

**HARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2018**  
**at 7.30pm**  
**Hargrave Village Hall**  
**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**PRESENT**

**Parish Council:**

David Taylor - Chairman (DT)  
James Perry (JP)  
Paul Rogers (PR)  
Sue Hammond (SH)  
Peter Reddick (PRed)  
Ron Ambridge (RA)  
Antonia King (AK)

Mary Evans, County Councillor (ME)

**Neighbourhood Plan:**

Colin Painter (CP)  
Ian Poole – Consultant (IP)

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

<b>1.1</b>	DT introduced himself and the parish councillors, and warmly welcomed all present.	
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**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

<b>1.2</b>	SC did not attend, no apologies received.	
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**MINUTES OF THE LAST APM MEETING – 25.05.2017**

<b>2.</b>	The minutes for the APM on 25.05.2017 were discussed and approved by all present. Proposed by PR, seconded by PRed and signed by the Chairman (DT).	
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**PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS**

<b>3.</b>	A copy of the Statement of Account for the year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2018 was provided to each person present (attached to the agenda and the minutes of the previous year). No queries were raised.	
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**LOCAL GROUP REPORTS**

<b>4.</b>	Please see copies of reports attached: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Trustees of the Parochial Charities</li><li>• Village Hall Chairman's and Treasurer's Report</li></ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neighbourhood Watch</li> <li>• Village Newsletter</li> <li>• Borough Council</li> <li>• County Council</li> <li>• Police</li> </ul> <p>DT explained that these were displayed on a table at the end of the room for villagers to view and that representatives of the various committees were present at the meeting, should anyone have any queries regarding the reports.</p> <p>DT advised that Vic Turner has resigned as the Footpath Warden and there is now a vacancy for a new footpath warden.</p> <p>Comments were made about the lack of Police presence at meetings, as well as lack of feedback from the speed camera operations. PR advised that the average speed through the village is still too fast – 38/39mph. Police issue tickets at speeds over 35mph.</p> <p>ME informed the meeting that she now has a new role in the council as Deputy Leader of Highways, Transport and Rural Affairs.</p>	
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### ANY OTHER BUSINESS

5.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was asked that the V.A.S speed sign be located on Ousden Road as they too have a problem with speeding traffic.</li> <li>• Removal of the telephone box – it was noted how scruffy it looks.</li> <li>• DT is supporting Wickhambrook Surgery's drive to find anecdotes from locals about the NHS over the past 70 years and what treatment was like before NHS, for example Doctors visiting and treating patients in the their front rooms, the local pub, etc. There is a book in the reception area where people can write their memories.</li> <li>• David Mapperly noted that the trees around the village pond need attending to.</li> </ul>	
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### PARISH COUNCIL REPORT AND PRESENTATION

6.1	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CP explained that we are now in the final stages. The plan was submitted for consultation in Feb 18, with all comments that had been made being minor or purely technical. It went to the independent examiner in April 18, where again, the points raised were only technical.</li> <li>• July 5<sup>th</sup> has been pencilled in for the village referendum where a positive 50% +1 vote will make it legally binding, and it will become part of the planning process for St Edmundsbury Borough Council.</li> <li>• The referendum will be conducted in the same way as an election, with a polling station and/or postal votes. There will</li> </ul>	
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	<p>be 5 weeks notice given for the referendum.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IP commented that the government is pushing development and so for us to have a NP in place means that Hargrave can take control of this. He commended the NP committee on their 4 years of hard work to get to this stage.</li> <li>• ME also congratulated everyone regarding the NP saying it offers the village building protection against the 2031 vision.</li> </ul>	
<b>6.2</b>	<p><b>Community Actions</b></p> <p>CP stressed that the NP was created for and with the village, so people need to step up and start taking some responsibility for the community action points that have been raised. The most pressing are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Community action point 6</b> - A working group needs to be formed to fully investigate the <b>village hall</b> – can it be improved, should it be rebuilt, etc.</li> <li>• <b>Community action point 8 - Public transport</b> – people are leaving the village because of the lack of availability.</li> <li>• ME acknowledged that there is an issue, service buses are commercial so can't be run as community buses. However, there is a company in Essex that run a successful rural service along side their commercial buses, and is possibly a model that could work in Suffolk too.</li> <li>• <b>Community action point 11 - Footpaths</b> – Ousden, Dalham and Lidgate have footpath plans that link the villages, could this be something that Hargrave could participate in too?</li> <li>• <b>Community action point 13 – Ownership of verges</b> needs to be established to ensure maintenance and improvement. Highways have a database that is very limited, so households should do their own investigation.</li> </ul>	
<b>6.3</b>	<b>Village Referendum</b> – See 6.1	
<b>6.4</b>	<p><b>Defibrillator – purchasing and siting.</b></p> <p>DT advised of the intention to get a defibrillator, it will be located outside the village hall in a locable steel box. It was overwhelmingly supported by those present, with everyone agreeing it will be an asset to the village. and several volunteers registered their interest for any future training workshops.</p>	
<b>6.5</b>	<p><b>School Transport</b></p> <p>JP updated everyone regarding the plans for school transport. He advised that the parish had objected to the cost cutting proposals as it is not cohesive and could potentially increase bus traffic. The consultation results are due on June 19<sup>th</sup>.</p>	
<b>6.6</b>	<p><b>Grass Cutting of public footpaths</b></p> <p>DT met with the footpath representative from the county council in March. The county council do not cut footpaths, only bridal ways, but they do take responsibility for maintaining and repairing signs, stiles, etc. The upkeep of footpaths lies with the landowner/farmer.</p>	

	It was noted by the CC representative that the bridal way by the church was in a state of disrepair and will be looked into.	
<b>6.7</b>	<b>Road repairs</b>  See County Council report attached.	
<b>6.8</b>	<b>Community Award</b>  DT recognised and awarded the very first village community award to Henry Upton. Henry received a resounding applause from everyone. It was agreed that this should be an annual award to recognise individuals or groups within the village that go above and beyond. Nominations will be received throughout the year, and the Parish Council will look further into how the community award will be managed.	

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next APM will be in 2019 – date to be confirmed.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 12th July 2018 at 7.30pm.

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Signed (Chairman)

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Date