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

**Tuesday 11 October 2022 at 7pm at the David Taylor Memorial Hall**

Members present: Chairman, Councillor J Clarke

Councillors Fell, Harris, Pettitt, Petty and Wright

In attendance: Cllr V Richichi, District Councillor

Cllr D Harrison, County Councillor

Mrs Marina Brooks, Scarecrow Festival Committee

Mrs Holly Johnson, Scarecrow Festival Committee

Mrs Jan Shepherd, Parish Clerk

There were no apologies for absence

Declaration of Interest: Cllr Wright declared an interest in a planning application and left the meeting whilst it was discussed.

**78. Minutes of the last meeting**

It was noted that the meeting due to be held in September had been cancelled and the minutes being approved were the August 2022 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.

# Matters arising

# A noise complaint from a number of residents had been received about the Crown Public House. The council were aware that there had been some considerable concern about the event taking place immediately after the death of H.M. Queen Elizabeth. However, in view of the nature of the event (for Rainbows Hospice), the Parish Clerk had visited the landlady, who was also concerned about the event happening when it did. The work that had been involved and the charity that would benefit was the over-arching concern and therefore, the landlady had decided to go ahead. She did, however, indicate that the event would finish slightly earlier, and there would be a minutes silence at the beginning. A number of emails have been passed between the Parish Council, the landlady and the District Council and it is expected that there will be no further problems this year.

# Public questions and answers

# Representatives of the Scarecrow Festival Committee were in attendance at the meeting. They informed us that they had retained a considerable sum to enable an outdoor table tennis table to be purchased for the Recreation Ground. This had been discussed prior to lockdown. The clerk is to investigate further the cost of such equipment now we are in a position to do things again and the council will consider where they consider the best place to site the equipment if we are able to go ahead with it.

# They also informed us that they would retain £1800 for hanging baskets. The clerk will try to obtain a quote for these by the next meeting. We agreed to let the Scarecrow Committee know if we would be having the hanging baskets again this year by Christmas.

The winners and runners up would be announced on 3rd November

The committee thanked the council for their help with the rubbish bins for the festival and also for the cleaning of the hall so that it could be used by so many groups during the week.

A letter had been given to a councillor relating to the Arriva Bus number 15. The resident had written to the company, copied in Cllr Tony Gillard. The Parish Council will ask the District Council if they can do anything to assist with this matter. The letter is filed with the minutes.

1. **Community Policing**

The local Beat Officer has sent his apologies for the meeting and has submitted a report foe the council which is attached to these minutes.

1. **District and County Councillors Comments**

Councillor Richichi informed the meeting that he had held a meeting with planners at the District Council and they are looking for limited development in the village over the next few years, possibly 30 – 50 houses. A few sites are being considered. There is also a requirement in the area as a whole for a 2 acre site for traveller families, similar to the one in Ravenstone.

Councillor Harrison informed us that there is a major shift to home working for all at County Hall. Councillors all emphasised how difficult it is to get hold of anyone from the County by telephone.

He further informed us that he had sent an email relating to the members fund request to ensure that they now were looking at the correct position for the signs, which they originally said we had asked for on Ashby Road, Coalville. He confirmed that they had.

It was stated that the clerk should write a letter to the County Council listing all of the issues that we have with them, including the need to have gully suckers around more often in the coming months to ensure the leaves are cleared from the roadsides, improving communications between councillors, officers and other staff at County Hall. It was even muted that we should ask for a vote of no confidence in the County Council.

The letter is to be written and circulated to councillors before sending to the CEO of the County Council and the leader of the County Council.

Councillors Harrison and Richichi left the meeting at that point.

1. **Report from allotment holder coordinator**

No report from Mr Paul Taylor was given at this meeting.

The clerk had received a request for a shed on Plot number 2a. This is a plot that was taken over recently and has improved out of all recognition. The size being within the limits set in the regulations, the councillors agreed to the request. The clerk will inform the plot holder.

A further request has been made by a resident to place a seat at the allotments in memory of Lee, her husband who used to have a plot there. The request had been made via Jenny Minkley. The clerk was asked to ensure that it was in the correct village. Following on from that, the councillors agreed that it would be acceptable and suggested about half way down from the gate to the top on the left hand side.

1. **Report from the Village Tree Warden**

There was no report from the Village Tree Warden

# Village Issues

* Play area inspections were carried out on 15th, 22nd, 29th August; 5th, 12th, 20th, 26th September; 3rd, 10th October.
* Action from Play Area Inspection reports – the bin liner for the bin on Belcher Close has been delivered and brought to the meeting. Councillors Fell and Harris will remove the old and fit the new on Friday 14 October.
* Update from Cllr Harrison relating to the Speed Activated Signs from the members Fund at LCC. Clerk has sent a map of where we would like the signs to be located to County Highways. This was covered in the County Councillors report.
* Update from councillors on the resolution for the soil heap at the cemetery – this has been checked and it was agreed that a working party would remove the soil and put it under the hedges where it will rot down and not be an eyesore at the side of the Garden of Remembrance. The clerk is to write to all Undertakers requesting that the grave diggers place excess soil under the hedges also.
* There is a request for a survey for LCC to be completed for the Parish. The clerk will download, complete and send to councillors to ensure that they are happy with the answers given before sending it to the County Council.
* The councillors have all seen a copy of the new Charter, checked and approved. They commented that it is a really good document and they all were pleased to have the information pages at the back of it.
* The Code of Conduct has been amended to read as agreed at the last meeting. It has now been received by the council.

1. **Village Hall**

* Progress on Land Registry – update on progress. Everything submitted by NWLDC.
* On-line diary – look at Parish web site calendar

# Accounts

The following payments for September were approved:

569.94 clerk’s salary

87.14 clerk’s expenses

287.50 CJ Springthorpe hanging baskets

Council income for September is as follows:

250.00 Burial

135.00 Sence Valley Ladies to purchase something for Village Hall

7000.00 Precept

Village Hall expenses for September 2022

87.26 Eon for Village Hall

16.35 British Gas for Village Hall

253.88 Cleaning for hall as per invoices

24.00 Expenses for keys cut as per invoice

Village Hall Income for September 2022

433.00 rent for classes and activities paid in this month.

All invoices sent up to date for end of September 2022 except two

The Bank statement for Heather Parish Council for August 2022 was received

The Bank statement for Heather Recreation Ground for August 2022 was received

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1. **Planning Applications**

## Decisions this month and decision awaited

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

Heather

22/01074/OUT 2 Newton Road erection of 2 dwellings with vehicular

Heather access & layout – resubmit 19/00104/OUT

Approved 27th August

Applications

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

Councillor Wright left the meeting at this point during the discussion of the above planning application.

Following comments from all councillors, the Chair took a vote and it was a majority in favour of supporting the application. No views had changed since the previous application. The clerk will submit this comment.

Councillor Wright was recalled to the meeting.

**89. Chairman’s Comments**

Councillor Clarke congratulated everyone involved on how well and sensitive the Book of Condolence had been presented and managed.

Councillor Pettitt requested that the four table-top display board given to the Historical Society be stored in the store room of the hall. He indicated that they could be made available for the Church or other organisations to use with permission. This was agreed.

Councillor Petty said there were a large number of potholes that need reporting down Mill Lane. It was suggested that it be reported through the County Highways website.

Councillor Fell asked if we could arrange for a bin to be placed at the cemetery as a matter of urgency.

**90. District and County Council**

District Council:- nothing to date

County Council: - nothing to date

Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council: Nothing to date

# 91. Correspondence and Circulars

# The Clerk magazine

Clerks and Councils direct

Lloyds Bank Changes information letters

**Next meeting**

To confirm the dates below:

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 8 November 2022 at the David Taylor Memorial Hall at 7pm – see web site for details

Future meetings:

13th December; 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