

MINUTES of the Hougham Parish Council meeting held at The Village Hall, Bridge Street, Hougham on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllr J Wright (in the Chair), Cllrs Chalklin, and Macallister, and Dist Cllr Paul Wood plus Cty Cllr Alexander Maughan.

There were no members of the public present.

28/19. Apologies from Cllrs Jane Forbes and Joanna Wright.

29/19. There were no declarations of interest.

30/19. The Minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> August had been read and approved and it was unanimously agreed that the Chair should sign them.

31/19. Planning matters:

S19/0506 – The Old Rectory – new gates and piers – pending consideration.

S19/0787 – Change of use of the old Station Yard – pending consideration.

S19/0865 – Details reserved by condition 3 re Red House, Main Street – accepted.

Cllr Wood will chase/query why S19/0506 and 0787 have not yet been decided.

Cllr Maughan said that there had been no re-design from the applicant in respect of the new coffee shop at the A1/Toll Bar Road junction and that the officers are recommending refusal.

Neighbourhood Plan – discussion will be left until the next meeting when all Councillors should be present. There is no point in doing a NP anyway, until the new Local Plan is in place.

32/19. Highways – The A1 workshop had been well attended and Highways England are doing a feasibility study to come up with improvements – there will then be a second workshop. Department of Transport need to get behind it for funding. Toll Bar Road junction and Foston to Long Bennington stretch are hot spots. Church Lane/Coach Road is an ongoing project for Highways.

33/19. Western Power are awaiting a start date.

34/19. The Green – Clerk had received two quotes for 10 cuts (April – October) and the quote from a company the Clerk already uses elsewhere and which was also the cheapest, will be given the work for 2020. Cllr Forbes to advise whether the tree hiding the street light has been cut back?

35/19. Cllr Maughan advised that the Highways contractors will change in April 2020 (Balfour Beatty will be responsible for road repairs). LCC are seeking partnerships with neighbouring counties (Cambridgeshire/Rutland). Energy for Waste scheme has been very successful. Carbon footprint to be reduced by 20% by 2023. Budgets are forthcoming.

Cllr Wood said that SKDC's budgets are forthcoming and they are looking at increasing Band D Council Tax by 3.5% which equals £5 per property. Big Clean to continue. Parking charges to not be increased. Initiatives to help climate change.

36/19 – litter bins. SKDC will empty normal litter bins but not dog foul bins – Clerk to check this. If that is correct then one new plastic bin and base to be ordered for The Green.

37/19 – Defibrillator – grant secured for £1600 from Margaret Brown Trust and £400 from Cllr Wood. Balance to be provided by Cllrs John Wright and Bob Chalklin. Chair will confirm size for Clerk to check with CHT. Clerk to order defibrillator from CHT and arrange installation into phone box. Books will stay. Clerk to check with Cllr Penny Milne regarding whether the VETS/EMAS scheme works.

38/19 – Meeting dates for 2020 agreed at 12<sup>th</sup> February, 13<sup>th</sup> May, 5<sup>th</sup> August and 18<sup>th</sup> November – all Wednesdays.

39/19. Financial matters:

[a] It was resolved to approve and sign the bank reconciliation/income/expenditure account as presented 30.11.19.

[b] Budgets for 2020-2021 were considered and it was resolved to precept £2,587.

40/19. Other matters –

Clerk requested that a new noticeboard be considered – preferably with a Perspex front. This will be put on The Green rather than in a residents garden. Clerk to ask Andy Watson to put the Hougham website address on HAMES.

41/19. Next meeting will be on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 7.30 pm.

Meeting closed at 8.45 pm.