

Minutes of the Hoton Parish Council Meeting

Held in Hoton Village Hall on Monday 5th February 2024 at 7.45pm

In attendance: Cllr Girgis (SG) (Chair), Cllr Cassell (BC), Cllr Rathod (SR), Cllr Kennedy (DK) and Victoria Webster (VW) (clerk)

The meeting commenced at 7.45pm

74/23	<p>To receive apologies for absence Apologies were received and approved from Cty Cllr Shepherd and Cllr Boker.</p>
75/23	<p>Declarations of interests: disclosable pecuniary interests; personal interests; or personal interests that may lead to bias, by parish councillors to items on the agenda. Cllr Rathod declared an interest in item 81/23i he is a resident on Vinetree Terrace.</p>
76/23	<p>To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 4th December 2023 The minutes were accepted as true and accurate. BC proposed and DK seconded.</p>
77/23	<p>Questions and comments from members of the public (10 minutes) There were no members of the public present.</p>
78/23	<p>Police Report and Correspondence No reports had been received.</p>
79/23	<p>Borough Councillors Report Apologies were given.</p>
80/23	<p>County Councillors Reports Apologies were given but the following report was sent ahead of the meeting:</p> <p>Matters of particular interest to Hoton:</p> <p>SWARCO, the manufacturer of the Vehicle Activated Sign being paid for from the Member Highway Fund, have advised that they should be able to install the sign on the 7th February.</p> <p>It would be useful to know of any areas in Hoton which flooded during the recent periods of heavy rain which have not flooded before.</p> <p>Matters of general interest:</p> <p>The Agenda for the Council's Cabinet Meeting on 9th February has been published on the Council's website. Item 4 on the agenda is the Council's Provisional Medium Term Financial Strategy 2024/2025 – 2027/28. The item includes a proposed Council Tax increase of three per cent for core services and a two per cent increase in the adult social care precept. Following discussion at the Cabinet Meeting the proposals will be considered at a County Council Meeting on 21st February.</p>

81/23	<p>Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. To discuss volume of traffic concerns on the airfield The volume has noticeable increased and the Prestwold Estate was contacted in relation to this who have confirmed there are currently between 1800 and 2000 cars are on site. They are currently looking to create an access into this site via the other side of the estate which they anticipate to be in place no longer than 18 months with an 80% reduction in traffic through Hoton. b. To discuss and decide the distribution of the playing field responsibilities Tasks to consider is the 6-month tree inspection, the Strategic Plan, Playing Field Committee and the weekly equipment check. It was suggested the Parish Council ask villagers if they would like to join the committee. All Councillors agreed to carry out the weekly park checks on a rota system. Action: VW to distribute the Strategic Plan. Action: VW to advertise the committee Action: VW to draw up a rota and send out the weekly check template. c. To discuss the Parish Council Website provision and decide a path forward The company named 2commune are no longer able to provide us with the 2commune software. The company who owns the software, Cuttlefish are now the providers of the software. The Parish Council therefore has the decision to either choose an alternative website provider or transfer to Cuttlefish on the same terms that 2commune previously offered. All Councillors agreed to a one-year contract with Cuttlefish. d. To discuss the renewal of the mole contract for the Playing Field All agreed to a further year's contract. e. To discuss the increase in the procurement amount to £30,000 All Councillors agreed to this change. Action: VW to update the Financial Regulations. f. To consider what the council can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity in the area The Parish Council feel they are already contributing with the wild flowers and fruit trees in the playing field area of the village. g. To consider purchasing items for Remembrance Day for the village All Councillors agreed the Parish Council should contribute but further costings are required prior to committing. Action: VW to action this. h. To consider a pay increase for the Clerk SG requested that additional information is gathered prior to agreeing an increase in accordance with the NALC pay scale. Are there certain criteria to meet etc. Action: VW to locate further information. i. To discuss the responses from Vinetree Terrace and Old Parsonage Lane residents The Parish Council would like to thank all residents for their replies and remind villagers there are many things the Parish Council just don't have the power to do. It was agreed that the Parish Council would contact LCC Highways and request a meeting with an officer in the village to review the roads. Action: VW to send a response to residents and contact LCC Highways.
82/23	<p>To Receive Reports from Councillors</p> <p>The tree that was previously identified as needing to be trimmed is on a strip of land adjacent to the playground which is owned by an individual who no longer lives in the villages. The villager who leases this has offered to make the tree safe.</p>

	<p>Accidents on the corner of Vinetree Terrace are quite frequent. Could the Parish Council obtain accident data under the Freedom of Information Act.</p> <p>Action: VW to try and obtain accident data.</p> <p>SG attended a recent event at the Police headquarters. The rate of crime in Hoton is substantially low compared to other parts of the County. The Police encourage Parish Councils to report everything they see as their budget is set according to reported incidents. The Police are holding surgeries where they will report what is happening in our area and give the Parish Council the opportunity to ask questions. The County Police force have 3 drones that they use regularly. There is a high ratio of officers that have little experience of between 3-5 years.</p> <p>East Midlands Airport are now on stage 2 of their plan. They are currently reviewing their flight paths, the heights of take-off and landing and exploring different angles for landing or taking off. The proposed changes in flight path look remarkably similar and should not really affect Hoton. They are summarising their options currently.</p>
83/23	<p>To make comments and agree action on the following planning applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P/22/1777/2. 7 Rempstone Road, Hoton. Tree and vegetation removal to area identified on map in red, and also to remove all trees and vegetation to create access track for works to be completed shown edged. No decision has been made. • P/22/1603/2. 40 Loughborough Road, Hoton. Construction of 4 dwellings with associated parking, hard surfacing and landscaping. No decision has been made. • P/22/2163/2. Land off Prestwold Lane. Part change of use of airfield runway to Storage and Distribution of motor vehicles (Class B8) with associated infrastructure (Retrospective Application). No decision has been made. • P/23/1477/2. 19 Loughborough Road. Tree in the front garden - Whole Tree Removal. No decision has been made yet. • P/23/1660/2. Hoton Farm, Rempstone Road. Installation of farm incinerator. No decision has been made yet. • P/23/1884/2. 1-3 Loughborough Road. Proposed replacement of side and rear windows. This application has been withdrawn <p>Charnwood Borough Council have a YouTube channel relating to their planning meetings where members of the public can see and hear what was discussed.</p>
84/23	<p>Correspondence – Discuss and Agree Response to the following:</p> <p>No further correspondence to discuss.</p>
85/23	<p>To Receive the Clerks Report</p> <p>The report was distributed prior to the meeting and there were no items for further discussion.</p>
86/23	<p>Finance</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Financial update - The Cash Book & Bank Recs to be reviewed and signed off The paperwork was reviewed and agreed. b. To agree payments due for the month (Schedule of Payments to be signed by the Chair). The payments were reviewed and signed off.
87/23	<p>To agree items for the Press Release</p> <p>Villagers Opinions on Hoton Playing Field committee</p>

88/23	To receive agenda items for the next meeting Playing Field Responsibilities

The meeting closed at 9.11pm

These minutes are signed as a true and accurate record.

Chairman Signature: _____

Date: _____