

Helmingham Parish Council

Minutes of the Helmingham Parish Council Meeting held on Monday March 5, 2018 at Old Hall Farm, Helmingham Hall at 7.00pm.

Present: Parish Councillors Julian Bowden, Alan Mayhew, Rob Parmenter, David Styles, and Rod Caird (clerk).

1/050318: Apologies for Absence

Nick Styles and Melvyn Blowers sent their apologies and their absence was approved.

2/050318: Declarations of interest and dispensations requested

None

3/050318: Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on December 11, 2017

The minutes were approved

4/050318: Reports from County and District Councillors and public comments on matters on the agenda

No member of the public was present and Cllrs Hicks and Passmore was unable to attend. Cllr Hicks' County Council report for February 2018 was circulated to Parish Councillors and will be published on the parish website. It was reported a local resident had raised concerns about traffic speeding in the village, especially in the vicinity of the Estate yard. The Clerk agreed to approach District and County Councillors about funding for a Vehicle Activated Sign. [Since the meeting it has become clear that Henley Parish Council is interested in gathering support from neighbouring parishes for a joint Community Speedwatch scheme and this will be pursued by the Clerk for information.]

5/050318: Progress reports on outstanding issues, including broadband and supply of replacement bench

Clerk to contact Cllr Hicks about the outcome of his inquiries about a timeline for availability of high-speed connections in the village.

Clerk will contact Realise Futures about supply of a three-seater green bench, and will confirm the price and delivery arrangements. Cllr Hicks will be contacted about funding possibilities.

6/050318: Financial report including any payments currently due, and confirmation of the audit arrangements for 2017/18

A bank reconciliation was presented, showing a balance of £2,902.45 once all Section 137 grant cheques had cleared the account. It was noted that financial support to the Church should be made not under section 137 but under section 214(6) of the 1972 Local Government Act, which allows burial authorities to contribute to costs of providing a cemetery. Payments were made to Rod Caird (Clerk pay, £161.58); HMRC (PAYE, £80.80) and Ladywell Accountancy (payroll service, £48). It was noted that reserves of approx £800 would be carried forward to 2018/19.

7/050318: Urgent matters to be brought to the attention of the Parish Council

The 30mph speed limit sign just north of Old Hall Farm had been destroyed by a truck coming off the road during the recent bad weather; Clerk to report to Highways. Potholes have appeared in New Road, and also tree debris left behind by BT work; Clerk to report and pursue.

Clerk reported that Parish Councillors need to sign Consent Forms under the new Data Protection Regulations and this is in hand.

8/050318: Dates of next meetings

May 14 at 7.00pm at the Coach House, Helmingham Hall (which will be the Parish Council AGM and the Annual Parish Meeting), November 12, December 10 and March 4, 2019, all at 7.00pm at Old Hall Farm.

Cllr Bowden will contact the School for a report to the Annual Parish Meeting, and the Clerk will contact the District and County Councillors.

DRAFT