

## Haighton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024 held at Manor Vale. The meeting opened at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Cllr D Clarke, Cllr D Kennedy, Cllr S Royle and a welcome was given to the new member, Cllr A Leach.

**Apologies:** Cllr J Jones.

**Minutes of the previous meeting:** it was agreed that these were an accurate record of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023, and signed by the Chairman.

**Matters arising:**

- None

**Correspondence:**

- LCC Road closure notice:Haighton Green Lane: Haighton Top Cottages to Gregson House, 9.30am-3.30pm, 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024.
- E-mail from Debra Platt, LALC warning that the Auditors wanted all parish councils to have a '@gov.com.' address or '@com' address, rather than the 'btinternet.com' that we have. They also want the same changes to the website address. Debra Platt sent an e-mail about a firm called Easy Websites who charge £500+VAT to build a new website (negotiated if precept is less than £20k. Then there is the monthly fee of £25.30+VAT, plus £5.50 per month more if we have a .gov.uk domain name. The Clerk phoned Ms Platt and said that HPC simply did not have the resources to fund these changes. The existing e-mail and website work perfectly well so spending all that money for no practical advantages seemed stupid. When she understood the difference between HPC's finances and those of a big parish council like Grimsargh, she said to 'ride it out' and see what they say. The auditors have been e-mailing the Clerk all the audit documents etc. and have known our website address for years.
- E-mail from Sue Wilding, the Democratic Services Officer for LCC, asking whether HPC would like a free framed portrait of the King, paid for by HMG from a company called Cubiquity. It was agreed that the Clerk should order one to be displayed in the room at Manor Vale in which HPC meetings are held.
- LCC e-mail: 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day Lighting of Beacons (6<sup>th</sup> June). HPC has never participated before- probably because there is no suitable place to have one.
- 5) e-mail from Mr Uberto Colombo asking for postcards or 'cultural historical information from your territory'. No one could offer any assistance to Mr Colombo.
- The following letter was sent to PCC Councillor Whittam and Grimsargh Parish Councillor (and resident of 'The Orchard' AKA Park House Estate) Trevor Haines, following the consultation letter sent out to members in January.
  1. *The Park House Farm site was a stupid place to put a housing estate.*
  2. *The residents of 'The Orchard' were fully aware of the road safety problems when they bought their properties.*
  3. *We would accept the proposal to create a paved footpath from the Grimsargh end to Cow Hill, not just for residents of The 'Orchard' Estate, but for walkers going to and from Grimsargh/Cow Hill.*
  4. *We totally oppose the idea of a chicane which would be a nuisance to everyone who has to use this route, and especially for big lorries and farm vehicles.*
  5. *We totally oppose the idea of having street lighting along this section of Whittingham Lane. This would amount to another step towards the urbanization of our rural area.*

These points were agreed by all members along with support for point 3.

**Meetings:**

- None

**Planning**

**Applications:** None

**Approvals:**

- Application No. 06/2022/1418Proposal: 1no. replacement dwelling and garage following demolition of existing farmhouse and garage. Site Address: Simpson House Farm, Fernyhalgh Lane, Haighton, Preston PR2 5ST.
- Application No. 06/2022/1419: Proposal: Conversion of 3 no. barns to 5no.dwellings including partial demolition of barns 1 and 3. Site Address: Simpson House Farm, Fernyhalgh Lane, Haighton, Preston PR2 5ST.\*
- Application No. 06/2022/1113: Proposal: Three storey and single storey rear extension with first floor roof terrace; 2no. rear dormers; application of stone cladding and render; alterations to windows, following removal of rear conservatory and roof canopy. Site Address: Savick House, Whittingham Lane, Haighton, Preston PR2 5RP.

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- Application No. 06/2022/1118: Proposal: Outline application for the replacement of the static residential home (06/2023/0059) with 1no. dwelling seeking approval for access only (all other matters reserved). Site Address: Rogersons Farm, Cow Hill, Preston PR2 5SE.\*

*\*All expressed surprise at the decision to approve.*

**Refusals:**

None

**Appeals:**

None.

**Accounts:**

- Cheque No.364 for £169.16 paid in favour of J Jones for the Clerk's expenses.

**AOB:**

- E-mails had been received from companies supplying defibrillators for emergency use in the community. Houghton is problematic in that the rural community is dispersed over a wide area. In view of the fact that a defibrillator needs to be used within 3 minutes of someone having a cardiac event, it is difficult to conceive of a location that would offer this to the whole parish. The only location that might be suitable was Houghton Manor, but that would entail obtaining their permission and having one of their staff volunteer to be trained in the use of a defibrillator. The other problem is the cost (£645+VAT) which would stretch HPC's finances and threaten a further increase in the precept. It was agreed that the Clerk should investigate the possibility of obtaining one.
- Cllr Clarke reported that there was a row of pot holes 3-4 inches deep along the edge of the carriageway opposite Wayside Cottage on Houghton Green Lane. These posed a hazard to cyclists and forced drivers to veer onto the other side of the road, thereby risking a head-on collision. The Clerk will report this to LCC Highways for urgent attention.

**Date of next meeting:** Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

**There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.25pm.**

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*Signed by the Chairman.....*