**HOTHERSALL PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on 21 June 2021 at SS Peter & Paul’s Parish Centre, Ribchester.

(Held outside the Parish of Hothersall in designated ‘Covid-safe’ building)

**Present:** Councillors – Gale (Chair), Soper, Thompson, Warren

***Also*** – one resident/elector of Hothersall

**Apologies**: Councillors – Forrester, Gee and Parry and Councillors Clark, Rogerson and Swarbrick

1. **Declarations of Interest –** None
2. **Public Participation -** None
3. **The Minutes of the (Zoom) Meeting** held on Monday 8 March 2021 were confirmed as a true record.
4. **Matters Arising**

**MIN 4.2 –** A response had finally been received (via email) from LCC Highways addressed to Cllr Soper in respect of the long-running issue of the placement of the speed restriction signs on Preston Road. The text of which was:

*The county council advocates a consistent approach when setting local speed limits in line with national guidance. Reduced speed limits are primarily aimed at locations where there is significant adjacent development to the highway and where higher levels of interaction between road users occur. Implementing arbitrary speed limits often results in poor observance by drivers without additional support from traffic calming measures and reduced speed limits are not often effective on rural road networks, or at specific features such as junctions/ bends due to the implication that speeds will not be self-enforcing. Our road safety related budgets are finite and are primarily aimed at introducing measures at locations where there is a poor safety record and a history of road safety related problems and collisions . Our records indicate that there is a good safety record at this location and I would confirm that there are no proposals to review or implement further speed limit changes at the Hothershall Lane junction at this time. (Highlighting added)*

This response was considered and debated within the context of a map prepared by the Chair. (Copy attached to Minutes). It was not considered to be an adequate response to the matter which has been referred to the County Council for a number of years. There is evidence of problems and collisions on the road in question and these have been reported to the Council by residents.

The matter was debated at length, consideration being given to other possible solutions to enhance safety, such as the erection of a mirror opposite the junction of Hothersall Lane.

It was AGREED to continue to pursue this matter further until the resistance to ‘reviewing or implementing speed limit changes’ was overturned.

**MIN5.2** – Mabel Armitage’s 100th Birthday had been celebrated and flowers and card sent on behalf of Hothersall. Photographs will be in the Newsletter.

**MIN5.3 –** Dog Waste Bin Installation on Hothersall Lane**.**  The request for dog waste bins for the Lane had been passed to RVBC, but the response had been received that there would be no further installations at present (budget costs). Hothersall will remain on the waiting list for Dog Waste Bins.

**5 Finance**

The Annual Accounts had been audited by Colin Sharples. The related AGAR documents had all been prepared and were presented for signing by the Chair and Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer. These were to be displayed in the (new) Parish Notice Board to comply with the regulation for the exercise of public rights during July. The documents for the application of the Certificate of Exemption to be sent to the external auditor by the deadline (30 June).  **DONE**

The current account balance as at 30 April 2021 was £2769.31 – the Precept having being received on 1 April 2021

**6 Planning Applications**

 3/2021/0416 Bashall Farm, Hothersall Lane, **No Objections**

 3/2021/0506 Hothersall Hall Farm, Hothersall Lane **No Objections**

**7 Matters Relating to the Parish**

**7.1** The results of the Council Elections in May 2021 were formally reported. Cllr Rupert Swarbrick was elected for Longridge and Bowland. The hope was expressed that he would be available to attend a Parish Council meeting in the near future.

**7.2** It was noted that because of the restrictions imposed during the Covid pandemic it had not been possible to hold the usual Parish Meeting with a social gathering. It was agreed to keep this under review until such time as all restrictions were lifted (post 19 July?) and a Parish Event could be arranged. This may take the form of a BBQ or picnic so that the meeting would be outdoors. It was AGREED to keep this under review but also noted that there was a feeling that a large social gathering would not be appropriate for some time to come.

It was further noted that the current officers would continue in post until the next Annual Parish Meeting.

7.3 **Hothersall Newsletter** – this was still under preparation and would be circulated as soon as practicable

7.4 **Hothersall Calendar –** this has been scheduled for publication for 2022. A very good selection of photographs had been received, and it was agreed to call a meeting of a small group to make the selection and to action the publication. (**DONE** Meeting since held and selection made. Depending on speed of printing, Calendar should be available by end September for purchase).

7.5 **New Parish Notice Board** – this had been manufactured and donated to the Parish by Mr Brian Walker. It had been installed to replace the old board and was acknowledged by all to be a great improvement and an asset to the Lane and the Parish. The Parish Council expressed its gratitude for this generous donation and approved the presentation of a token of its gratitude to Mr Walker. (**DONE).**

8 **Date of Next Meeting**

 The Annual List of meeting previously published proposed **Monday 13 September** as next date. The Clerk made an application to move this on one day to Tuesday 14 September (to accommodate a clash with the meeting of Ribchester Parish Council). **AGREED**.

 **AMENDMENT** – The Meeting date later had to be returned to the original published date to prevent a further problem for Ribchester Parish Council.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.10pm

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

 Clerk………………………………………..Date:………………