**Minutes of the meeting of HEATHER PARISH COUNCIL held on Tuesday 14 March at 7pm at the David Taylor Memorial Hall**

Members present: Chairman: Councillor John Clarke

Councillors P Fell, P Harris, S Pettitt, J Petty, A Wright

In attendance Mr P Taylor, allotment coordinator

Mrs J Shepherd, Parish Clerk

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr V Richichi

There were no declarations of interest.

**146. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 14 February 2023 had been distributed to the councillors in advance of the meeting. They were proposed as a true and accurate record by Cllr Pettitt, seconded by Cllr Wright and all were in favour.

**147. MATTERS ARISING**

Cllr Petty informed the meeting that nothing had been done about the bees that are kept in the field by his house and his family are constantly being stung by them. It was agreed that the clerk would contact the District Council, as would Cllr Clarke, and see if anything could be done.

# 148. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

There were no members of the public in attendance.

**149. COMMUNITY POLICING**

We have received a report from PCSO6667

We have also received speeding figures from Police HQ which were forwarded to councillors by email when received.

**150. DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS COMMENTS**

There were no local councillors in attendance at this meeting.

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

Mr Taylor reported that he had met with the new holder of plot 4a and they were happy to take the plot. They said they would contact the clerk which they have done already.

It was reported that the councillors think that there is a leak just below the Water Meter and water is running down Mill Lane. They think it may have happened when Western Power was working there last week. The clerk will contact them and make them aware.

A further allotment is now officially being given up this month – the clerk will contact the next person on the list. She will also contact the holder of another plot which needs work doing on it.

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

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

# 153. VILLAGE ISSUES

* Play area inspections carried out on 20th; 27th February and 6th, 13th March 2023
* Action from Play Area Inspection reports – no issues but two planks were nailed back onto the fence at Mill Lane.
* Heather and Ibstock Community Speedwatch figures, email 24 February 2023. It was agreed that Cllr Clarke would contact the Crime Commissioner relating to these figures. He is also in the process of arranging a SpeedWatch for the village but has to guarantee 12 people to take part in the process before it can be set up.
* To update the council on cemetery meeting with Planning department – the clerk has had an initial meeting with the planning department relating to extending the cemetery. A further meeting has been arranged on site with Ian Nelson of the Planning department. Cllrs Wright and Pettitt agreed to attend with the clerk on 30th March to look at the possibilities.
* Details on Code of Conduct Training – this training is available via LRALC and is compulsory for all councillors. All authority Codes have been brought into line so that the County, District and Parish are all operating under the same code.
* Preparation for election for Parish Councillors in May – the clerk has arranged to collect the new forms for prospective candidates for the Parish election along with the notices of Parish and District election. The notices are to be placed on the Notice Boards on 20th March and applications can be collected from the clerk also from that date. They are to be submitted to the District Council in person by applicant by 4pm on 4th April 2023. No papers will be accepted after that time and date.

**154. VILLAGE HALL**

* Progress on Land Registry – update on progress. Everything submitted by NWLDC.
* On-line diary – look at Parish web site calendar. There seem to be people requesting use of the hall for regular activities and we are now operating at least one group every weekday, with two on a Tuesday and three on a Wednesday. A meeting of the Management Committee has been arranged for 28th March 2023 at 7pm. The members of the committee have been informed and the agenda will be circulated before the meeting.

# 155. ACCOUNTS

The following payments for February were approved at this meeting

434.24 clerk’s salary

27.15 clerk’s expenses

220.00 LRALC internal audit fee

33.21 WaterPlus Ltd, Mill Lane

560.00 SDI Garden Services – as per invoice

Council income for February

205.00 Burial

Village Hall expenses for February 2023

94.58 Eon for Village Hall

94.42 British Gas for Village Hall

248.93 Cleaning for hall as per invoices

67.54 WaterPlus Ltd

Village Hall Income for February 2023

692.00 rent for classes and activities paid in this month.

All invoices have been sent up to date for end of February 2023

The Bank statement for Heather Parish Council for February 2023 were received.

The Bank statement for Heather Recreation Ground for February 2023 were received

The direct debit forms for WaterPlus Ltd for Mill Lane and David Taylor Memorial Hall were completed and signed by two councillors and the clerk. These will be sent to WaterPlus for processing.

The clerk notified the council of receipt of Pensions regulator re-enrolment reminder. This will be done before the May deadline for our council.

**156. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

## Decisions this month and decision awaited

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

Heather

22/01918/FUL 11 Newton Road single storey side and rear extn.

Heather refused

Applications

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

23/00131/FUL 8 Mill Lane, Heather single storey rear extn + loft conv +

Rear dormer + garage conv +replace porch

**157. CHAIRPERSON’S COMMENTS**

The following items were brought to the attention of the council:

Councillor Pettitt reminded the councillors that Rainbows were planting their tree on 18th March at 2.30 and the Craft Group were planting their tree on 25th March 2023. Both are part of the Queens Green Canopy event.

Councillor Petty informed the council that he had asked for the Forestry Commission to come out and check trees at Blacketts Wood and hedges that have been removed. He is also concerned that Waterloo Cottage extension is not compliant with the planning approval.

Councillor Fell has asked that a notice is put up at the cemetery asking people to take dead flowers home, including those laid following a funeral. They are being put into the green bin but that is not part of the District Council’s collection. It is suggested that we remove the bin altogether rather than leave it there as it will be used if it is there.

Councillor Clarke reported that there is a dog barking on Mill Lane every night around 11pm and really causing a nuisance. He will try and find whose it is and speak with them about it. He also reported that he considered things were improving at the doctor’s surgery in Ibstock following an experience of a telephone call, ring back, appointment and x-ray at Loughborough hospital all within the space of a matter of hours. Two other councillors responded with similar experiences recently.

**158. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL**

District Council:- Code of Conduct training – see above

County Council: - nothing to date

Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council: Nothing to date

# 159. CORRESPONDENCE AND CIRCULARS

SLCC Conference

Clerks and Councils Direct

Western Power Safety notice

SLCC Magazine

**Next meeting**

To confirm the dates below:

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 11 April 2023 at the David Taylor Memorial Hall at 7pm – see web site for details

Future meetings:

11th April, 16th May 2023. All meetings will be held at the David Taylor Memorial Hall at 7pm.

The clerk highlighted the fact that we had arranged a meeting for 9th May which would be our normal date for the Annual Parish Meeting. She asked that the council consider making this the 16th May instead as the elections are only taking place on 4th May, the count for parishes is not being done overnight but on Friday 5th May. This does not give much time to organise Acceptance of Office and other essential documents by 9th May. The council agreed that change of date. Therefore, the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 16 May 2023.

Web site address -www.heatherparishcouncil.org.uk