to apply for planning permission on the fencing, as it may breach the height regulations, but would not foresee any objection; this may be costly. The Council will obtain a quote and then consult with the two residents and in the mean-time, Cllr. Walker will enquire about getting a plaque put up within the Play Area to say that the National Lottery assisted with the funding. CIIr Walker Chairman's Report: The Vice- Chair reported on behalf of The Chair Sign for the Village Fayre -Unfortunately, Cllr Walker informed the Council that the Estates Agents did not put a sign up at Meadow Drive, however, there is one displayed on The Green and decorations will be displayed on the day. Cllr. Crofts informed us on the progress of the Telephone Box. He had submitted a diagram to West Suffolk Council after the last Meeting in June and they now have until the middle of August to agree this with Historic England. To monitor the progress, it was agreed by all that if necessary, the Chairman be given authority to give Bream instructions to proceed with the work when we are allowed by WSC.

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The Clerk was asked to arrange for the Bank Statements to be Sent to herself and also to arrange to add Mr Peter Crofts as a signatory and remove a previous Councillor.

6. **Updates: -** Highways: - Sally Boyds, a resident of Hornbeam Drive has previously reported a blocked drain/ditch. It continues to be an issue, so it was agreed for the Clerk to contact the resident and ask if a photograph could be provided, so it can be passed onto the right department to get the issue resolved.

7. **To Consider Fencing for the Play Area:** This was discussed in the Play Area Update session and we are still awaiting on further quotes.

Michelle Thompson

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9.	Lease Agreement of the Land adjoining Horringer Community Centre between Lord Bristol and Horringer cum Ickworth Parish Council: This is a lease for fifteen years ending in 2031. There is an annual rent of £100 which has now been set up on a Standing Order and a payment of £300 has been made to bring the rental payments up to date  Highways Community Self Help: This was mentioned under section 3 County Council Report	Michelle Thompson
10.	To Consider Litter Picking in Horringer; Enquires had been made by the Clerk and she was waiting on some responses. A Job Description had been found dated 2010 and it is to be circulated to the Councillors for their comments and to be updated, if required. This is to be placed on the September's Agenda.	Michelle Thompson
11.	To Consider the Purchase of a Computer to assist with the Parish Council Work. It was agreed by the Parish Council that it was essential for the Clerk to have a computer to assist with the work. Three quotes from different Software Companies were obtained by the Clerk and it was agreed that the clerk should purchase a computer within a budget set by the council. An update will be given at the next Parish Meeting.	Michelle Thompson
12.	To Consider Purchase of a New Closed in Noticeboard at the Front of Community Centre: The Parish Council considered installing a replacement Noticeboard at The Community Centre. They looked into the possibility of financing it with some of the surplus money from the roofing project. The Clerk has obtained one quote and it was agreed to discuss it further when the other quotes are received hopefully by the next meeting.	Michelle
13.	To Consider Identity Badges within the Parish Council: Cllr Crofts made the Parish Council aware of how useful Identity Badges/Cards would be. He said that he had attended numerous meetings where other Parish Councils had them and he thought them to be of benefit, as it would help identify a councillor when taking to the public. It was agreed to investigate the cost of the cards displaying the Parish details; (the parish's email address).	Thompson  Michelle Thompson
14.	<b>Correspondence:</b> A letter had been sent by the Parish Council to the young resident who had expressed concern over the lack of the provision of a Post Office and a shop within the village and the effects on her family. The Council is now approaching the two Public Houses in the Village to see if they can assist in anyway.	Michelle Thompson

- 15. | Planning:
  - i Application: Nil
  - ii On–line Consultee Access: Enquires we made into how to use this service by the Parish Council
  - **Drop in Sessions** Cllr Crofts felt that these were of benefit and the workshops provided would be of benefit to the council.
- 16. Finance Report and to consider payments to be made: The Clerk confirmed receipt of rent from the Old Post Office of £200. Total Income for July £200
  - i. **McGregor Garden Services** Jun Grass Cut: A cheque no: 1906 was raised for £266.00
  - ii. **WSC Bins** Emptying Dog Bins year 2019/20. A cheque no: 1907 was raised for £307.84
  - iii. **Horringer C. Council Grant for Roof.** A cheque no:1908 was raised for £1000.00
  - iv. **S.C.C Grant for Music at Ickworth Park School**. A cheque no:1909 was raised for £750.00
  - v. No further invoices had been received.

Reserve account @ 8.1.2019 £9,533.42 Current account @ 5.6.19 £45,240.73

17. Councillors' reports and items for future agenda: It was brought to the attention of the Parish Council that the lease of Rosemary Conran expires in November 2019 at the Post Office. It was discussed whether the Parish Council would want to grant another lease and if so, what would be the process to follow. This is to be discussed further at the next meeting.

It has come to the attention of the Parish Council that a resident's hedge on The Chestnuts is hanging over a public footpath/right of way which is in frequent use. The Clerk will liaise with the owner to see if it can be trimmed back.

18. **Date of Next Meeting –** The date of the next scheduled meeting was confirmed as Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.20pm

Michelle Thompson