**HOTHERSALL PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on 2022 at the Pavilion, Hothersall Lodge.

**Present:** *Councillors* – Gee (Chair), Gale, Pell, Soper, Upton, and Warren

And one Resident

**Apologies**: County Councillor Swarbrick and Borough Councillors Clark and Rogerson;

Councillor Gornall and two residents

1. **Declarations of Interest –** None
2. **Public Participation -** Congratulations were offered to the team of volunteer Himalayan Balsam clearers who had done a sterling work to clear the invasion over recent weeks. A query was raised about footpath and finger post reinstatement in the Parish. It was confirmed that Cllrs Upton and Pell were undertaking an exploratory survey of these.

It was further noted that following the recent drought, that local trees (particularly an ancient Beech) were in poor condition. It was noted that LCC can be approached if it appeared likely that any trees would cause damage if they fell.

The Council had been contacted by a resident who raised a number of issues – 1. A response to the Council’s view about traffic issues related to the proposed development at Higher College Farm. 2. To raise the problem of queueing Taxis at Hillside School. 3. To report a water leak. 4. To report the discharge of effluent from housed animals into a stream and then on into the river.

Councillors noted that the first three items had been addressed by the Council (The Taxi problem over many years).

It was agreed that a reply be sent by the Chair, outlining the efforts being made by the Council to address these issues, but also to thank the resident for alerting Council to other important matters.

1. **The Minutes of Meeting** held on 12 April 2022 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.
2. **Matters Arising**

**MIN 7.1 Replacement of Bus Shelter.** Information had been received that there was thought to be good grounds for a replacement of the Bus Shelter which had been removed. Correspondence had also been received by a resident which stated that the shelter had been serviceable. Cllr Swarbrick had followed up this matter. It transpired that it is RVBC which has the responsibility for the Shelters. **(ACTION** – keep pending)

**MIN 5 –** **Finance.** It was reported that the Exemption Certificate had been received from the national Auditor following submission of the AGAR documents.

**MIN 6 –** **Local Strategic Plan.** There had been no further response since the submission of the joint response from the four local Parish Councils to the Consultation Exercise. (**ACTION** – Clerk to follow up to request further meeting – **DONE**).

1. **Reports anPosd Updates on Events since last meeting**

*5.1 The Annual Assembly and AGM.* This had been a very well-attended and successful event. Helen Smith from the Ribble Rivers Trust was a very engaging speaker and gave the Assembly a very entertaining and informative talk on the work of the Trust.

*5.*2 *Annual Hothersall Events*. The litter pick, the Annual Walk and Lunch and the Hothersall summer Party (at the Soper’s) had all been very successful events.

*5.*3 *WhatsApp Group*. This had been successfully set up for Residents with a parallel group for the Councillors. Both appear to be working very effectively and improving communications in the Parish.

*5.*4 *Amendment to Hothersall email addresses.* This had been proposed at the last meeting, but no information received from Village Voice (to which the website belongs). It was noted that the WhatsApp groups seemed to be the most effective method available now. **Post Minute Note:** Response later received from Village Voice. Separate emails could not easily be set up through the existing system.

*5.*5 *Jubilee Commemorations*. The distribution of the seedbombs to the residents was underway. The Bench and planters had been installed near the Parish Notice Board.

1. **Financial Matters**

6.1 It was reported that the current A/C contained £2,336.13 as at 9 August (date of last statement).

6.2 It was **RESOLVED** to make the following payments:

Clerk’s honorarium to July 2022 - £360

Cllr Upton – Reimbursement of payment for leaving gift to Cllr Forrester - £27.75

1. **Committee Reports**

Cllrs Gee and Upton had attended the *Parish Councils’ Liaison Committee* Meeting which had considered the following matters:

* Local installation of CCTV
* Sarah Wells was local Liaison Officer
* RV Community Action Network – to support local people with such things as home insulation. (£100K available from RVBC for insulation schemes)
* Climate Action Network

1. **Relating to the Parish**

8.1 The previously mislaid SPIDs (speed boards) had been found by RVBC and more will be purchased. It was noted that they are only used in 30mph areas. This led to a further consideration of traffic movements and speeding. The issues were revisited and the issue of the installation of CCTV considered further. The implications of installation (including costs, management, use of data) were considered. It was proposed that Cllr Pell meet with the rural officer in Clitheroe to explore these issues further.

8.2 Neighbourhood Watch. This related item was also considered. It had been shown that where a Neighbourhood Watch system was active there was up to 76%less crime in an area. It was proposed to invite the local PCSO to a future meeting or to the Annual Assembly in 2023.

8.3 It was reported that on the previous day a truck travelling at speed on the Lane had brought down a branch which had dropped behind a passing pedestrian. It was suggested that Blezards should contact the contractors.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.00pm

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

Clerk………………………………………..Date:………………