

WESTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

On behalf of westhorpeparishclerk@gmail.com

MINUTES of the Meeting held on Tuesday 10 November 2022 in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs David Barker (Chairman), Steve Caley, Steve Christian, Ian Cotgrove, Diane Gladders, Robin Lambert, Richard Brown

IN ATTENDANCE: Four members of the public, Mark Eggleton (clerk),

1. APOLOGIES and approval of absences – None received
2. DECLARATIONS of Interest and Dispensation – None received.
3. MINUTES of Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 6 September 2022 previously circulated and taken as read – unanimously approved and signed by Chairman.
4. MATTERS Arising from Council Meeting 06.09.2022 – No matters arising.
5. CLERK (NEW) – It was agreed in the last meeting that a sub committee would interview the candidate and appoint if appropriate. The sub committee appointed the candidate (Mark Eggleton) with effect from 1 October 2020. Confirmation of the sub committee's appointment was received.
6. SPEED Indicator Device (SID) update – The data will be distributed to the council. There is a concern over high readings (one over 100mph). It is unclear whether this is a genuine reading or whether the device is generating false readings on some occasions. Speeds over 50mph do not display on the screen to prevent some drivers seeing the device as a challenge. It was noted that the batteries do not last very long. Battery life will be monitored, and the cost of additional batteries will be investigated.
7. FLOODING issues in the centre of the village – One resident has encountered serious flooding that has eroded tarmac on the drive. Cllr Andy Mellen and a highways engineer have visited the site. The highways engineer's report is awaited. The highways engineer will inspect again should there be another occurrence. If there is another occurrence, the solution will be to raise the kerb.
8. COUNTY Councillor report – Cllr Mellen was unable to attend due to Covid but delivered his report which was presented by the Chairman.
9. DISTRICT Councillor report - Cllr Mellen was unable to attend due to Covid but delivered his report which was presented by the Chairman.
10. PLANNING:-
 - 10.1 DC/22/00594 Land South of Church Road, Westhorpe, IP14 4SU.
An appeal has been made against Mid Suffolk District Council's decision to refuse planning permission for new houses on this site. The Council have reiterated their objections to the proposal and their comments were logged with the Planning Inspectorate on 11th October 2022. The inspectorate's decision is outstanding, once it has been communicated it will be displayed on the village website.
 - 10.2 DC/22/04190 Church Cottage, 2 Town Yard, Church Road, Westhorpe IP144SU. Mid Suffolk District Council have granted consent for the proposed replacement windows. The council noted this decision.

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11. **INSURANCE** The Insurance was renewed with ANSVAR on 1st October 2022. The premium was £309.96 inclusive of taxes. The Chairman paid the premium and it was agreed that he would be reimbursed.
12. **CIL funding.** A discussion took place on CIL funding. Improved drainage was identified as a potential candidate for funding, but it is unclear whether there is funding available for Westhorpe. No next steps were agreed.
13. **VILLAGE Email list.** The Chairman has produced an updated village email list. There are approximately 120 people on the list which includes current residents and people that have left the village that wish to stay in touch.
14. **FINANCE Summary of Receipts and Payments**
 - 14.1 Cheque number 100444 - £11.40 for SALC Payroll Services.
 - 14.2 Due to a tight deadline the Chairman has paid the insurance premium of £309.96. It was agreed that this amount would be reimbursed.
 - 14.3 A request has been sent to Barclay's Bank to transfer the bank statements (and other correspondence) to the new clerk. Once this is complete a full reconciliation will take place.
15. **CORRESPONDENCE** An email was received advising the council that 14 beer cans had been thrown on to the verge in the village. In his next email to the village the Chairman will ask residents to be vigilant and take down the registration number if they see anyone littering.
16. **QUESTIONS TO CHAIRMAN**

It was advised that the village hall committee would not apply for the CAS warm space grant as there were no suitable volunteers to manage it and it was thought there would be a limited requirement for this service from village residents.

It was noted that contractors have cut back trees close to cables near Cllr Brown's residence but there is further work to be done in other areas of the village. The Chairman will address this matter with the contractors.
17. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** It was agreed that the number of council meetings would be reduced to four in 2023. The Chairman and the Clerk will propose a schedule.

Mark Eggleton
Clerk to Westhorpe Parish Council