Hougham Without Parish Council

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

Email: cathy.finnis@googlemail.com

**Thursday 20th April 2023**

**Minutes of the Meeting**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Present:**

Cllr Chris Bryan Chair

Cllr Jodie Lamb Vice Chair

Cllr Christine Peel

Cllr Kevin Piggott

District Cllr Martin Hibbert

Clerk Cathy Finnis

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**1/23 To receive apologies for absence**

There is an apology from Cllr Taylor

**2/23 To identify any member’s interests**

There are no member’s interests declared

**3/23 To hear questions from the public**

There are no members of the public present

**4/23 To agree the minutes** of the meeting held on **21st March 2023**.

The minutes were **agreed** as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

**5/23 To consider matters** arising from meeting **21st March 2023**.

There were no matters arising.

**6/23 To agree a donation** for Daphne Hastie

To **agreed** to donate to both the RNLI (£25) and the Salvation Army (£25).

**7/23 To agree the Annual Accounting Statement** for the Audit 2022-23

The Council **agreed** the Annual Accounting Statement as presented.

**8/23 To agree the Annual Governance Statement** for the Audit 2022-23

The Council **agreed** the Annual Governance Statement as presented.

**9/23 To agree the Annual Exemption Certificate** for the Audit 2022-23

The Council agreed the Annual Exemption Certificate as presented.

**10/23 To discuss the new Council** and co-option arrangements.

Procedure was discussed by the Clerk.

**11/23 To consider planning applications**

23/00517 River – The Council agreed to **support** the application.

23/00507 8 The Street – The Council were concerned that the building is historical. *Action: Cllr Bryan to contact Planning to raise the issue about the historical preservation, ‘the street scene’, of the village.*

**12/23 To update on defibrillators** – update regarding electrics and phone box improvements.

Cllr Peel: to chase Colin. Saw electrician – he’s trying to find someone to help.

**13/23 To discuss the issues regarding the road** between West Hougham and Alkham and around the village. There is a lot of fly-tipping being reported, which is getting worse. Cllr Peel reports them regularly, approximately once a week currently. Cllr Hibbert has been in touch with AK Environmental Protection and Crime Officer – deals with fly-tipping. Please report it if you see it and they will try and find evidence where it has come from. There have been recent successful prosecutions.

**14/23 To discuss the Skip Hire Site** and the heavy goods vehicles travelling in the village on a regular basis. Many vehicles visit this site. Cllr Hibbert has received complaints from parishioners as some vehicles are not using the correct routes through the village. Capel Street, where they are supposed to go on licence has a school and is a narrow route at parts too. Cllr Piggott reports that the site was previously found to have unlicensed materials there, he has asked for a copy of their ‘O’ licence. Did they previously have a restricted ‘O’ licence. Cllr Milner reports previous issues with nothing being moved to landfill. There is now a bund all around the site approximately 4 years ago.

*Action: Clerk to look into/collate this information and send to Cllr Hibbert.*

**15/23 Update on payments** from March (re: stamps)

1. **To agree payments** as follows: -

Microsoft Office suite (paid back to Clerk) April 2023 7.99

Village Green maintenance (S. Withey) March 2023 plus stamp cost 65.00 +2.50

Ability Payroll Invoices 30 11.00

Ability Payroll Annual Pension Statement 24 28.99

Clerk wages and office allowance April 2023 plus stamp cost 279.39 +2.50

The next scheduled meeting of Hougham Parish Council is due on Tuesday 9th May 2023, at Hougham Village Hall or by ‘Zoom’, and will be confirmed during the week before.

**Please note this is the first meeting of the newly elected Council.**