**HOTHERSALL PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a Meeting held via Zooom during the Coronavirus Pandemic of 2020

**Date & Time of Meeting**: Wednesday 11 November 2020 at 7.00pm

**Present:** Councillors – Gale (Chair), Forrester (part meeting, Zoom connection failure), Gee, Parry, Soper, Thompson, Warren

**Apologies**: None

1. **Declarations of Interest –** None
2. **Public Participation –** None
3. **The Minutes of the Meeting** held on Wednesday 15 July 2020 were confirmed as a true record. The signing of the Minutes was held over until an appropriate occasion. (Post Min. note: Done)
4. **Matters Arising**

**Min 4.1 -** Cllr Thompson commented on the proposed change of footpath route impacting on his property, and advised that following the objections lodged to the change, no further action had been taken. A proposed meeting had not taken place. No further information available.

**Min 5 -** Planning Application 3/2020/0303 Hothersall Hall Farm**.** This application had been agreed and the work actioned.

**Min 6 –** Financial Matters. An unfortunate oversight had come to light in respect of a non-payment of the donation from the funds raised at the Parish Assembly in the financial year 2019/2020. The donation (£92) which was intended for the Bowland Pennnine Mountain Rescue Team following their talk to the Parish Assembly had not been made and the error had not been picked up during the year-end accounts figures or audit processes. Payment to be made with apology letter to be sent.  **DONE** – Very grateful letter received from BPMRT with news of the newest recruit – Billy the rescue dog. The donation will go towards his ‘dog costs’.

**Min 7.1** – Broadband. In following up previous discussions it was confirmed that Broadband was still not linked up to all Hothersall dwellings. It is now down to individual households to apply.

1. **Financial Matters**

5.1 The current financial position was reported - £2,221.31 in the current A/C. The anticipated balance by the end of the current financial year was £1669.31 – although it was **noted** that the listed expenditure was estimated.

5.2 The Council received an outline budget and was invited to consider likely contingencies. This item had to be discussed in the light of the recognition of a need for a new Parish Notice Board. However, upon receipt of an update (see Minute 5.3) the concerns about the need to ensure sufficient reserves were somewhat assuaged. It was agreed that the need for a ring-fenced reserve for the coming financial year would not have to be implemented as there would be sufficient money carried forward.

It was **resolved** to keep this on the agenda for the next financial year’s considerations and calculation of the 2022/2023 Precept.

5.3 Proposed Purchase of New Parish Council Notice Board. Councillors had been forwarded information and costs relating to the replacement of the old Notice Board and these generated a wide-ranging discussion. Ultimately, the Council gratefully received the news that Mr Walker (resident) had offered to replace the old board with a new steel Board (*gratis*). The Council looked forward to this being provided and installed in the near future.

5.4 Precept – 2021/2022. Given the two discussions of changes to the previously anticipated expenditure, it became clear to the meeting that there would not be a requirement to consider increasing the sum for the 2021/2022 Precept. The Council **resolved** that an application be made to RVBCfor the sum of £1000. (**DONE**)

1. **Planning Applications**

**3/2020/0507 –** Land South of Blackburn Road – no updated information available at time of meeting

**3/2018/1105 –** Higher College Farm –New Appeal dates had been set for an on-line meeting on 2 and 3 December 2020. Details to be sent out to Councillors for prospective attendees. **(DONE**).

1. **Matters Relating to the Parish**

7.1 Activity @ Hothersall Lodge. This item had been proposed by Cllr Forrester. Unfortunately, he had lost contact with the meeting so the item was stood down until the next meeting.

7.2 Hothersall Calendar. Various problems had beset this project for 2021. Whilst excellent photographs had been sent forward by residents, some – although beautiful – would not reproduce at a ‘printable’ quality. Also, with other issues such as the late timing, the lack of opportunity to sell the calendars effectively during the Covid restrictions (eg, the Corporation Arms being closed: whereas previous sales from there had been very high), it was reluctantly decided by the meeting to postpone the project until 2021. It was felt that a ‘launch’ in late summer/September would give sufficient time for sales well before Christmas 2021.

7.3 Flooding on Hothersall Lane. A resident had reported an area of danger caused by flooding on the Lane, where it would be necessary for cars to cross to the opposite side of the road. It was suggested that the gulley needed clearing by LCC. Proposal to take photographs for forwarding to LCC to support request was accepted.

7.4 Speed limit on Blackburn Road beyond Hothersall Lane junction. This was a recurring problem. A resident had raised the matter again, but it was reported that in addition to recent reports to LCC Highways this had been something on the Council Agenda for several years. Many attempts had been made to get the speed limit changed or the sign moved – all to no avail. With regret, it was agreed to let this matter lie.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.50pm

Confirmed as a true record: Chair……………………………………….Date:………………..

 Clerk………………………………………..Date:………………