**Minutes of the meeting of HEATHER PARISH COUNCIL held on**

**Tuesday 13 December 2022 at 7pm at the David Taylor Memorial Hall**

Members present: Chairman: Councillor J Clarke

Councillors Fell, Harris, Pettitt, Petty and Wright.

In attendance: County Councillor D Harrison

District Councillor V Richichi

Jan Shepherd, Parish Clerk

There were no apologies for absence

There were no declarations of interest.

**106. MINUTES**

The minutes had been circulated in advance of the meeting and were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting. All were in favour.

# 107. MATTERS ARISING

E mail from Susan Dance – comments in response to our email are filed with the minutes.

Letter to County Council and response to it are both filed with the minutes. We await seeing what happens next with our Members Traffic Monitors.

# 108. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

There were no members of the public in attendance at this meeting.

**109. COMMUNITY POLICING**

Our Beat Officer has sent a report for the council which was distributed and is attached to the minutes.

**110. DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS COMMENTS**

Councillor Harrison gave the following report:

* Funding is a real headache as was reported to the councillors at their last meeting.
* Discussed new ways of working – lots of staff working from home. How do the CC measure the response rate and work rate?
* A special phone number was set up last week for County Councillors. They requested that the same could be done for District and Parish Councils to make contact both more efficient and more effective.
* Some of the Managers at the County Council are now starting to work back in the office for four days a week.
* He asked that the clerk email him the letter received from the County in response to the letter we sent to them.

Councillor Richichi gave the following report::

* He has had complaints that the refuse lorry is unable to get down the road on Ravenstone Road to collect bins from round the corner and so they haven’t been collected. He thinks the issue has now been resolved.
* He asked who “owned” the grass island on Ravenstone Road. The clerk will investigate and let him know.
* It is thought that there is a bungalow on Newton Road which is contravening Planning Regulations. He is investigating the matter and will keep the council informed.

**111. REPORT FROM ALLOTMENT HOLDERS CO-ORDINATOR**

There was no report from Mr Paul Taylor at this meeting.

The clerk has been in contact with Mrs Draper and a seat is to be provided by her at the allotments. Councillors were asked to give some thought to where it will be placed. It is not a good time of year to put a seat out at the moment but suggestion that it can be done for the Spring.

**112. REPORT FROM THE VILLAGE TREE WARDEN**

There was no report from the Village Tree Warden at this meeting.

# 113. VILLAGE ISSUES

* Play area inspections carried out on 11th, 18th and 28th November and 6th and 13th December 2023.
* Action from Play Area Inspection reports which were highlighted by councillors and are to be done as soon as possible – the rope at Belcher Close and the slat at Mill Lane.
* Update from Cllr Harrison relating to the Speed Activated Signs from the members Fund at LCC – this was covered earlier in the agenda.
* To review Standing Orders – these had been sent to Councillors in advance of the meeting and there were no amendments to make. They were approved for a further year.
* To review Financial regulations – these need to be amended to enable the account to be operated online which is something that the clerk feels needs to be done due to the number of bank branches that are now closing. She will put the words together for the next meeting for approval in relation to the section about signing on the account.

**114. VILLAGE HALL**

* Progress on Land Registry – update on progress. Everything submitted by NWLDC.
* On-line diary – look at Parish web site calendar. A number of new groups are now using the hall with more to follow at the beginning of the New Year.

# 115. ACCOUNTS

To approve the following payments for November at December meeting

488.52 clerk’s salary

27.15 clerk’s expenses

35.00 ICO direct debit (Data protection)

85.00 HPCC AS A Parish Contribution for the Village Clock servicing

Council income for November is as follows:

Nil

Village Hall expenses for November 2022

123.27 Eon for Village Hall

27.97 British Gas for Village Hall

151.60 Cleaning for hall as per invoices

Village Hall Income for November 2022

385.00 rent for classes and activities paid in this month.

380.00 chqs paid in on 6/12/2022 not yet showing on statement

All invoices sent up to date for end of November 2022

The Bank statement for Heather Parish Council for November 2022 was received.

The Bank statement for Heather Recreation Ground for November 2022 was received.

The bank reconciliation for HRG for the end of year 31 March 2022 had been distributed to councillors in advance of the meeting and they were approved and accepted.

The final accounts for HRG for the year end 31 March 2022 had also been distributed in advance of the meeting. They were received, approved and accepted

The councillors were notified that the Annual return for Mill Lane Charity and Heather Recreation Ground have been submitted.

The clerk has received a request for a contribution for the servicing of the clock on the Church – 50% of invoice. Since this is the clock that is used by everyone in the village, this was approved and the sum of £85 will be forwarded to the treasurer.

Annual subscription for SLCC membership has been requested. This was approved.

**116. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

## Decisions this month and decision awaited

19/01441/OUT Land rear of 55 Mill Lane erection of two detached dwellings

Heather

Applications

22/01547/FUL Adjacent 2 Station Terrace one dwelling and vehicular access

**117. CHAIRPERSON’S COMMENTS**

The Chairman had produced a written report with his comments, and it is attached to the minutes. He also reminded the councillors that he had a paper copy of the Local Plan.

In relation to the email received about the speed limit to be applied on Swepstone Road, he asked if County Highways had any sort of plan to enforce it as speed limits on that stretch of road are generally ignored by the majority of drivers.

Councillor Fell said that there is still no black bin at the cemetery. The clerk had received an email saying that the request had been forwarded. He also asked if there had been a funeral at the cemetery that the Church knew nothing about. The clerk responded that, if there had, she knew nothing about it either. She would go and check when possible.

Councillor Petty commented that there had been seven cars parked on the road outside school for the whole school day. He also reported that the number of potholes locally was increasing and they were getting bigger. He was advised to go onto the County website and go to “report my potholes” where everyone could be reported when noticed. All items on that website are checked regularly.

Councillor Wright had been approached by the owner of a property at the Rookery to ask if the tree could be trimmed down that was encroaching on his property. The clerk will check it out.

**118. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL**

District Council:- nothing to date

County Council: - nothing to date

Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council: Nothing to date

# 119. CORRESPONDENCE AND CIRCULARS

Nothing received

**Next meeting**

To confirm the dates below:

Future meetings:

10th January 2023; 14th February 2023; 14th March 2023. All meetings will be held at the David Taylor Memorial Hall at 7pm.

Web site address -www.heatherparishcouncil.org.uk