

Homersfield Parish Council

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Homersfield Black Swan

Tuesday 6th September 2022 at 6.00pm

Present

Chair Angela Stokes, Councillor Ian Duffy, Councillor Lucy Hammond.

Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer (RFO): Sally Chapman

Also Present:

A. To receive Reports from the County & District Councillor

County Councillor Judy Cloke and District Councillor David Ritchie sent apologies.

B. Public Forum – for Members of the Public

None

MINUTES

1. To consider Apologies for Absence

Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Westgate.

2. To record Declarations of Interests and to consider Requests for Dispensation

None

3. To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th July 2022 and 17th August 2022

The Minutes from the Meeting held on 5th July 2022 were amended to:

7.b) carried (*not unanimously*) and the Minutes from the Meetings held on 17th August 2022 were confirmed unanimously as a true and accurate record and both sets were signed by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes above and not on the Agenda

None

5. Co-option to fill the Casual Vacancies

None

6. Finance

a) To Appoint the Internal Auditor for 2022/23

The Internal Auditor will advise before the new year if he will complete the internal audit for 2022/23.

b) To Receive the current Financial & Budget Reports and Approve the Income & Expenditure

Signed: _____ Chair

Date: _____

Homersfield Parish Council

Councillors resolved unanimously to approve the following Receipts and Expenditure.

DATE	REFERENCE	DETAILS	RECEIPTS	PAYMENT
28/07/2022	S/O	Clerk's Salary - July		184.48
28/08/2022	S/O	Clerk's Salary - August		184.48
06/09/2022	100878	EPS - Village Map Sign		60.00
06/09/2022	100879	Chair's Expenses - Reflectors & Screws		19.19
06/09/2022	100880	Zurich Insurance - LTA year 2 of 3		474.67
06/06/2022	100881	Clerk's Expenses August-September		72.50
		Total	£ -	£ 995.32

c) To Consider Opting Out of the Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments External Audit Appointment Arrangement – 5-year period

Councillors agreed to remain in the current External Audit Arrangement and not opt out.

d) Wood Survey Quotations – update

Councillors resolved to accept Ravencroft Trees quotation of £395 ex. VAT for the next 3 surveys carried out at 18 months intervals.

e) Homersfield Bridge Oak Posts Reflective Tape/Reflectors

The Chair confirmed she had purchased reflectors and fitted to the oak posts. Cllrs were concerned the oak posts have cracked and split during the summer and asked the Clerk to contact the supplier.

Action: Clerk

f) To Consider Poppy Wreath and Crosses for Armistice Day

Councillors agreed to purchase a Poppy Wreath and Crosses for Armistice Day.

Cllrs will place the poppy wreath and crosses on the village sign this year and Cllr Duffy will make a wooden trough for the wooden crosses to stand in.

7. To Consider Receiving Homersfield's Play Area Physical and Monetary Assets

a) Homersfield Community Park - Charity Number: 1193118

b) Homersfield Playing Field - Charity Number: 1066181

The Clerk advised the Trustees are still working with the Charity Commission to close and transfer the assets, but no further progress had been made.

Councillors agreed HPC wishes to make the playing field and assets part of its statutory property and not held by a charity in the future.

8. Planning Applications and Decisions

Applications

a) Planning reference: DC/22/3435/TPO | WDC TPO 331A

Trees numbered as per TPO (trees not numbered on work schedule are not covered by TPO & do not require consent) T11 Horse Chestnut - Reduce & shape by up to 30% (height: 70ft width: 40ft finish height: 47-50ft width: 27-30ft approx.) Reason: Limbs falling risk to nearby properties tree has not been maintained in some time, wires present reduce risk of fouling. T12 Horse Chestnut - Reduce & shape by up to 30% (height: 70ft width: 30ft finish height: 47-50ft width: 20ft approx.) Reason: Limbs falling risk to nearby properties tree has not been maintained in some time. T T13 Horse Chestnut - Reduce & shape by up to 30% (height: 70ft width: 25ft finish height: 47-50ft width: 17-18ft approx.) Reason: Tree has not been maintained in some time, base rot evident works to encourage potential for regrowth. T14 & T15 2 x Acacia - Reduce & shape by up to 30% (height: 50ft finish height: 35-40ft width: 17-18ft width: 25ft)

Signed: _____ Chair

Date: _____

Homersfield Parish Council

Reason: Trees have not been maintained in some time, wires present reduce risk of fouling.

Heath Farmhouse Flixton Road Homersfield Harleston Suffolk IP20 0EX

Councillors unanimously SUPPORTED this application.

Cllrs noted the following:

b) Planning reference: DC/22/3007/LBC

Listed Building Consent - The erection of two ground floor extensions to a listed building Wortwell Mill Low Road Homersfield Harleston Suffolk IP20 0HJ

Validated: Thu 28 Jul 2022 | Status: Awaiting decision

At HPC's 17th August 2022 meeting Councillors resolved NO COMMENT.

c) Planning reference: DC/22/2522/FUL

Proposal: Construction of two ground floor extensions

Site address: Wortwell Mill, Low Road, Homersfield, Harleston, Suffolk, IP20 0HJ

Validated: Thu 28 Jul 2022 | Status: Awaiting decision

At HPC's 17th August 2022 meeting Councillors agreed NEUTRAL and added comments to this planning application.

Decisions

d) Planning reference: DC/22/2722/TCA

Proposal: Front Garden 1 x Cherry, reduce canopy to localised point approx. 2.5m from ground level to a pollard. Reason: telephone wires growing through crown & complaints.

Address: 15 Glebe Cottages, Church Lane, Homersfield. Status: No Objections

e) Dove Barn Flixton Road Homersfield Harleston Suffolk IP20 0EX

Proposal: Change of Use of paddock land to provide holiday accommodation consisting two shepherds huts, one glamping pod, associated storage building, car parking and all associated works.

Ref. DC/22/0121/FUL | Application Received Wed 12 Jan 2022 | Status: Permitted

9. Homersfield Phonebox

a) Guardian

A guardian of Homersfield's phonebox has not been found and Cllrs agreed to maintain the phonebox themselves. The new village map is now on display on the back of the phonebox.

10. Homersfield Church Wood

a) Wood – update

The Tree Warden sent a report:

Church Wood is looking very dry and crispy. About 90% of the trees, we planted last winter appear to be dead but it is probably best to wait until next spring to see if any recover. The steps up the steep slope need a bit of work - we can tackle this at the September work party. We need rain soon!

b) Wood Working Parties

- **Saturday 24th September 2022 & 8th October 10.00am-Noon**

Parishioners are welcome to come and help – meet by the bench in the wood.

c) SCC - Removal of Vegetation Overhanging the Highway Notice

HPC has received a notice from SCC to remove some of the vegetation overhanging the Highway from Church Wood. A meeting has been arranged with a tree surgeon on 10th September 2022.

Signed: _____

Chair

Date: _____

Homersfield Parish Council

d) Autumn Tree & Bulb Planting

Cllrs discussed bulb planting and agreed to ask the tree warden for suggestions.

Action: Clerk

11. Village Maintenance

a) Village Litter Pick

– Saturday 15th October 2022 at 10.00am-noon

Parishioners are welcome to come and help

b) Ride on Lawnmower – no update

c) Nature Reserve White Posts – update

The Chair has spoken with SCC Environmental Officer again and have been advised the posts will be replaced.

12. Correspondence

a) Clerks & Council Direct Magazine

13. AOB (*For discussion only – the Council cannot make decisions on these items unless stated on the agenda*)

a) Village Communication – c/f

14. To Receive items for the next Agenda

None

15. To Confirm the Future Meeting Dates:

- Tuesday 15th November 2022 at 6.00pm

The meeting ended at 8.22pm

Signed: _____ Chair

Date: _____