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

**Tuesday 14 June 2022 at 7pm at the David Taylor Memorial Hall**

Members present**:** Chairman, Councillor J Clarke

Councillors Fell, Harris, Pettitt, Petty and Wright

In attendance: Gary Johnson, resident

Mrs Jan Shepherd, Parish Clerk

There were no apologies for absence.

Declaration of Interest: as on the Register of Interests

1. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 10 May 2022 were accepted, proposed by Cllr Pettitt, 2nd by Cllr Harris with all in favour.

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 10 May 2022 were accepted, proposed by Cllr Pettitt, 2nd by Cllr Harris with all in favour.

# MATTERS ARISING

No matters arising

# PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

Gary Johnson, a resident and Police Officer, attended the meeting to ask if we could do anything about the speeding problem within the village. He asked if the speed sign on Swepstone Road could be moved further away from the village as he said there was no way that traffic could slow to 30mph by the time they reached the point where children and adults cross to reach the Village Hall and Play Area and it presented a danger to anyone crossing.

He was informed that the original plans (with 199 houses) had included a traffic island at that point and a lower speed limit further away from the village but when the plans were appealed and the numbers lowered, the amended plans did not include an island. We have asked a number of times for the speed sign to be moved but have always been told that there have been no serious accidents there and so it is not high priority in the scheme of things.

He had been told that a speed table was to be put in place there but that has not happened either. He has regularly seen cars using the bollards where people cross the road as a good place to overtake other cars. The councillors know that is correct because all of them have been overtaken there in the past.

He was further informed that Cllr Clarke has booked a Community SpeedWatch for as soon as possible. He has volunteered to assist when this happens and gave the clerk his phone number so that he can be contacted with the date.

1. **COMMUNITY POLICING**

The councillors were informed that a message has been received from PCSO Edwards confirming his intention to attend the meeting in July.

1. **DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS COMMENTS**

There was no input from our District or County Councillors at this meeting.

Councillor Clarke did request that he would be given help when he was notified of the proposed dates for the SpeedWatch. It needs to be done in team of three.

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

There was no report from Mr Paul Taylor at this meeting. The clerk thanked him in his absence for the number of times he has responded to requests to show people various plots. All plots now taken.

In respect of the beehive request at the allotments, most plot holders had no problem with it. However, our regulations say no livestock and we are unsure what bees would be classed as other than livestock. Also due to insurance concerns, the councillors asked the clerk to notify the plot holder that it is not acceptable to have a beehive at the allotments.

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

There was no report from the Village Tree Warden

# VILLAGE ISSUES

* Play Area Inspections carried out 17th, 24th and 31st May and 7th and 14th June 2022.
* Action from Play Area Inspection reports – the councillors had studied the reports and we went through each one.

Mill Lane – it was noted that the fence was mentioned. However, most of our councillors have been on training for the safety inspections on playgrounds and they were told that fences often are mentioned in reports but there is no need for them to be included if they are a certain distance from the area where the children play. They were agreed that our fence should not come under the actions for the play area. The swings at Mill Lane are in process of being replaced and the clerk was asked to order a new slat for the tower and the councillors will be able to replace that.

Belcher Close – it was noted that the wire needs replacing on the climbing wall. This had already been checked and we have received a quote for it.

Swepstone Road – there were no problems reported at Swepstone Road Play Area.

* FS-Case-419479890. Reference for Crouch Truck complaint – response. The clerk had received a response from the Police and the company relating to this item. The Police have gone through routes with the company and indicated that a better route to the Caetano Depot should be used in future. There appeared to be no indication from the company that they considered any other route better despite the fact that they had travelled from Stockton On Tees to Heather and still seen fit to approach Caetano via Ravenstone rather than sticking to the A511 and then travelling along the A447 to Station Road.
* Speed signs from the Members Fund LCC – the clerk had contacted Cllr Harrison about this and has not yet received any response. She was asked to continue to pursue this matter as some councils are now in receipt of their second set of actions.
* Community Speed Watch update from Cllr Clarke – this has been covered earlier in the agenda.
* We had received a request from Lisa Jones of the Woodland Trust about using the car park at the hall for an event taking place in the Diamond Jubilee Wood on 6th October. The councillors were concerned about the long walk back to the wood from the hall and the danger of walking along such narrow lanes to get from one place to the other. The clerk is to contact them and ask if they have considered this. The councillors also suggested that it may be a better idea for them to contact Cattows to see if they could use the field that is used for parking at the Ashby Show which is much nearer.

1. **VILLAGE HALL**

* Progress on Land Registry – update on progress. Everything submitted by NWLDC.
* FaceBook Page – Katherine Wright has revamped the FaceBook page and added pictures of the hall along with other items. Katherine continues to add items as requested when we have information that needs to be posted. Thank you, Katherine.
* On-line diary – look at Parish web site calendar – all is up to date.

# ACCOUNTS

To approve the following payments for May at June meeting

434.24 clerk’s salary

27.15 clerk’s expenses

64.99 clerk’s expenses for new printer

264.60 ROSPA Play Safety for playground inspections

WaterPlus refund this month to rectify estimated readings

Council income for May is as follows:

185.00 Burial

208.00 Allotment fees

Village Hall expenses for May 2022

78.09 Eon for Village Hall

34.45 British Gas for Village Hall

122.84 Cleaning of Village Hall

60.00 Gas boiler service at Village Hall

Village Hall Income for May 2022

219.00 rent for classes and activities paid in this month.

All invoices sent up to date for end of May

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

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

1. **ANNUAL AUDIT NOTICE OF PUBLIC RIGHTS AND PUBLICATION**

To be posted on website and notice boards after meeting

All documents for the audit have now been placed on the website

1. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Applications

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

Heather

(Further amendment received 10/12/2021)

22/00318/FUL 9 Holyoake Drive Dem of garage, Erect 2 storey side extn.

Heather new front porch + ass extn alterations

/00756/REM 2 Newton Road Erection of three dwellings with vehicle

Heather access + off street parking

## Decisions this month and decision awaited

21/01315/LBC Heather Hall Approved 19/05/2022

21/01314/FUL Heather Hall Approved 19/05.2022

**45. CHAIRPERSON’S COMMENTS**

The following items were brought to the attention of all the councillors:

* It was reported that Grab Hire trucks appear to continue to ignore the restriction signs and use the village as a short cut. We are aware that this is acceptable if the truck is delivering to Heather. However, a councillor had followed a truck from where the sign is sited all the way through the village and there has been no stop or delivery. The clerk is, therefore, asked to contact the company yet again.
* It was noted that 7 cars were parked outside the school for the whole of the school day. The clerk is to contact to ask if there is not some suitable place for cars (which we would assume are staff cars) to park inside the premises of the school
* Speeding on Mill Lane continues to be a source of serious concern.
* The road sweeper has been into the village but there still appear to be a lot of weeds on the edge of the roads. Cllr Clarke is to ask Cllr Richichi if he could follow this matter up for us.
* There is a lot of foliage around the tree along Mill Lane outside the recreation ground. There was concern expressed that it may be necessary to walk on the road to get round it. The clerk will arrange for it to be chopped back.
* It was noted that there are rumours that the fishing ponds used by Ibstock Angling is being closed down and filled in during May and the one used for course fishing by December. We were informed that the rumour indicated that they were to be used for the excess material dug out to accommodate HS2 works. This is to be confirmed and followed up as it could mean an increase in traffic into and out of the village.

**46. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL**

District Council:- nothing to date

County Council: - nothing to date

Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council: Nothing to date

# 47. CORRESPONDENCE AND CIRCULARS

The Clerk Magazine

**Next meeting**

To confirm the dates below:

12 July 2022. The next meeting will be held at the David Taylor Memorial Hall at 7pm – see web site for details

Future meetings:

9th August; 13th September; 11th October; 8th November; 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