NOTES of the Hougham Parish Council meeting held at The Village Hall, Bridge Street, Marston on Thursday 17th August 2017.

Present: Cllr M Barnatt Millns (in the Chair), Cllrs Forbes, Johnson and Wright, Dist Cllr Wood and Cty Cllr Maughan.

1/17. There were no members of the public in attendance.

2/17. Apologies were received from Cllr Scott who was on holiday.

3/17. There were no declarations of interest.

4/17. It was resolved unanimously to approve the Minutes of the meetings held on 18th January and 14th February and the Chairman signed them accordingly.

5/17. Cllr Forbes proposed and Cllr Wright seconded that Cllr Barnatt Millns continue as Chair and he duly accepted. His declaration of acceptance of office form was signed. Cllr Forbes proposed and Cllr Wright seconded (in his absence) that Cllr Scott continue as Vice Chair – he will sign his declaration of interest on his return from holiday.

6/17. Planning matters:

S17/0504 – Chapel Farm House erection of stables & tackroom - approved.
S17/0844 – Wheelgate Barn – conversion – refused.
S17/1186 – The Hollies – rear extension – pending consideration.
S17/1383 – Mill House Farm – Cond 2 variation – pending consideration.

7/17. Cllr Maughan had visited Main Street and taken photos of the damaged roadside and reported it again. It was noted that cones should be reinstated to avoid any vehicles going into the large pothole. He also advised that annual walkabouts are to be reinstated. Clerk to report that Church Lane needs re-surfacing and that two drains are blocked – one outside The Lodge and the other opposite Rose Cottage, both on Main Street.

8/17. Cllr Forbes advised that the Pinfold is in need of attention (weeding etc). A working party will be arranged to clear it.

9/17. The SID is working and more vehicles are slowing down. Clerk to write to the Police to see if they can do regular speed checks as there are persistent speeders who need prosecuting.

10/17. Clerk advised that the PCs insurance had been renewed with Zurich Insurance, through Community Lincs.

11/17. A letter from J W Archer had been circulated and Cllr Wright's mother had given him the information he was seeking.

12/17. It was resolved to formalise the employment of Lesley Frances as Clerk to the PC at the salary previously agreed.

13/17. Cllr Wood advised that he has requested the planning application for conversion of the Thorold Arms into a residential dwelling be put to the Planning Committee. If they refuse the application this may carry more weight. In any event, the applicant can appeal.

Cllr Maughan mentioned the Fairer Funding campaign (which the Clerk was aware of) and it was agreed she should write a letter supporting the campaign. He also advised that our MP Doctor

Caroline Johnson is to hold a "surgery" at Carlton Scroop village hall at 7.30 pm on 29th September. If anyone has any questions for her, then please advise Cllr Maughan by 24th September.

14/17. Financial matters:

[a] The Annual Return has been completed and signed and is with the External Auditors.

[b] It was resolved to approve and sign the Bank Reconciliation at 9.8.17.

[c] It was resolved to pay Glendale Services invoices for £144.

[d] The Clerk explained that Lloyds Bank have no record of any signatories for the PC bank account – this is clearly the Bank's error and they have accordingly paid compensation in the sum of £150 for the inconvenience caused in setting up a completely new Mandate. The Clerk arranged for signatures to the Mandate – ClIr Scott will sign on his return.

[e] Clerk advised that the VAT refund should be received within two weeks.

15/17. Clerk to write to the occupiers of 4 Manor Park, requesting that they cut their hedge back from the footpath around The Green as it is very difficult to walk along the path. The Green is owned by the PC and if they do not cut the hedge back, the PC will arrange it and charge them accordingly.

16/17. Next meeting proposed for 30th November to be held in the small room adjacent to the kitchen and large hall. Cllr Forbes will check the viability and availability.

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm.