

HALTHAM PARISH MEETING

Draft Rev 3

Held : -Tuesday 12th November 2019 Commencing 18:30

Location St Benedict's Church. Haltham.

Villagers Attending:- Mike Schofield (**MS**), Sean Matthews (**SM**), John Huthwaite (**JH**), District Councillor William Gray(**WG**), James Gammidge(**JG**), Susan Schofield(**SS**), Andrew McDowell(**AMc**), Sian McDowell (**SMc**), Helen Huthwaite(**HH**), Paul Gell(**PG**), Sandra Allen(**SA**), Les Allen(**LA**), Ken Mellor(**KM**), Allan Mutti(**AM**), Jo Sharpe(**JS**), Anji Yardley(**AY**), Paula Hartland(**PH**), Pete Sewell(**PS**), Rose Kimberley(**RK**), Tara Matthews(**TM**), Paul Pledger(**PP**), Anne Pledger(**AP**), Sarah Emsell(**SE**), Nick Emsell(**NE**), Tom Foulis(**TF**), Reo Fuller(**RF**), Mr Fuller(**MrF**).

Guests :- Jon Davison(**JD**).

Apologies for Absence – Margaret McCall, Alec McCall.

Everybody was asked to complete the attendance sheet, details of emergency procedures explained by **JH**.

	Action
MS welcomed everybody to the meeting and explained how the CCT allows us to use the church building. MS confirmed that we get permission each time it is used by the village.	
Minutes of last meetings. JH asked if there were any points to be raised with the draft minutes of 14 th October 2018. There were no comments. Proposed for acceptance SM seconded TF vote carried. The Minutes were accepted and signed into the minute book.	
Chairman's Report. MS thanked everybody who contributed and attended the social events this year in the village those being, The Fun Dog Show, Pimms Party, Village BBQ and the Halloween Evening.	
Social Events coming up, Village Quiz Friday 29 th November 7:30pm at Roughton Village Hall. Proceeds to the Parish and Defibrillator Fund. MS to be contacted for tickets and running the evening. On Saturday 14 th December in St Benedicts at 4pm there is Carol Concert with singers, ukulele band, mulled wine plus nibbles. MS asked for volunteers to assist with the venue. Contact MS direct.	ALL
MS had talks with Tumby Estates in order to try to get a plot of land donated as an alternative to our village green. Tumby are looking at long term plan of their assets in the village, they will look to see if/where a new green can be accommodated. They were not able to provide a date for a decision.	MS
Parish Newsletter is now being produced by LG and PG . Any topics you want putting in of interest please contact either LG or PG direct. The Newsletter will be emailed, put on the website and hard copied to those who have not signed up to receiving village correspondence by email.	PG & LG
PG and LG have taken now taken over the running of the village (ELDC) website.	PG & LG
Standing Orders were tabled, with no comments received. They are now in place; appropriate amendments will be introduced as required. Change requests to be directed through JH .	JH
There have been 2 planning applications submitted for the village since the last meeting. A proposal for considering planning applications to be addressed later in the meeting.	JH
A number of letters have been received requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act. These have been dealt with. FOIA requests to be dealt with later as a separate agenda item.	SM
MS asked if there were any questions from the floor. None raised.	
Vice Chairman Report. SM gave thanks to MS for organising events and getting people together in the village.	
SM confirmed MS SM and JH are volunteers as have always been in the past.	
Village Green. The legal document needed to transfer the village green to Haltham has not been registered, though the village has maintained the green and is the effective owner. The registration has to be completed. ELDC are dealing with this on our behalf. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting. It is hoped that all will be completed by then. SM asked for approval for SM and MS to act on behalf of the village to sign the documentation. KM proposed, PS seconded. Carried. The floor questioned how this has occurred and what documents are needed. SM said all documents appear to be in place for the agreement, the process had just not been completed. SM confirmed if complications arise a meeting will be called.	SM
The registration issue was discovered as a result of the boundary dispute between the owner of the Marmion and the village. SM confirmed we cannot proceed with any ideas or plans until the ownership matter is closed out.	SM, ELDC
JD confirmed the village can still talk in order try to resolve the boundary issue. SM confirmed past discussions had taken place between MS and JD and these did not resolve the problem. SM agreed to meet to try to resolve the issue with the owner of the Marmion. SM said it is in everybody's interest to resolve the problem. JD said that all their correspondence was available to the village.	SM
The Community Grant that WG organised for the village green has not been used, no plans have or can be developed for the green until the boundary and village green ownership issues are closed out. There have been some ideas floated on what and how to develop the village green, at this time there are no proposals that can be put to the village.	SM
TF asked about the location of the land that Tumby Estates may offer. MS confirmed that it is not clear at present where this would be. Tumby are in the preliminary stage of their development plans.	MS
RK raised a question on behalf of Paul Kimberley regarding the village green project about the spending of £1500 of the village funds. SM explained that MS , SM , JH do act on behalf of the village meeting when we are not assembled as a meeting. SM confirmed that the 3 of us would not and cannot make a decision as big as suggested without the authority of the village. SM confirmed that we act to make the village a better place for us all to live in. SM understands the £1500 mentioned can only be an amount put in on the application that it was thought at the time the village will contribute in order to reinforce the gaining of the £500 of grant money. SM again confirmed there have been no discussions taken place to spend £1500 of the village funds on the village green. SM confirmed he has looked into buying play equipment but there are not enough funds available to even consider that option. Public play equipment being far too expensive for our funds. SM confirmed that the Grant money is for improvements for the village green and there may be enough money to buy say insect houses, but said that the village has to approve the spending the village funds which are to be tabled to the village. SM confirmed that strive to act for the benefit of the village and have approval to spend up to £200 for the village needs as agreed at the last meeting. MS reiterated that the more people we can get involved the more the village will benefit as a whole. Following the last meeting it was hoped that a project group might be formed but finding the legal problems with the land issues has put this on hold.	MS, SM
Lincs Alert it was confirmed that we will try to get one of the PCSO's to come to the next meeting. It was confirmed he is signing up as the coordinator for the village which gives access to details of local current crime trends which will be passed on to our residents.	SM

The Village What's App Group is now up and running for the village which we can be used, for village communication and also as an aid in whatever emergency there may be. If you post a call for help on What's App then it will be broadcast and help will likely arrive quickly whatever the issue is.	ALL
Reducing the Village Speed Limit. A lorry overturned last week on the A153 is evidence to the safety group used to reinforce the need to lower the speed to 40mph through the village instead of the advisory 40mph limit. If successful in getting this lower limit there will be a need for volunteers to get involved. SM confirmed that there is no resistance from highways but evidence is to be compiled to get action. It is confirmed that we will not be able to get a 30mph limit through the village due to the lack of houses located on the main road. Concern that speeding motorcyclists are one of the main offenders.	SM
There are no crime trends in Haltham at present it is hoped that the PCSO will address us at the next meeting.	SM
Horncastle Facebook page also gives crime occurrences and the local crime trends. Anyone can join SM said but there is some difficulty manoeuvring around the site, it may be possible for the new web page to have connection to the Facebook Page.	SM/PG
4) Matters Arising:	
Fire Hydrant – the fire brigade has confirmed the hydrant at the entrance to the footpath at the west end of West Lane is in a suitable position. Matter closed.	
Lincs Alert SM now to start running as coordinator	SM
The Village Green Grant Money. There has been no development for the village green or ideas or plans developed in order to prepare a scheme to put to the Village in order to spend any of the grant money. ELDC have been informed and we are awaiting communication on what action is needed regarding the money. If the current issue regarding the Village Green is not closed out then the money will be lost to the village.	JH
Training Grant. Four training courses have been booked to date. If booked individually the cost of the courses would have cost the village approximately £100. Having the Training Grant a one off payment for a full year was paid at £65 (plus VAT).	
MS and SM attended an Emergency Plan Course which advised on how to develop and action a plan should there be a village emergency such as a major fire, flood or similar incident	
Post-box Footpath. Help has been offered LCC have given permission for it to be constructed. We have the materials and a work party is needed.	JH
New Village Bench. Awaiting the people to make contact in order to agree a location. Permission from LCC given, and the village is to have insurances in place.	JH
White lining. Still outstanding to chase LCC to get it remarked at the junction of West Lane and Main Road.	JH
Broadband. Fibre broadband is now available to the village. This is only available to those served by the BT box from Mareham Le Fen. Details of how to apply for fibre broadband were confirmed.	
Parish Records. All documentation is still retained on JH personal computer. A separate hard drive provided by the Village is available, but files still need to be transferred over.	JH
Defibrillator. Payment to MS for electric supply to be agreed. So far the village has raised £1480 towards the £1500 cost.	
Road Flooding. RK asked about the reporting of the flooding at the junction of West lane and Main Road. JH confirmed reported it at least twice, and once in the last 7 days. To make contact again.	JH
Financial Report. Monies available last year end stood at £3743.20 invoices to be paid £152.00 money available £3591.20. Cash at 12 th November £3616.42 increase of £25.20 from end of March. This includes the £500 councillor grant which has not been used.	
Precept never has been raised to date. Recommended that no precept be raised for the year 1 st April 2020 to 31 st March 2021. Proposed SM Seconded by PG vote carried.	JH
Fundraising. For such a small village response has been tremendous. Special thanks given the Haltham Garage for their prizes, and to Dawn and Alan for their idea, energy and help.	
Insurance. Premium remained the same as previous year.	
Allotment Rents. It has been confirmed that the rents are set nationally so we cannot increase beyond the set amount.	
Grass Cutting Dog Fouling. The grass cutting is carried out voluntarily for the village, please all those who walk their dogs ensure their droppings are picked up and taken away. There have been a number of occasions when the mowers have cut into dog droppings and mowers had to be power washed all very unpleasant.	Dog Owners
KM asked whether those cutting the grass put their own fuel in. SM confirmed there is agreement that we get paid for the fuel used. We have not put any invoices in to date. SM confirmed invoices will be put in going forward.	SM, JH
MS said monies spent on behalf of the village should be reimbursed. Invoices to be submitted for payment.	
PCC and Churchyard. Thanks were given for cutting the grass in the churchyard. We are not allowed to dig in to the ground in any part of the churchyard if paths become uneven we can only cut the grass and fill in any holes. Coffee morning November 16 th at Roughton, Carol service at St Margaret's Sunday 22 nd December more details to be placed on the notice board. Tree branch tree surgeon to look at it Saturday 16 th at 3pm to investigate. HH confirmed the PCC are responsible for the safe upkeep of the trees.	
Freedom of information Act. MS confirmed that as officials of the village we have to deal with FOIA requests on behalf of the village as has happened. There have been a number of requests and they have become vexatious and tetchy. The requests have been responded to. MS proposed that all FOIA correspondence/communications are posted on the Notice Board and on the Web Site for residents information. MS confirmed requests will have the personal details of the requester removed as required under the Data Protection Act. MS proposed SM seconded. Carried.	JH
Complaints Procedure. We have received an FOIA request of the details of our Complaints Procedure. JH confirmed that we do not have a dedicated procedure but that we would deal with any complaint in line with the LALC recommendations. MS confirmed that we act on behalf of the village and if you do not like how we work then it is up to the Meeting, through a vote to remove us and elect new people for the roles. SM confirmed that there are 3 of us who do the best we can for the village without any remuneration, we are not councillors. SM confirmed that if the village does not want this to continue, then we can stop having the village meeting. SM confirmed that we are committed to doing the best that we can for the Village.	
Planning Applications. It was agreed that all applications are posted on the village notice board. There will be no planning sub-committee to speak on behalf of the village. If it is considered that an application could impact on the village then a meeting should be called of the Parish.	JH
SM stressed that if you have an issue within the village then please contact either MS, SM or JH who will if possible give an answer or will find the answer if the answer is not readily available.	ALL
Any Other Business. PS asked what has happened regarding reinforcing the river bank. JH confirmed the survey has been carried out, awaiting its result in order to compare how the bank is now compared with the designed river bank levels. JH to keep all informed as information becomes available. SM confirmed that the office of our MP has made contact asking if there had been any flooding in the village. JH said any work will come out of next years' spend. JH said to the EA that we cannot afford to wait that long. PS said there is concern not	JH

only about the bank levels but also the condition of the bank. It was confirmed that the condition of the bank is also within the survey.	
PS asked about getting potholes repaired on the A153, SM confirmed that there is a rolling programme and each of us should use Fix my Street as a way of communicating problems to Highways. It was thought the pothole that PS mentioned has been filled.	ALL
SMc. Spoke to the floor to thank the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk for the work that they have put into the village and that the Village is appreciative of the enthusiasm shown for the collective good of the village	
PG said he was looking to do some redesign on the web site. MS said PG is running the newsletter, any items should be put through to PG in order to include in the next edition.	ALL, PG
WG confirmed that the operations of ELDC are moving to Horncastle along with most emergency services coming to the same site. It is anticipated that this facility will be ready for September 2021.	
RF. Asked why the trees had been pollarded and where had the wood gone to. MS confirmed that the trees had been pollarded as a Health and Safety issue. JG confirmed that the resulting wood had been shared with local residents.	
HH questioned where the Village Boundary is with regard to different police forces. This could not be confirmed, it will be investigated. MS suggested that although there have been no reported crimes in the village, we should not be complacent. SM said in the event of an emergency, you should make the telephone call to the emergency services before trying to deal with the emergency.	SM
The meeting closed just before 8pm.	

Halham Parish Meeting.