

**Minutes of Hitcham Parish Council meeting held on Monday 10th September 2018
in Hitcham Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm**

Present: Pauline Squirrell, Vice Chairman; Paul Beedham; Brian Hubbard; Jim Morgan; County Cllr Robert Lindsay; Cllr Michael Creffield; Mrs D Neun, Clerk/RFO and three residents.

<p>1.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>5.</p>	<p>Apologies for Absence: These had been received from Wendy Crease, Allan Scott and Rob Whiting.</p> <p>In the absence of Alan Scott, Pauline Squirrell took the Chair.</p> <p>Declaration of Pecuniary Interest: None were received.</p> <p>Minutes of Meetings held on Monday 9th July and 30th August 2018: These were approved as being a true record of that meeting. Proposed: Brian Hubbard. Seconded: Paul Beedham.</p> <p>Matters Arising from Meetings held on 9th July and 30th August 2018: a) Neighbourhood Plan: Mr Morgan had had a look at the Lavenham Plan with regard to putting a draft plan together for Hitcham. Need to try and obtain a plan from a village the same size as ours if possible. b) Noticeboard: It was agreed the size most appropriate would be to allow 8 A4 posters to be displayed. The Village Hall committee need to be approached with regard to placing the noticeboard at the roadside in front of the hall. Once agreement had been reached the noticeboard would be purchased. c) 4G Broadband: In the absence of Mr Scott this item will be held over until the next meeting.</p> <p>County Councillor's Report: Cllr Lindsey gave his report covering the following topics: a) The County Councillors' Leaders Group will now be going to meet in public. They will announce a week in advance of the meeting where it will be held in Suffolk. b) The first financial quarter will go over budget. Cllr Lindsey gave details of some of the cut backs which will include funding in the area of children and young people. c) Cllr Noble has hired a consultant to look at a single unitary plan. d) There will be a cross party group to discuss cycle infrastructure plans which Cllr Lindsey hopes to join. There is 5% of budget from Government available for this. e) School Transport: Agreed policy will go ahead. If a child starts new school in September 2019 and it is not the nearest school they will not get free transport. If already attending a school then free transport will continue. f) Grit bins: The Council is no longer leaving piles of grit so bins will be needed. These can be obtained from Highways if Hitcham does not have any. They should be placed 1.5metres from the roadway. The Parish Council agreed to check if any are needed. g) Causeway Estate Parking: Following a recent incident when a fire engine could not turn round in the banjo, after attending a hedge fire in a garden, Cllr Lindsey suggested that the previously discussed meeting with residents should go ahead with the PC who attended this year's Annual Parish Meeting and Paul Gant being invited to attend.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">cont....</p>
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<p>6.</p> <p>7.</p> <p>8.</p> <p>9.</p> <p>10.</p> <p>11.</p> <p>12.</p>	<p>District Councillor's Report:</p> <p>a) Cllr Creffield has been promised an article for the Parish Magazine from Harriet Steer, James Cartledge's PA. It should be half an A4 page which will be sent to Cllr Creffield for forwarding to Hitcham, Bildeston and Brettenham for inclusion in their newsletters. Cllr Creffield gave some examples of items which could be included.</p> <p>b) Our electoral ward is confirmed as North West Cosford.</p> <p>c) Planning permission should be refused in areas of outstanding natural beauty.</p> <p>d) Brick House Farm, Bury Road planning application: If objection only with Highways and an amended plan put it then it could be accepted. Philip Isbell and team will look at it. If there was a Neighbourhood Plan then we would be in stronger position to have a say in what could be built.</p> <p>Police Report:</p> <p>There had been recent burglaries at a bungalow in Browns Close and at Hitcham Hall.</p> <p>Play Area:</p> <p>The grass is in need of cutting. The Clerk will contact Neil or Janice Gant and ask for it to be done.</p> <p>Chairman's Report:</p> <p>In the absence of Mr Scott there was no report.</p> <p>Correspondence:</p> <p>a) A letter has been received from Unison, Police Staff, Suffolk Police Branch regarding the reduction in the PCSO Workforce.</p> <p>b) Babergh & Mid Suffolk District Council are hoping to prepare an End of Term Report for circulation to Parish Councils and are asking for information on word numbers, distribution dates and print deadlines.</p> <p>c) Correction of consultation date regarding the Joint Housing Strategy Consultation. Previous information had been emailed to councillors but new dates are 21 September to 1st November.</p> <p>Planning Matters:</p> <p>a) The following planning applications have been <u>granted</u> by Babergh District Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Full planning permission for 4 dwellings at Mizpah, The CausewayRefurbishment of existing outbuilding at Holmwood, Bury RoadPlanning permission for 1 dwelling adjacent to Magnolia Cottage, 12 Bury Road <p>b) The following planning application has been <u>refused</u> by Babergh District Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Outline planning for new dwelling on land adjacent to Stondon Lodge. <p>Accounts:</p> <p>a) The RFO provided up-to-date account and budget figures. Current bank balances as at 2nd September 2018, Statement 5, were:</p> <table><tr><td>Hitcham Parish Council a/c</td><td>£10,435.30</td></tr><tr><td>Hitcham Community Play Area a/c</td><td>£879.87</td></tr></table> <p>b) The following cheques were approved for payment from Hitcham Parish Council a/c:</p> <table><tr><td>Ladywell Accountancy Services</td><td>£25.00</td><td>Clerk's Operation & RTLI filing 2018/19</td></tr><tr><td>Mrs D Neun</td><td>£300.00</td><td>Clerks salary July-September 2018</td></tr><tr><td>HMRC 120PW00311648.1906</td><td>£75.00</td><td>Clerk's PAYE July-September 2018</td></tr><tr><td>Mr P Marshall</td><td>£11.98</td><td>Long sleeved hi-vis jackets for Community Speedwatch team (from Roys of Wroxham)</td></tr><tr><td>Business Services at CAS Ltd</td><td>£567.79</td><td>Parish Council insurance premium</td></tr></table>	Hitcham Parish Council a/c	£10,435.30	Hitcham Community Play Area a/c	£879.87	Ladywell Accountancy Services	£25.00	Clerk's Operation & RTLI filing 2018/19	Mrs D Neun	£300.00	Clerks salary July-September 2018	HMRC 120PW00311648.1906	£75.00	Clerk's PAYE July-September 2018	Mr P Marshall	£11.98	Long sleeved hi-vis jackets for Community Speedwatch team (from Roys of Wroxham)	Business Services at CAS Ltd	£567.79	Parish Council insurance premium
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c) The £300 annual rent covering the Play Area will be paid to G H Squirrell & Sons by Direct Debit during October.

d) The Village Hall had not been informed that the speedwatch sign battery was being charged in the Hall. Does the Village Hall need to be paid for use of electric or should Paul Marshall be given a small payment to cover the cost of charging the battery at his home?

Any Other Business:

a) A resident who lives near the junction with the Wattisham Road and is concerned about the speed of vehicles approaching and taking the sharp bend has contacted the police with video of a car being driven dangerously. There have been several near misses and one fatality in recent years on this stretch of road. Highways are to be approached regarding the possibility of putting in a speed limit of 40mph on this stretch.

b) The owner of the Village Shop wishes to sell. After discussion it was agreed that a separate meeting should be held between the current manager and the Parish Council with regard to this matter.

Date of Next Meeting:

This has been arranged for Monday 12th November 2018 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Paul Beedham gave his apologies in advance for the next meeting.