

Horringer-Cum-Ickworth Parish Council Meeting Minutes 17th April 2023

Public Forum – Brad Young, who produces the Horringer Podcast, attended to speak to councillors about his ideas for the Parish Council's involvement in future items on the Podcast.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies accepted from Colin Knight (CK (Chair), Michelle Thompson (Clerk).
Present: Peter Crofts (PC (Vice Chair)), Tom Lewis (TL), Ruth Walker (RW), John White (JW), Piers Fuller (PF), Fiona Holliday (FH)

Karen Soons (KS) County Councillor

2. Declarations of Interest

JW declared interest in planning application DC/23/0549/TCA.

3. Approval of minutes from meeting on 20th March 2023. PC proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by TL. All other councillors in agreement.

4. Reports

a) County Councillor Karen Soons

Report sent to the clerk in advance of the meeting.

PC mentioned the ongoing situation regarding the lack of street lighting on Hornings Park. KS said she is waiting for an email from MT on the matter which she can then forward to the relevant parties within Suffolk County Council.

PF mentioned the stretch of road between Horringer and Chedburgh/Chevington, making the suggestion of double white lines in the middle of the road, rather than just speed restrictions, if the subject of speed changes on this section is to be explored (as discussed in a previous meeting). KS will be meeting with Highways to discuss the speeding in various villages and would welcome representatives from Horringer. In addition, PF raised concerns about lack of support from Highways on various matters over the past years. PC echoed these concerns and that a new highways contract will not necessarily bring about change. KS was encouraging that the new highways contract will be more closely monitored and we should see improvement from Highways by the end of December 2023.

FH raised with KS if the cost of surfacing the new Bridle Way was this known.

AP1 – MT to email KS asking her to investigate the original agreement between the building contractor of Hornings Park and Suffolk County Council.

AP2 – MT to message KS asking for a quote for the cost of fully surfacing the new Bridle Way to Bury St Edmunds. MT to also ask KS if someone from Highways can come and review the site (provide a safety audit) on Westley Lane where residents will need to cross the road to access the new Bridle Way

b) West Suffolk Council

No report. KS informed the Council that if individuals have trouble getting their dustbins to the road for collection, they can make an application via the West Suffolk website for the rubbish collectors to assist them with this.

c) Community Council (CC) Report

No report

d) Tree Report – Janice Frost

No report

e) Play Area Monthly Report – Ruth Walker

Equipment check summaries submitted to the clerk by RW via email.

RW confirmed that work had commenced on the repairs to the playground as agreed at the previous meeting. However, 2 chains for the swings had been missed off the order and so the council agreed, proposed by PC and seconded by FH, that these could be purchased at a cost of £104 net of VAT. Once received Pro-Scape will fit the new chains and complete the work.

AP3 – RW to order extra chains

f) Chairman's Report

As seen by councilors via email on 10th April 2023.

The Chair's report covered the Annual Parish Meeting (APM). It was agreed that whoever first speaks on the Podcast could cover/advertise the APM. It was agreed only to ask the WI to assist with tea and coffee, no cake/snacks required.

AP4 – RW to speak to WI

AP5 – RW to speak to KS and Mrs Steele (Headteacher at Ickworth Park Primary School) to see if they would like to present a report at the APM.

5. To review action points of the last meeting

Action Points reviewed.

6. Updates

SIDs

TW has drafted a report covering the main findings of the SID activity from October 2022 – March 2023. Parish Council agreed this was a good constructive document and clearly highlighted the main areas of concern. PC suggested go to press highlighting the main areas of concern raised in the document.

AP5 - TW to send his report to KS and the Police and liaise with PC on Press Release.

TW confirmed the report from the Suffolk County Council ANPR trial is available online.

TW will alter the facing of the SID at the Sharps Lane site to monitor traffic coming into the village.

Transfer of bank accounts and internet banking

RW tried to get an update, no update.

AP6 - RW to speak to Lloyds again.

Footpath to The Street near the Phone Exchange

No update on this as MT is away.

Podcast

Brad to contact RW and PC ref play area and Phone Box.

Elections 4th May 2023

On behalf of the Parish Council, PC offered his thanks to JW, FH and PF for their service as Councillors, notably JW, who has served as a Councillor for 36 years. PC reminded those Councillors elected to fill in non-expenses form.

It was agreed that an advertising campaign would be required to encourage new Councillors, making use of the Podcast, Facebook and the Horringer Diary.

AP7 - RW speak to Bec Austin regarding a leaflet she produced for a previous advertising campaign. JW suggested this leaflet could also hold information on the APM to encourage villagers to attend. Councillors agreed a total spend of no more than £400 for new leaflets to be printed which will include APM details.

AP8 - RW/PC to mention on Podcast.

Lease of Old Post Office

PC recommended that it would be premature to decide a new lease for the site, given not all villagers/organisations have had chance to respond to the advert. PC suggested to meet with Lisa Hasler, who has shown interest, to discuss what her requirements would be and her ability to pay the current rent.

AP9 - PC and RW agreed to meet with Lisa in the regard.

AP10 - RW respond to artist to delay a full reply.

AP11 - RW to call Rosemarie Conran to see if she can provide information on cost of water rates, electric etc.

Overgrown hedge on Holly Close/Orchard Way

Not known if MT has sent letter to residents.

Consider signs being displayed within the village

AP12 - RW to put PC's draft about village signs onto the village Facebook site once finalised.

AP13 – As a courtesy, MT to notify Lord Bristol of the message we have put out to residents.

7. To consider surfacing the new Public Right of Way

See Section 4a and AP2.

8. Planning Applications

i. DC/23/0549/TCA

JW declared an interest. No objections.

ii. DC/23/0559/HH

No objections

iii. DC/23/0513/HH

No objections

iv. DC/230514/LB

No objections

9. Finance – to consider payments to be made

PC signed relevant cheques and JW counter signed.

10. Correspondence

Letter ref 3 Lucas Cottages.

AP14 - PC to respond in MT absence.

11. Councillor's reports and items for future agenda

A pony and rider were seen crossing the Community Centre car park on the evening of 17th April 2023. There is no Right of Way for this type of access across the car park. This item is to be added to the next agenda and JW will contact the suspected owner/rider to reiterate point regarding access.

AP15 – JW to draft suitable letter.

12. Date of next meeting:

Monday 15th May 2023 (Annual Parish Meeting), followed by Parish Council AGM.

Meeting finished at 8:59pm.