

Report of the Hessay Parish Council for the year ended 31 March 2020 and up to 18th June 2020

Meetings

Traditionally, Parish Council meetings have been held at 7.30pm on the second Wednesday of odd-numbered months. Extra Parish Council meetings have been called when there is a planning application to consider. Last year the Parish Council met on the following dates: -

2019 – 8 May, 10 July, 16 July, 18 September and 26 November.

2020 - 16 January and 27 February.

It was agreed that from September 2019 meetings would commence at 7.00pm. It was also agreed that future meetings would be held on the third Thursday of odd-numbered months.

The incidence of the coronavirus put a stop to actual Parish Council meetings as it has to the Annual Parish meeting.

The coronavirus has led to new laws being created to cover the pandemic. It is now acceptable for a Chairman to continue in office until May 2021.

Parish Councillors

Councillor Barratt was re-elected Chairman at the Parish Council meeting in May 2019.

Olivia Johnson, Mike Lord and Ann Watson served as Councillors during the year. George Ramshaw was co-opted on to the Parish Council at the July 2019 meeting.

Accounts

The unaudited accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020 are attached to this report. They show that the Parish Council spent £481.07 more than it received. The year-end balance is £8,934.32.

Planning Applications

Eight planning applications were received between 1 April 2019 and 1 June 2020. Seven have been considered during this time and the eighth is to be discussed at the meeting on 18th June 2020.

The company proposing to build an asphalt plant in the Industrial Estate did not appeal to the Secretary of State following the City Council's refusal of the planning application

Parish Council Land

Registration of Parish Land

The Parish Council is still endeavouring to register the ownership of its five parcels of land with the Land Registry. The Land Registry asked for more details and these have been sent. Our solicitor is preparing Statements of Truth for each parcel of land.

Willow Garth

Councillors Barratt carried out remedial work in Willow Garth.

Pond Area

In October, a working party removed reed mace and thinned out horn weed in the pond. Also, branches hanging over the path were cut back.

The new picnic table and bench, built by Rod Claus and donated by Councillor Watson, has been installed. It is intended to create a hard-standing base for it in the near future.

Allotments

All the allotments were let last year. All rents for the current year have been received.

Roads & Footpaths

The City Council has been asked to make good the entrance to St John the Baptist church in New Road.

Community Speed Watch

The implementation of a Community Speed Watch Group has been held up owing to the Covid-19 problem

Community Payback cleared the vegetation off the footpath and cut back the nettles in Shirbutt Lane.

Communications

Website

Arrangements are being made to have a brand-new website for the Parish Council. The final steps in its creation have been held up owing to the Covid-19 problem.

Broadband

The Parish Council is still endeavouring to have the remaining 13 houses connected to the superfast broadband network.

At the September 2019 Parish Council meeting Quickline gave a PowerPoint presentation giving details of the broadband service they could arrange if ten or more households showed interest in the service. Subsequently, details of the Quickline offer were put on the Hessay Community Facebook page. To date there has not been enough interest shown in the service so there has been no progress.

Defibrillator

A defibrillator was purchased and installed on a post outside the children's play area in Main Street. Four residents have agreed to be on a maintenance rota to ensure that the defibrillator is always ready to be used.

Post Script

Ian Hildreth of Shaw & Riley donated a replacement seat located in front of the notice board in Main Street. It was installed with the help of Huffy Construction.

James Mackman

Clerk to the Parish Council

11 June 2020