Hougham Without Parish Council

13 Victoria Road, Capel-le-ferne, CT18 7LR

Email: cathy.finnis@googlemail.com

**Tuesday 16th March 2021**

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**Minutes of the Meeting**

Present:

Cllr C Bryan (Chair) (CB)

Cllr J Lamb (Vice-Chair) (JL)

Cllr D Taylor (Member). (DT)

Cathy Finnis -Clerk (CF)

Apologies:

Cllr C Peel (Member). (CP)

KCC Cllr Geoff Lymer – apologies. (GL)

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**20/62 To receive apologies for absence**; Cllr C Peel was absent and sent apologies and Cllr G Lymer was absent and sent apologies and a report (copied here)

**20/63 To identify any member’s interests;** no member’s interests were declared.

**20/64 To hear questions from the public**; there were no public present

**20/65 To agree the minutes of the meetings,** dated 19th January 2021

The minutes were RESOLVED to be accurate and true record of the meeting and signed as such by Clerk, in place of the Chair as during the pandemic.

**20/66 To consider questions arising**: there were no questions from the minutes of the previous meeting.

**20/67 Reports :**

* **Chairman, Cllr Bryan** has contacted highways regarding the state of the road, Hougham top road – potholes
* **Vice Chair Cllr J Lamb** has cut the church yard lawn with her husband.
* **Village Hall Representative Cllr Bryan** attended a meeting. Financially challenging time with no income at all.
* **District Councillor, Report from Cllr G. Lymer:**

Please accept my apologies for absence from this evening's parish council meeting due to working on research in my objections to the Dover Fast Track which the government, via their department Homes England is trying to push through tomorrow at a KCC Planning Committee meeting, on which I am preparing papers objecting to a government scheme which will incur KCC or put another way, us, the rate payers in subsidising what in my view is an unnecessary government vanity project to take Whitfield commuters and shoppers from the Whitfield housing development, which has stalled and may take up to 20 years to complete the building of 5750 houses, only about 100 houses have been built in the last 15 years! But the government believes these fast buses will take commuters to Dover Priory and shoppers into Dover town, where the shops have pretty well all closed down due to the increase in on line shopping and commuting is predicted to fall right off with multi national companies appreciating the benefits of saving on overheads with staff working from home, post the pandemic.

I have logged and reported I hope most of the potholes in the Poulton, West and Church Hougham area, but have been told these could take up to 28 days to resolve.

I have complained to KCC Highways about the waste of tax payers money on the government vanity project of parklets to encourage cyclists into Dover town to go shopping in the precinct, where the majority of shops have closed down and lost their tenants.

Finally, could I ask you all to check your council tax bill for 2021/22. When I checked mine under the Adult Social care precept. By my calculation the 3% increase reported figure has actually increased by 34%. So if you check your 2020/21 figure against your 2021/22 figure that increase should be less than £5 not the £50 increase I found.................unless they expect more if you are a councillor!!

That concludes my report

* **PCSO – Megan.Keehner**

**07/02/2021** - Report of possible Arson - West Hougham.

**11/02/2021** – RTC non-injury - B2011 Church Hougham.

**25/02/2021** – Suspicous event – Two males were seen filming houses in the village. I will carry on patrolling the area for reassurance. Please report any suspicous event with as many details as possible. For example, the suspects description and possible car registration.

**26/02/2021** – Suspicous event - “Cold Caller” – Please be aware of cold callers, they are sometimes used for distraction burglaries. If someone is selling door to door then they are issued with a pedlars certificate. If you have any concern over someone trying to sell things to you from your door step, please report this VIA 101 or by making an online report on the Kent Police website.

**20/68 To consider planning applications**: REF: 21/00266

**Proposal:** Erection of a barn for the storage of vehicles and tools and construction of a hardstanding
**Location:** Hedgehogs , Satmar Lane, West Hougham, CT15 7BL

The Council RESOLVED to fully support the application. Action: CF to complete on planning portal.

 **20/69 Grant Requests - consideration and decision**

The Council **RESOLVED** to grant the following:

Air Ambulance £400

Citizen’s Advice Dover £200

Action: CF to complete cheques and addresses to send.

**20/70 Update on moles in the Village Green**

Tony Wells – moles on village green completed. Cheque raised today for this work.

**20/71 Issues with cheques not being received during pandemic by companies**

Acton: CF working to align cheques with payments made and contact companies where cheques are not cashed as some companies have reported loss cheques.

**20/72 Payments:**

1. Cathy Finnis 2 months £501.18
2. Simon Withey 2 months £130
3. Payroll March 2021 2+3 £11.00
4. Mr A Wells, Molecatcher, £60
5. Zoom annual payment for account (March 18th 2021) (for meetings) £119.90

***The next scheduled ordinary meeting of Hougham Parish Council is due on Tuesday, May 18th at 7.30pm at Hougham Village Hall or by ‘Zoom’ , and will be confirmed during the week before.***