

# **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting**

## **held at Hoton Village Hall on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 8pm**

**In attendance:** Cllr Cassell (Chairman, Hoton Parish Council), Cllr Isbister, Cllr Seymour, Cllr Eady, Cllr Landucci, Cllr Gane, Mrs Blain (Parish Clerk) and four members of the public.

### **Agenda Items**

#### **1. Apologies for Absence**

None.

#### **2. Chairman's Report**

The Chairman's annual report was given by Cllr Cassell:

Welcome to the annual parish meeting, and to my annual report.

There may be similarities with previous reports, and it will be very brief.

Thanks as always:

To our county councillor and our borough councillor for their continued support and interest, and for their commitment to improving the quality of life in the wolds and the county.

To the Village Hall committee, who work so hard to give the village an extraordinarily rich social life for such a small community.

Particularly, I'd like to thank my fellow councillors. They continue to be a pleasure to work with, forming an effective team who put in time and effort because they are committed to making the village an even better place to live. And it's important to note that as well as working within the context of the council, each of them makes a distinctive individual contribution to the village.

We are also fortunate to be extremely well supported by our professional (in all senses) Parish Clerk.

Our main priorities remain as in previous reports: the maintenance and continuing development of the playing field; planning further speed reduction measures; joint working with the Village Hall committee; identifying possibilities for enhancing the appearance of the village; and contributing to the Neighbourhood Plan. It's worth a few words on the Neighbourhood Plan. We have moved beyond consultation and surveys. A pre-submission document has been drafted; I urge everyone to gain a clear idea of where we are in this process and what the outcome might be. Please take an active interest in progress and contribute where possible.

Otherwise:

- the phone box continues to be popular.

- the renaissance of Stanford Hall accelerates. We monitor developments closely, and the DNRC provides full information in response to questions.

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### 3. Annual Statement of Accounts for 2016-2017 (Unaudited)

The unaudited statement of accounts was presented. The end of year bank balance is £13,464.73.

RECEIPTS	Budget	2016 / 17
Precept	10,321.18	£10,321.18
Council Tax Support Grant	60.00	£60.00
Bank Interest	4.50	£4.75
VAT refund	450.00	£0.00
Other (inc. grants)	0.00	£1,293.15
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£10,835.68</b>	<b>£11,679.08</b>

PAYMENTS	Budget	2016 / 17
Clerk's Salary	3,750.00	£3,633.43
Clerk's Expenses	150.00	£150.00
General Administration	2,000.00	£1,285.37
Insurance	450.00	£409.52
External Audit	120.00	£120.00
Internal Audit	55.00	£55.00
Memberships	270.00	£269.01
Training	100.00	£50.00
Election Costs	120.00	£0.00
Grounds Maintenance	1,900.00	£1,422.00
Verge cutting	600.00	£588.00
Emptying Bins	200.00	£0.00
Playing Field Maintenance	1,000.00	£1,308.40
Maintenance of other assets	500.00	£48.00
Christmas Tree	120.00	£120.00
Village Hall	2,500.00	£0.00
Village Improvement Projects	2,500.00	£0.00
Speed Reduction	2,000.00	£0.00
Neighbourhood Plan	1,000.00	£0.00
Contingency	£3,000.00	£0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£22,335.00</b>	<b>£9,458.73</b>

Surplus/deficit for year	£2,220.35
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#### BANK RECONCILIATION AT 31 March

Cash in hand brought forward 1 April	£11,244.38
Add receipts during year	£11,679.08
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£22,923.46</b>
Less payments during year	£9,458.73
<b>Cash in hand brought forward 31 March</b>	<b>£13,464.73</b>

Represented by:

Current account	£60.00
Deposit account	£13,709.73
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£13,769.73</b>
Less unrepresented cheques	£305.00
<b>Adjusted bank balance at 31 March</b>	<b>£13,464.73</b>

### 4. Questions from Members of the Public

A resident asked what the Parish Council's Working Party is doing about the poor mobile phone reception in Hoton.

The lead member of the Working Party explained that some efforts have been made; although progress has been difficult to make, as the issue is related to the location of masts. No provider currently covers Hoton and, as a small community, the incentive for companies is not there; the decisions are made by big businesses whose profits are driven by large populations. The member of the public was invited to join the Working Party. The Working Party will continue to look for solutions, including the use of plug-in boosters.

**The meeting closed at 8:12pm.**

These minutes are a true and accurate record \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Cllr Cassell, Chairman